

MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE

Stabilization Support for Alumnae Theatre Company

Moved by: Councillor

Paula Fletcher

Shelley Carroll

Seconded by: Councillor

SUMMARY:

Alumnae Theatre Company is one of Toronto's oldest continuous theatre organizations, with a history dating back to 1918. As a volunteer-run, not-for-profit organization dedicated to skills development for women in theatre, Alumnae Theatre has played a significant role in the city's cultural landscape, providing opportunities for artists, technicians, and audiences to engage in high-quality, community-based theatre. Operating from a City-owned heritage property at 70 Berkeley Street, the organization has contributed to the vitality of downtown Toronto for decades, supporting local economic activity while fostering a diverse and inclusive arts community. Its longstanding presence reflects a deep commitment to accessible cultural programming and to nurturing emerging and established talent alike.

In recent years, like many other performing arts organizations, Alumnae Theatre Company has experienced significant operational and financial challenges, which have adversely affected the theatre's stability. As a volunteer-driven organization, Alumnae Theatre requires targeted support to maintain its operations and continue serving the community. A one-time stabilization grant of \$151,100 will provide essential financial relief, enabling the organization to address immediate pressures, stabilize its operations, and continue contributing to Toronto's cultural sector and local economy while longer-term conditions improve.

This motion is urgent as funding is required as soon as possible to address immediate operational challenges at the theatre.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, to provide a one-time stabilization grant of \$151,100 to Alumnae Theatre Company, subject to the execution of a funding agreement outlining the terms and conditions for the use of the grant (Cost Centre: AH0150).