

June 13, 2024

Executive Committee  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

**Re: EX15.5 - Moss Park Arena - Governance and Operational Review**

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of the Executive Committee,

Inclusive and equitable access to recreation is a cornerstone for thriving communities, particularly for the families in Moss Park, St. James Town, and Regent Park. As a Councillor, I have been persistent in my pursuit of vibrant, accessible public spaces guided by equity.

Moss Park Arena, established in 1974, has served as a critical facility within my community, hosting indoor ice programming and hockey leagues. However, crucial programs, like free skating and learn-to-skate, remain absent. The only other rink in my ward is the Regent Park Ice Rink which is only seasonal as it is an outdoor facility. Furthermore, I believe that the governance structure established as a result of amalgamation no longer serves the needs of my local communities.

The work of the community, city staff, and my office to enhance equitable access to recreation in the Regent Park, Moss Park, and St. James Town neighbourhoods has been a long journey and one that remains ongoing. Through working with City staff to explore available options, I have learned that Parks, Forestry and Recreation manages 41 of the 49 arenas across the city and firmly believe Toronto Centre residents will significantly benefit from transitioning Moss Park Arena to the City's administration.

I am therefore requesting the adoption of my recommendations below to transition Moss Park Arena to the City's Parks, Forestry and Recreation portfolio effective Q3 2025. This move is only one of many that will open doors to enhance community access. I hope that I can count on your support for these recommendations which were drafted with the support of staff from the City Manager's Office and Parks, Forestry and Recreation.

**Recommendations:**

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, in collaboration with the City Manager, to develop a transition plan to change the governance and operations of Moss Park Arena from a Board of Management to a City operated arena to come into effect by the end of 2025, and report back to City Council by Q4 2024 with the transition plan, including:
  - a. the financial impacts and resourcing requirements for the transition to the City's administration;
  - b. all rights, claims, undertakings, obligations, assets and liabilities of the Board of Management;
  - c. workforce and employment impacts;
  - d. any other impacts on the City's Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division arising from assuming the operations of the Arena; and
  - e. the implementation timeline.
2. City Council authorize the City Solicitor to introduce the necessary bills in Council for dissolution of the Moss Park Arena Board in accordance with the City of Toronto Act, 2006 and O. Regulation 589/06, *Dissolution of and Assumption of Powers of Local Boards*, to bring into effect the transition, subject to Council's decisions in consideration of Recommendation 1.
3. City Council direct that, effectively immediately, the Moss Park Arena Board of Management work with the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to review opportunities for the Moss Park Arena to enhance equitable community access to the Arena's programs.

Respectfully Submitted,



Chris Moise  
City Councillor  
Ward 13 - Toronto Centre

CM/tj