



## Kristyn Wong-Tam

MPP TORONTO CENTRE

September 30, 2024

Email: [exc@toronto.ca](mailto:exc@toronto.ca)

Mayor Olivia Chow and Members of the Executive Committee  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N3

**RE: Letter of Support for Reimagining the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts  
EX17.17 Update on the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts Redevelopment**

Please accept this letter of support for the redevelopment of the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts (STLC).

Since the inception of this redevelopment, I have supported the consultation and design process set forth by TOLive and endorsed by City Council. As the former City Councillor and current MPP for the area, I urge you to continue working with community, cultural, and business partners to champion a remarkable project that will remake the city's cultural tapestry.

I recognize firsthand the fiscal pressures faced by City Council. Balancing different interests has never been simple; some have considered investments in arts and culture frivolous. Wiser people understand that immense economic drivers from the arts can magnify and multiply tourism and visitor impacts.

Since 1970, the STLC has been a cultural cornerstone and premier performance space for some of the best artists on the planet. Without prior sufficient funding, this city-owned facility is now in significant disrepair and unable to meet the standards set by the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA).

In speaking with Minister Marci Ien, the government MP for Toronto Centre, we encourage the City to continue its redevelopment work of the STLC. It is understood that funding must be raised from the private sector and three government orders.

Similar to Massey Hall's successful fundraising campaign, which raised significant dollars from upper-level governments, I am confident that – should City Council work hand-in-hand with TOLive and all government partners – new funding will indeed be raised for STLC as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Kristyn Wong-Tam  
Member of Provincial Parliament for Toronto Centre