

Community Partnership Policy

Date: August 31, 2023

To: The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place

From: Don Boyle, Chief Executive Officer

Wards: All Wards

SUMMARY

This report seeks approval for Exhibition Place's direction regarding community activation through a Community Partnership Policy. The policy establishes guidelines and procedures to facilitate in-kind support by Exhibition Place to organizations planning community events.

Through Community Partnerships, Exhibition Place will continue supporting its goal of promoting grounds Site Animation 365 days a Year.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chief Executive Officer recommends that:

1. The Board approve the Community Partnership Policy included as Attachment 1 to this report on a trial basis until December 2024.
2. The Board direct the Chief Executive Officer to report back to the Board on the evaluation of the results of the trial, including financial impact, by the second quarter of 2025.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications to this report. The value of in-kind support is provided for in the annual operating budget under community activation.

DECISION HISTORY

The Exhibition Place 2022-2026 Strategic Plan has a goal to Promote Site Animation

365 days a Year.

At its meeting on June 8, 2023, the Board approved Terms of Reference (TOR) for Community Engagement Focus Groups to support the delivery of site animation initiatives 365 days a year.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.EP4.3>

COMMENTS

Exhibition Place is a cultural and park asset with numerous green spaces and publicly accessible amenities. Through community engagement initiatives and focus group consultation, community members and local organizations have expressed an interest in hosting neighbourhood-focused events.

Community partnerships enable Exhibition Place and local community partners to share responsibilities by engaging in meaningful ways while actively involving all parties.

Through the Community Partnership Policy, Exhibition Place will provide neighbourhood groups with the tools to support local activation. The policy aligns with the Community Engagement Focus Group Terms of Reference objectives to facilitate community-led activation between Exhibition Place and the community.

In-kind support will be granted to events open for broad community participation and where there is no financial gain or profit motivation from the event organizers. Any fees/charges associated with the event are meant to cover the cost of organizing and hosting the event. While a "pay what you can" option must be available to ensure everyone can participate regardless of economic circumstances.

Once an application is approved, Exhibition Place will negotiate the extent of in-kind services to be provided. This may include Exhibition Place labour, event space availability, social media promotion, and logistics coordination; community partners will be responsible for volunteer recruitment, planning, set-up, and event services delivery.

Key indicators of success include a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities, sustainability of the activation, and broad-ranging local participation.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Don Boyle
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Community Partnership Policy