

Deputy Mayor

Mike Colle

**City Councillor | Eglinton-Lawrence
City of Toronto**

416-338-0008

mikecolletoronto.com

councillor_colle8@toronto.ca

September 9, 2024

To: Economic and Community Development Committee

Re: MM19.32 - Toronto International Pizza Festival - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata

On June 26 and 27, 2024, City Council referred my [Motion MM19.32](#) to the Economic and Community Development Committee for consideration.

The motion requested 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 on how the City can support a celebration of Toronto's culinary excellence through the creation of a Toronto International Pizza Festival.

Toronto 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 hundreds of pizzerias and other restaurants serving this ubiquitous dish, this festival provides a unique opportunity to encourage Torontonians to support small and local businesses, while also giving residents the opportunity to enjoy both traditional styles of pizza along with dozens of other unique and diverse blended styles that can be found across Toronto.

In an effort to support small businesses and BIAs, and to encourage Torontonians in celebrating their favourite restaurants - the City should host the first ever Toronto International Pizza Festival.

The Festival will be planned for 2025 and be organized and executed by a committee of Toronto restaurateurs, large and small.

I have communicated with the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture to consider how his division might be able to support such an endeavour given their great experience with events such as Summerlicious and Winterlicious

RECOMMENDATION:

I request the Economic and Community Development Committee refer this item to the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture for his consideration and appropriate action in support of Councillors Colle and Nunziata, local restaurants and BIA's to organize a city-wide event.

Sincerely,

Mike Colle
Deputy Mayor
City Councillor for Ward 8, Eglinton—Lawrence