

Toronto International Pizza Festival

Date: June 27, 2024

To: Economic and Community Development Committee

From: City Council

Wards: All

CITY COUNCIL DECISION

City Council on June 26 and 27, 2024, referred Motion MM19.32 to the Economic and Community Development Committee for consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, in consultation with appropriate City Divisions, the Toronto Association of Business Improvement Areas, and relevant culinary industry partners, to report back to the July 24, 25, and 26, 2024, meeting of City Council on how the City can support a celebration of Toronto's culinary excellence through the creation of a Toronto International Pizza Festival, to be held in November 2024.

SUMMARY

Toronto is well-known for our incredible food scene, and for our residents' long held and strong opinions for where to get their favourite dishes.

In an effort to support our small businesses, Business Improvement Areas, and to encourage Torontonians in celebrating their favourite restaurants — the City should host the first ever Toronto International Pizza Festival.

Our City has incredible street festivals and food-related events that draw hundreds of thousands of visitors to locations across Toronto in order to experience the culinary excellence of Toronto. With thousands of pizzerias and related restaurants this festival provides a unique opportunity to encourage Torontonians to support small and local

businesses, while also giving residents the opportunity to promote the many traditional and unique styles of pizza that can be found across Toronto.

The reason for urgency is to ensure that City staff has sufficient time to process this request by the September meeting of City Council.