

Use of Nathan Phillips Square for Various Events - February 2023

Date: January 3, 2023
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: General Manager, Economic Development & Culture
Wards: Ward 10 - Spadina-Fort York

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to request exemptions from the Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 636 "Public Squares" and former City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 237 "Nathan Phillips Square" for events that are proposed to be held on Nathan Phillips Square in February, 2023, namely:

- Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Foundation's "Toronto Maple Leafs Outdoor Practice"
- The Ontario Snow Resort Association's "Intro to Skiing and Snowboarding"

The issuing of permits and exemptions for the events listed in this report will be conditional on adherence to public health regulations. Organizers will be responsible for submitting operational plans to the permit-issuing body and monitoring on-site operations in a manner that maintains compliance with all public health guidelines and best practices. The Economic Development and Culture Division, in consultation with Toronto Public Health, will work with event organizers to assess viability, based on ongoing public health direction and the risks associated with specific events.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Economic Development and Culture recommends that:

1. City Council grant an exemption to Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Foundation and The Ontario Snow Resort Association to operate a beer garden and to serve alcohol contingent upon the following conditions:

- Approval of the A.G.C.O.
- Approval of the Medical Officer of Health
- Compliance with the City of Toronto's Municipal Alcohol Policy
- Receipt of all the necessary permits associated with the production of the event i.e. building permit, noise by-law extension permit

2. City Council grant permission to Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Foundation and The Ontario Snow Resort Association to solicit donations in support of their organizations.
3. City Council grant permission to Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Foundation and The Ontario Snow Resort Association to engage in sport demonstrations.
4. City Council grant permission to Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Foundation and The Ontario Snow Resort Association for sound amplification outside of Nathan Phillips Square amplification schedule policy.
5. City Council grant permission to Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Foundation to use open flame as part of their event production.
6. City Council grant permission to Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Foundation to use special effects pyrotechnics as part of their event production.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The City of Toronto will be compensated by the event organizers for any costs incurred by the City as a result of these various events and the approval of requested exemptions. There are no additional City funding requirements associated with this initiative in current and future years.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the information as presented in the Financial Impact Section.

DECISION HISTORY

The City of Toronto has received applications from the following for the use of Nathan Phillips Square in February 2023:

- Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Foundation's "Toronto Maple Leafs Outdoor Practice", February 8 - 15, 2023
- The Ontario Snow Resort Association's "Intro to Skiing and Snowboarding", February 16 - 19, 2023

COMMENTS

The Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 636 "Public Squares" and former City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 237 "Nathan Phillips Square" prohibit the solicitation of donations, the sale of alcohol, placing objects in the reflecting pool, use of open flame and special effects pyrotechnics, amplification of sound outside of Nathan Phillips

Square amplification schedule policy, “gated or ticketed” events and engagement in sport demonstrations and covering of City Hall windows and building on Nathan Phillips Square without the approval of Council.

Event organizers are requesting permission to solicit donations, engage in sports demonstrations, amplify sound outside of NPS amplification schedule policy, use open flame as part of their event production, operate beer/wine garden, place objects in the pool, use special effects pyrotechnics and for permission to cover City Hall windows and building. The proceeds of these and other sales will go to their respective non-profit organizations.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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