



**Sept 27, 2024**

**Performing Arts Lodges,  
Toronto 110 The Esplanade, Suite 334  
Toronto, ON M5E 1X9**

**Re: EX17.17 -Update on the St Lawrence Centre for the Arts Redevelopment Project**

**Subject: PAL's support for Reimagining the St Lawrence Centre for the Arts – An Iconic Cultural Space in Toronto**

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of Executive Committee,

I am writing to you on behalf of the residents of the Performing Arts Lodges (PAL) Toronto, a community of retired performing arts professionals who have spent their careers enriching Toronto's cultural landscape. Many of our residents have graced the stage of the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts (STLC), and the Centre holds a deep personal and professional significance for us all.

The redevelopment of the STLC is a visionary and necessary project that we fully support, as it promises to breathe new life into a space that has been a cultural cornerstone for over five decades. Since its opening in 1970, the STLC has been home to countless iconic performances, many of which involved our residents, making it not just a venue, but a place that has shaped our lives and careers.

However, the building is now in disrepair and does not meet modern accessibility standards, limiting its potential to serve today's diverse artistic and audience needs. We are heartened by TO Live's commitment to transforming the STLC into a state-of-the-art, inclusive, and flexible space that will be fully accessible to artists, audiences, and community groups alike. The new Centre will address the need for affordable, multi-use spaces and embrace technological advancements that reflect the evolving demands of the arts.

The reimagined STLC will not only be a home for the next generation of performers, but also a hub for cultural exchange, collaboration, and innovation. It is inspiring to think that the same stage where so many of us have performed will soon welcome new voices, new stories, and new art that reflect the diversity of Toronto's communities.

This project holds great promise for the city's economic and cultural vitality. As residents of a community dedicated to the arts, we see the potential for the STLC to continue as a beacon for Toronto's performing arts scene, one that fosters creativity and serves as a catalyst for growth in the surrounding neighborhood. Its proximity to Union Station positions it perfectly to become a landmark destination for both local and international visitors.

For those of us who have dedicated our lives to the performing arts, the STLC is more than a building; it is a part of our history. With your support, it can also be a part of Toronto's future – a space that honors the past while embracing the new, fostering artistic expression for generations to come.

We urge you to champion the redevelopment of the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, ensuring its place as a vital and inclusive cultural engine for our city.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Plant". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Plant" clearly distinguishable.

Executive Director  
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