



September 14, 2023

Dear Members Board of Governors Exhibition Place,

Re: EP5.14 - Community Partnership Policy

I write as Chair of the West Side Community Council, an umbrella organization of thirteen West End community associations and members of the Community Focus Group, in regard to agenda item number EP5.14 - Community Partnership Policy.

In reviewing the EXHIBITION PLACE Community Partnership Policy, we have identified several issues we would like to speak to:

1. The 365-activation plan reads that it is open for BOTH private profit-driven and non-profit organizations/community groups. Is this correct?

We understood it to be only non-profit groups. See Definitions, Local Community Group: "A community-based volunteer organization within the following wards ... that may be part of a not-for-profit, incorporated group/organization, a registered charity, an established community association, or a local Business Improvement Association." Which is correct?

2. Is it that "in-kind support" is only provided for non-profits?
We feel this needs to be very clear and detailed what the scope of in-kind support is.

3. Local Community Group is defined as being within certain Wards. Should there be this restriction? A group can have its head office in a different Ward, however, it serves a purpose unrelated to street boundaries - for example, Repair Cafe, or any disability association, etc.

Given that Exhibition Place is a city-owned asset, does it make sense that this Community Partnership Policy is limited to certain Wards (Spadina-Fort York, Parkdale-High Park, Davenport, or Toronto Centre)? These 4 wards represent approximately 16 per cent of the city's population.

4. Should timelines be outlined? Or is this done elsewhere? i.e. how many weeks in advance do applications need to be made, review/turnaround time, etc.?

Does a detailed guide of criteria already exist that includes details of in-kind support, timelines, turnaround etc.? If not, this needs to be created so that these issues are clear to potential partners and Exhibition Place.

5. How is approval decided? Is it a vote? Is there an option for appeal?
Sounds like ONE person (Coordinator) gets to decide if it's OK, and if yes, then ONE other person (Officer) approves - is this "fair and open"?

"Applications will be sent to the Tenant and Community Relations Coordinator for review and to the Chief People and Strategy Officer for approval."

Can a public list of submissions and approvals be accessible? This will assist the public so we can see who is applying, getting support and not getting support?

Can reasons for denial be made public, so we all know why some groups are not getting support?

In closing, we would like to thank the Board and staff for the opportunity to present the thoughts of local residents and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Ric Amis

Spokesperson/Chair, West Side Community Council

Secretary/Chair, Parkdale Residents Association

Members of the WSCC include: the Grange Community Association, the Harbord Village Residents' Association, the Garment District Neighbourhood Association, the Trinity Bellwoods Community Association, the Ossington Community Association, the Lakeview Avenue Neighbourhood Association, the Liberty Village Residents' Association, Beaconsfield Village Residents' Association, Active 18, the Parkdale Residents Association, Roncesvalles–Macdonell Residents Association, and the Bloordale Community Improvement Association.