

Transmittal of a Report from the Board of Leaside Memorial Community Gardens Arena: Request for Support to Review Options for the Effectiveness and Sustainability of Arena Operations

Date: July 7, 2021

To: City Council

From: City Manager

Wards: Ward 15

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to transmit a request to City Council from the Board of Management of Leaside Memorial Community Gardens Arena (Leaside Arena) as required by section 7.2.2 of its Relationship Framework. The Leaside Board is requesting Council to request the City Manager, in consultation with Leaside Arena Board, to review options to improve organizational effectiveness and sustainability at Leaside Arena in order to ensure that the local community remains well served and that the Leaside Arena operations and service delivery are supported. The Leaside Arena Board Request, titled *Report from the Board of Leaside Memorial Community Gardens Arena* dated June 29, 2021, is provided in Attachment 1 to this report.

Section 7.2.2 of the *Relationship Framework for the City of Toronto and the Boards of Management for the Arenas* (Relationship Framework) provides that City Council give consideration to Arena Board requests related to governance matters, and that these requests are to be submitted to the City Manager for transmittal to City Council for consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Manager recommends that:

1. City Council consider and adopt the recommendations in the June 29, 2021 report from the Board of Leaside Memorial Community Gardens Arena, forming attachment 1 to this Report, that requests the City Manager, in consultation with the Leaside Arena Board, to review options to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of Leaside Arena operations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This report is seeking Council approval for a review of the options available to the Leaside Arena Board to improve organizational effectiveness and sustainability. This is required in order to ensure that the local community remains well served and that the Leaside Arena operations and service delivery are supported.

There are no current or known future year financial impacts arising from the recommendations contained in this report. The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed and agreed with this financial impact statement.

DECISION HISTORY

The Board of Leaside adopted the decision set out in Attachment 1 and submitted their decision to the City Manager for transmittal to City Council in the July 6, 2021 communication from the Chair.

City Council at its meeting of September 26 and 27, 2006 adopted Item 2007 EX11.15, titled *Relationship Framework for City Board-Operated Arenas*, and approved the Relationship Framework for the City of Toronto and the Boards of Management of the Arenas, setting out their relationship with and accountability to City Council, governance structures, specific delegations of authority to the Boards, applicable policies and legislation, and reporting requirements. The Relationship Framework is provided here: <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/8cf8-spc-arenas.pdf>

COMMENTS

This decision is being submitted for City Council consideration because the Leaside Arena has, like many of the City's operations, been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Arena has suffered a loss of revenue while continuing to incur extensive operating costs. The Leaside Arena Boards is requesting City support to review options to improve organizational effectiveness and sustainability with respect to how services are delivered to the public, including a comparison to other City board-run arenas.

Section 7.2.2 of the Relationship Framework provides that City Council will give consideration to Arena Board requests related to governance matters. These requests are to be submitted to the City Manager for transmittal to City Council. As such, the City Manager is transmitting the request of the Arena Board of Management in Attachment 1 to this report for consideration by City Council.

The City Manager, on City Council's approval, would review options in consultation with the Leaside Arena Board, and if required, would provide a report back to City Council.

CONTACT

Sandra Rodriguez, Director, Intergovernmental and Agency Relations, City Manager's Office

Email: Sandra.Rodriguez@toronto.ca, Tel: 416.392.3832

Howie Dayton, Director, Community Recreation, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Email: Howie.Dayton@toronto.ca, Tel: 416.392.7252

SIGNATURE

Chris Murray
City Manager

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Report from the Board of Leaside Memorial Community Gardens Arena