



Hamilton

**MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY
REPORT 20-004**

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

8:30 a.m.

Council Chamber

Hamilton City Hall

71 Main Street West

Present: Mayor F. Eisenberger
 Councillors N. Nann; J.P. Danko
 R. McKerlie, President of Mohawk College (Chair)
 M. Afinec, President & COO of Business Operations, Hamilton Tiger-Cats & Forge FC
 F. Bernstein, Executive Director, Workers Art & Heritage Centre
 K. Duffin, President and CEO, Amity Goodwill
 M. Ellerker, Business Manager, Hamilton-Brantford Building & Construction Trades Council (Building/Skilled Trades Sector)
 P. Hall, Executive Director, Stoney Creek Chamber of Commerce
 K. Jarvi, Executive Director, Downtown Hamilton BIA
 T. Johns, Board Member, West End Home Builders' Association (Vice-Chair)
 L. La Rocca, Director of Operations, Sonic Unyon Records
 K. Loomis, President & CEO, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce
 B. Lubbers, General Manager, Courtyard by Marriott
 A. Marco, President, Hamilton & District Labour Council
 R. McCann, Founder, Clearcable Networks
 B. Munroe, Blacktop Recess
 M. Patricelli, Executive Director, Flamborough Chamber of Commerce
 C. Puckering, President and CEO, Hamilton International Airport
 D. Spoelstra, Chair of Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee
 J. Travis, Executive Director Workforce Planning Hamilton
 H. Wegiel, Director of Government and Trade Relations ArcelorMittal Dofasco
 G. Yuyitung, Executive Director of the McMaster Industry Liaison Office

Absent with

Regrets: Councillor T. Whitehead – Personal
 R. Brown, Manager, Westfield Heritage Village
 E. Dunham, Owner, The Other Bird
 T. Shattuck, Chair, Synapse Life Science Consortium, McMaster Innovation Park

**MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY PRESENTS REPORT 20-004
AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

**1. Correspondence from Stephanie Goulet respecting Financial Assistance
for Independent Music Venues (Item 4.1)**

- (a) That Correspondence from Stephanie Goulet respecting Financial Assistance for Independent Music Venues, be received; and,
- (b) That Correspondence be sent to the Federal and Provincial Ministers of Finance requesting support for the Music Industry Sector and Independent Music Venues, attached hereto as Appendix "A" to Report 20-004.

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 2)

The Clerk advised the Task Force of the following changes to the agenda:

ITEM WITHDRAWN:

- 7.1 Proposed Correspondence from the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery Respecting Role of Liability in the Economic Recovery (deferred from the July 30, 2020 meeting)

The Workplace and Office Working Group advised that they wished to withdraw the item as they were not able to gain consensus on wording of the letter.

The agenda for the August 25, 2020 meeting of the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery, was approved, as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)

(i) July 30, 2020 (Item 3.1)

The Minutes of the July 30, 2020 meeting of the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery, were approved, as presented.

(d) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 5)

(i) Working Group Updates (Item 5.1)

Members of the Working Groups of the Task Force provided updates on their work up to now.

The Working Group Updates were received.

(ii) Panels and Discussions Update (Item 5.2)

M. Anthony and J. Travis addressed the Task Force respecting two of the recent Panels that focused on the Frontline Worker Experience.

The Panels and Discussions Update was received.

(e) GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11)

(i) Resources for the Members of the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery Update (Item 10.1)

Carrie Brooks-Joiner, Director, Tourism and Culture, addressed the Task Force respecting an Update on Resources for the Members of the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery. Sector Participants are advised to send documents for uploading to the Resources Page to the Legislative Coordinator.

The Resources for the Members of the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery Update was received.

(f) ADJOURNMENT (Item 11)

There being no further business, the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron McKerlie, Chair
Mayor's Task Force on Economic
Recovery

Loren Kolar
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk

Supporting Canada's Live Music Industry through COVID-19

Minister Freeland and Minister Guilbeault:

Hamilton's Economic Recovery Task Force comprises multi-sectoral leadership across our community's diverse economy. The Task Force is responsible for guiding Hamilton's economic recovery in the immediate aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic by formulating an aggressive, action-driven plan to ensure a long-term, sustainable and equitable economic recovery.

We are writing to you to express our concerns and provide our recommendation to support Canada's live music industry during the pandemic.

We would like to thank the federal government for their initial efforts to support the music industry at the onset of COVID-19. Specifically, Heritage Canada's investment of \$500 million to support arts, culture and sports, along with the provision allowing artists to receive royalty payments while still qualifying for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, were two important steps towards supporting the overall industry.

However, this taskforce has learned that the measures in place for the music industry at large fail to adequately support the live music industry specifically, which finds itself dangerously close to shuttering doors in the near future.

The live music industry in Canada accounts for 72,000 jobs, not including musical performers, and generates \$3.5 billion in economic activity, according to the Canadian Live Music Association. In Hamilton alone, the direct Gross Domestic Product from venues prior to COVID-19 was \$32.6 M with \$2.6 M coming from property taxes.

Live music venue operators have highlighted a number of pressing concerns, notably:

1. Necessary protocols surrounding social distancing, maximum crowd controls, and travel border restrictions have drastically impacted the live music industry, in Hamilton and across Canada. According to the City of Hamilton's Economic Impacts of Live Music Sector report, the operating margins for live music venues are 4%, meaning the steep reduction in capacity makes continued operations impossible.
2. The CLMA has warned that an astounding 96% of the live music venues risk closing down within a year without additional financial support from the government. The majority of live venues are unable to sustain their operations for more than six months without financial help.
3. The closure of Canadian music venues directly impacts not only their owners and employees, but a greater industry of musicians and production teams whose sole incomes rely, through touring, on the support of these venues and therefore will be significantly reduced due to decreased live performances opportunities available in Canada.

To prevent the imminent loss of cultural infrastructure and talent, we recommend the federal government earmark additional funding for live music, through the creation of a multi-year Canadian Live Music Fund.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,