



NOTICE OF MOTION

Authority to Enter into a Nominal Fee Licence Agreement with Jumblies Theatre and Elder Duke Redbird

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Malik

Seconded by: Mayor Chow

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Deputy Mayor Malik, seconded by Mayor Chow, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager, Parks and Recreation to negotiate and sign on behalf of the City a nominal fee licence agreement with Jumblies Theatre, a registered charity, and Elder Dr. Duke Redbird to facilitate Indigenous cultural activities at Toronto Island Park, for a term from June 1, 2026 to October 9, 2026, renewable for additional two similar seasons at the sole discretion of, and on terms and conditions acceptable to, the General Manager, Parks and Recreation, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, and subject to the licence referenced in Recommendation 2.
2. City Council authorize the General Manager of Parks and Recreation to provide consent to Toronto Island Marina, to grant a licence for the use of the Blockhouse Bay docking wall by Jumblies Theatre, a registered charity, and Elder Dr. Duke Redbird for a term from June 1, 2026 to October 9, 2026, renewable for additional two similar seasons, if the licence at Toronto Island Park is renewed at the sole discretion of the General Manager, Parks and Recreation.

SUMMARY:

In 2023, authorized by City Council decision [IE3.2](#), the General Manager of Parks and Recreation executed a Nominal Fee Licence Agreement with Elder Dr. Redbird, in collaboration with Jumblies Theatre, a Toronto-based non-profit arts group and registered charity, to use approximately 3,000 square feet of park space in Toronto Island Park, near the dock wall along the west side of Blockhouse Bay, for Indigenous cultural programming. Activities included, but were not limited to, knowledge sharing, story-telling, performances, artistic events, public "ask an Elder" drop-in programming intended to spread Indigenous knowledge in the larger population, and school tours intended to

spread Indigenous knowledge among students. They erected a teepee as they have in other locations.

For logistical support and to create a visual attraction, the program was supported by the Wigwam Chi-Chemung, Elder Dr. Redbird's floating art installation, studio, office, and Indigenous interpretive learning centre. It tells the story of Indigenous presence on Toronto's waterfront. The forty-foot pontoon boat has been covered with artwork by Elder Dr. Redbird and Philip Cote, a noted painter and muralist from Moose Deer Point First Nation. The Wigwam Chi-Chemung has appeared at public locations in Toronto such as Ontario Place and the Luminato Festival Toronto.

The 2023 agreement has expired after a successful three-year seasonal presence by Elder Dr. Redbird at Toronto Island Park. The recommendations in this motion would extend the licence for up to an additional three seasons, beginning this June.

As in the previous three seasons, the Wigwam Chi-Chemung would be moored to the dock wall under a separate agreement with the Toronto Island Marina, which manages the dock wall under an agreement with the City. The marina's agreement with the City requires the General Manager, Parks and Recreation to provide consent for this special longer-duration use of the dock wall.

Recognizing the importance of Indigenous place-keeping and cultural programming, this motion seeks to continue building the City's ongoing partnerships with Indigenous groups to enhance the park's role as a site for Indigenous-led programming. This motion aligns with the City's ongoing commitments to equity, cultural recognition, and environmental sustainability, ensuring that Toronto Island Park continues to serve as a vibrant and inclusive space for all residents in alignment with the aims of the Toronto Island Park Plan.