

Economic Development and Culture (EDC) Division Upcoming 2024 Strategies

Presented to the Toronto Music Advisory Council
February 9, 2024

➤ Agenda

- Overview of strategies and engagement process
- What we've heard
- Key questions and discussion

Action Plan for Toronto's Culture Sector (2024-2034)

Sets priorities for City policies and programs in support of arts and culture, with an emphasis on access, inclusion and equity.

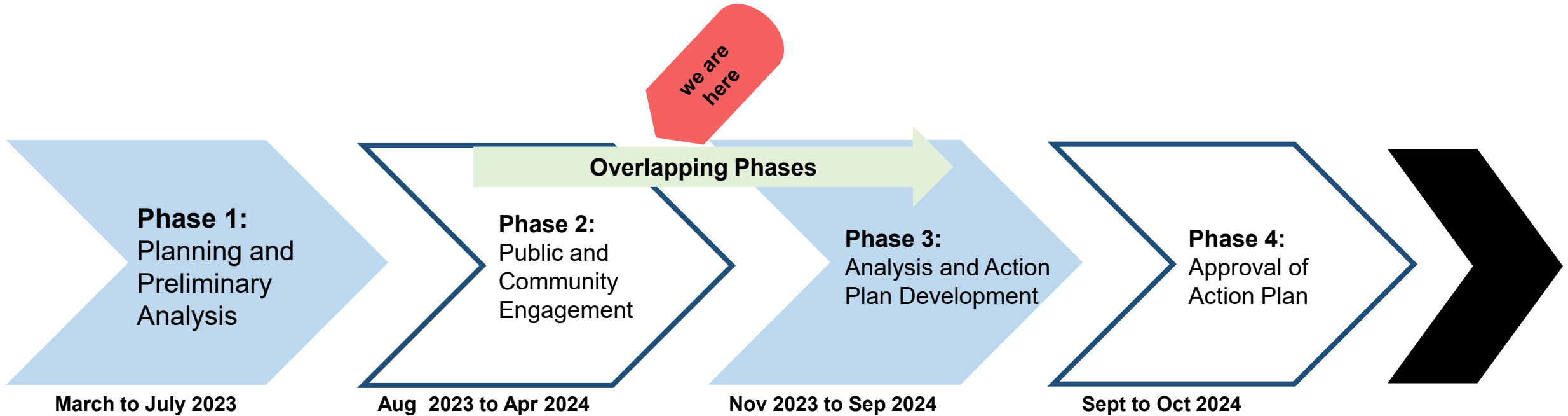
Action Plan for Toronto's Economy (2024-2034)

Establishes how the City coordinates existing and new levers to enhance Toronto's competitiveness while supporting more inclusive, sustainable and impactful economic growth in communities across Toronto

EDC Divisional Strategy (2024-2028)

Internal strategic plan to establish goals and actions to guide all divisional programs, policies and services

➤ Project Timelines for the Strategies





Engagement Plan: Action Plan for Toronto's Culture Sector

- An **Online Survey** – survey closes on March 3
- Two **Virtual Town Halls**
 - February 15, 6:30 pm until 9:00 pm
 - February 22, 9:30 am until 12:00 pm
- **Artist-led** engagement sessions
- **8 community conversations**
 - 3 were held specifically with Indigenous, Black, and Deaf, mad and disabled artists and creatives
- A **community conversation 'toolkit'** for anyone who wants to host their own sessions – share your feedback by March 3
- An **external advisory panel** of 20 community leaders

Consultants supporting the public engagement process: Monumental Projects

➤ Engagement Plan: Action Plan for Toronto's Economy

- **Economic Advisory Panel — Industry Leaders and Subject Matter Experts**
- **Public Survey** — launched January 25, closes last day of February
- **Public Engagement Sessions (Jan-Feb 2024)**
 - **CityTalk: one public kick-off session** (January 3)
 - **12 sector interviews/stakeholder sessions** (January)
encompassing business districts, sector leaders, and academics from across Toronto.
 - **Sessions dedicated to Indigenous economic participation and Reconciliation**
 - Interviews with up to 20 cultural business associations and groups across Toronto.

Consultants supporting the public engagement plan: Canadian Urban Institute

➤ Council Advisory Committees

- **All three strategies will be engaging City Council Advisory Committees, including:**
 - Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (2SLGBTQ+) Advisory Committee [January 31]
 - Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee [February 5]
 - Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee [February 9]
 - Toronto Music Advisory Council [February 15]
 - Indigenous Affairs Committee [TBC]
 - Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board [TBC]

➤ What We've Heard

Across both Action Plans for the Economy and Culture Sector

- Lack of affordable, accessible space for culture, including live/work
- Inequitable distribution of cultural funding and cultural programming
- Lack of multimodal transportation investments and linkages across the City
- Increased activations in winter/fall months to animate public/private spaces;
- Support related to emerging technologies and creative practices
- Need for greater research and impact measures
- More opportunities for connection and community building
- More opportunities needed for capacity building, professional development and mentorship

Questions

1. Do the challenges and issues we have heard resonate?

2. Based on your experience, what's missing?

➤ Please reach out

Should you have any further feedback or comments to share please reach out:

- **Action Plan for Toronto's Economy:** Adam Didycz, Policy Development Officer, Economic Development and Culture, adam.didycz@toronto.ca 416-396-7663; Cory Shankman, Senior Project Manager, cory.shankman@toronto.ca 416-392-4260
- **Action Plan for Toronto's Culture Sector:** Mojan Jianfar, Senior Cultural Affairs Officer, mojan.jianfar@toronto.ca 416-392-5225