

June 19, 2024

Hamilton City Council
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Members of Hamilton City Council,

We are writing to express our enthusiastic support for Hamilton's bid to host the upcoming JUNO Awards in 2026 or 2027. As a band proudly formed in Hamilton, it's an honor to shine a light on a city that has uplifted Arkells since our early years. Having performed in small clubs, to our hometown festival, "The Rally," at the football stadium, we've felt the community's passion for music every step of the way.

We're no strangers to witnessing the joy The JUNO Awards bring to music lovers in each host city, and across the country. Hamilton is a city with a rich cultural tapestry and a deep love for the arts - and Hamilton always rises to the occasion: with no shortage of talent to showcase its vibrant music scene, unique venues, and community passion.

We have seen how events like The Rally & The Grey Cup have energized our city, bringing people together and creating lasting memories. Like these events, The JUNO Awards would bring a welcomed boost to local businesses, while also inspiring future generations of musicians.

Over our career we've been lucky to celebrate and collaborate alongside the amazing teams at CARAS and The JUNO Awards, creating lasting memories that have played a pivotal role in our growth as a band. We've had the pleasure of attending and performing at The JUNO Awards across the country - In Ottawa, London, Vancouver, Toronto, Edmonton St. John's, and the last time they touched down in Hamilton, nearly 10 years ago. It's always been a highlight to celebrate Canada's vibrant music scene alongside our peers, and equally so getting the opportunity to connect with fans excited to celebrate their hometown and welcome us in.

We're confident The JUNO Awards would thrive in Hamilton, and look forward to celebrating Canadian music at home.

Sincerely,



Arkells