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October 10, 2023

Mr. John Elvidge, City Clerk
City Clerk's Office
100 Queen Street West
12th Floor, West Tower
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mr. Elvidge,

Re: Administrative Inquiry Regarding the Pink Floyd Exhibition

Councillor Pasternak submitted an Administrative Inquiry to seek information on the Pink Floyd Exhibition which took place at the Better Living Centre at Exhibition Place from August 18 to October 1, 2023. This letter transmits a briefing note from Don Boyle, CEO, Exhibition Place on this matter. Please refer to Attachment 1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Johnson".

Paul Johnson
City Manager

cc: Don Boyle, CEO, Exhibition Place



Issue:

The City Clerk has received an Administrative Inquiry (September 29, 2023) from Councillor James Pasternak regarding The Pink Floyd Exhibition, which took place at the Better Living Centre at Exhibition Place from August 18 to October 1, 2023.

The City, through the City Manager's Office, has referred the matter to Exhibition Place to respond.

Admin Inquiry Questions:

- Did Exhibition Place and the group organizing The Pink Floyd Exhibition sign the City of Toronto's anti-discrimination policy?
- Did the Pink Floyd Exhibition, despite its attempts to distance itself from the hateful behaviour of Roger Waters, violate the City of Toronto's anti-discrimination policy?

Background Information:

- Pursuant to Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 63, The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place reports to City Council and is charged with the continued, long-term operation, management, and maintenance of Exhibition Place as a strategic City asset on behalf of the City of Toronto
- In compliance with Toronto Municipal Code 63, section 63-6.1. Delegated real estate authority, The City of Toronto (Licensor), and The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place entered into a License Agreement for the use of a portion of the Better Living Centre at Exhibition Place with the Canadian National Exhibition Association (CNEA), in May 2023.
- The License Agreement was to offer and present the Pink Floyd Exhibition: Their Mortal Remains.
- The CNEA and its volunteer Board of Directors operate under the jurisdiction of the following provincial acts: the Canadian National Exhibition Association Act and the Agricultural & Horticultural Organizations Act of Ontario.
- The License Agreement stipulates in section 20 a non-discrimination and anti-harassment clause:

With respect to its activities conducted in the Premises and/or Centre during the Term, Licensee agrees to comply with all applicable laws prohibiting discrimination by reason of race, colour, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, political ideology, creed, religion, ancestry, national origin or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical handicap or the use of a trained guide dog by a blind, deaf or physically disabled person. Licensee agrees to comply with all applicable laws prohibiting harassment, as well as the Board's Human Rights and Anti-Harassment/Discrimination Policy, as included in the Event Meeting Guide.



Briefing Note

- In accordance with Toronto Municipal Code 63, section 63-4. Board mandate, The Board has the authority to approve key policies and practices consistent with the Relationship Framework and any City policies that apply to the Board. It has its own policies with regard to Human Rights, anti-harassment, and anti-discrimination.

Pink Floyd

- Pink Floyd is an English rock band formed in London in 1965
- Pink Floyd was founded in 1965 by Syd Barrett (guitar, lead vocals), Nick Mason (drums), Roger Waters (bass guitar, vocals) and Richard Wright (keyboards, vocals)
- Roger Waters left the group in 1985.
- Pink Floyd: Their Mortal Remains is a touring exhibition of the history of the British rock band Pink Floyd that opened on 13 May 2017 and has visited seven cities since its opening.
- The City of Munich attempted to cancel Roger Waters's March concert due to his persistent anti-Israel and antisemitic conduct. Berlin police have opened an investigation around Waters's costume for potentially glorifying Nazism and disturbing the peace.

Response to the Admin Inquiry:

Admin Inquiry Questions:

- Did Exhibition Place and the group organizing The Pink Floyd Exhibition sign the City of Toronto's anti-discrimination policy?

Exhibition Place and the CNEA have their own anti-discrimination policies. As stated in the background information, the license agreement contains a non-discrimination and anti-harassment clause.

- Did the Pink Floyd Exhibition, despite its attempts to distance itself from the hateful behaviour of Roger Waters, violate the City of Toronto's anti-discrimination policy?

The CNEA previewed the exhibit to ensure the imagery, messages and presentation material did not violate anti-discrimination policies.

Prepared by:

Don Boyle, CEO, Exhibition Place

Date:

October 5, 2023