

**City Council****Notice of Motion**

<b>MM24.14</b>	<b>ACTION</b>			Ward: 10
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**Requesting By-law Exemptions for Toronto Spring Festival on Nathan Phillips Square - by Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik, seconded by Councillor Amber Morley**

*\* Notice of this Motion has been given.  
\* This Motion is subject to referral to the Toronto and East York Community Council. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

**Recommendations**

Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik, seconded by Councillor Amber Morley, seconded by:

1. City Council approve a one-time exemption to the policies governing the usage of Nathan Phillips Square to grant the Canada International Dance Culture Association permission to solicit donations in support of their organization and use special effects pyrotechnics and open flame as part of their event production.
2. City Council approve a one-time exemption to the policies governing the usage of Nathan Phillips Square to grant the Canada International Dance Culture Association to operate a beer and wine garden and to serve alcohol contingent upon the following conditions:
  - a. approval of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario;
  - b. approval of the Medical Officer of Health;
  - c. compliance with the City of Toronto’s Municipal Alcohol Policy; and
  - d. receipt of all the necessary permits associated with the production of the event i.e., building permits, noise by-law extension permit.

**Summary**

The purpose of this Motion is to request various exemptions from Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 636, Public Squares, and former City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 237, Nathan Phillips Square for the Toronto Spring Festival. Normally, these exemptions would have been included in Item TE14.42 - Use of Nathan Phillips Square for Various Events - September 1, 2024 - April 30, 2025 adopted at City Council in June 2024 however, this request was received as part of the recent call for applications to use Nathan Phillips Square in 2025 which closed in November 2024.

The Toronto Spring Festival aims to unite diverse communities through a vibrant celebration of the Lunar New Year, showcasing traditional Chinese customs alongside modern festivities,

fostering inclusivity and cultural exchange in the heart of Toronto. The festival will present spring festival-inspired dishes, cultural performances such as traditional lion and dragon dances, pyrotechnics, spring festival-inspired decoration, and a parade in the square.

The event will load in on Thursday, January 23 from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. and Friday, January 24 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and load out on Sunday 9:00 p.m. - Monday 3:00 a.m.

Event timing:

- Friday, January 24: 5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
- Saturday, January 25: noon – 11:00 p.m.
- Sunday, January 26: noon – 9:00 p.m.

If the exemptions are approved by the Council, the issuance of permits and exemptions for the event listed in this motion will be conditional on the submission of all required documentation and permissions by the event organizers to City staff for review and approval. These actions will comply with all other related City policies, procedures, and criteria, and will follow regular business practices.

### **Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM24.14