



Deputy Mayor

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CHAIR, GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
CHAIR, SCARBOROUGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CHAIR, BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF THE TORONTO ZOO
PRESIDENT, GOOD ROADS BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NIGHT ECONOMY CHAMPION, CITY OF TORONTO

Date: June 26, 2026

To: Economic Development Committee Members

Re: Review of Nightlife Hub Model

Recommendations

1. City Council requests the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, and the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards review the Montréal nightlife hub model and report back to the Economic and Community Development Committee in the fourth quarter of 2027, on the feasibility of implementing designated nightlife hubs and/or extended hours for select venues in Toronto.
2. City Council request that the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture include a jurisdictional scan, inclusive of Montréal's nightlife hub model, as part of any future report recommending amendments to the delegation of authority and process for the endorsement of temporary liquor licenses.
3. City Council request that the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture include as part of future reports on actions to support Toronto's night economy:
 1. Consideration of the night economy's economic impact and its role in economic development, tourism, and arts and culture sectors.
 2. Recommendations on enhancing public safety and wellbeing, sound conflict mitigation, transportation, and harm reduction measures necessary to support extended hours.

Summary

As Night Economy Champion, I am requesting that City staff review recent developments in Montréal, where the City has introduced designated "nightlife hubs" that permit select venues to operate with extended hours—up to 6:00 a.m. during approved events—beyond the standard last call. This model is intended to support the nighttime economy, enhance cultural vibrancy, and create more coordinated and managed late-night activity.

Toronto's nighttime economy is a vital contributor to economic growth, tourism, and cultural life. However, existing frameworks around last call and the concentration of late-night activity can present challenges related to congestion, safety, and neighbourhood impacts. Montréal's approach offers a structured model that concentrates activity in specific areas while balancing economic opportunity with community considerations and public safety measures.

Given Toronto's scale and diversity, it is important to assess whether a similar approach could be appropriate locally. This includes undertaking meaningful consultation to determine whether there is an appetite among residents, businesses, and stakeholders for extended hours and designated nightlife hubs, and identifying how such a model could be tailored to Toronto's unique context.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Ainslie
Deputy Mayor, City of Toronto, Councillor
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