

THE MUSIC HALL

at New Vision Church

24 Main Street West, Hamilton L8P 1H2

May 20th, 2025

To: Legislative Coordinator, GIC

City of Hamilton, 71 Main Street West,

1st Floor, Hamilton, Ontario, L8P 4Y5

clerk@hamilton.ca

To Mayor and Council Members:

RE: PED25142 - Grant for Centenary Methodist Church to Establish A Mid-Sized Performance Centre, 24 Main Street West, Hamilton (Ward 2)

The Music Hall Alliance is a registered not-for-profit organization established in 2023 to operate an independent & accessible creative hub in the New Vision Church located in the heart of downtown Hamilton. The Music Hall will be a centre for creativity that meets widely valued social, economic and environmental objectives. For The Alliance to build this creative hub, extensive improvements and repairs to the building are essential.

The Music Hall Alliance grew out of a multi year volunteer advisory consultation with the New Vision Church trustees. The purpose of the advisory consultation was to find a workable business model that didn't require that the church be a venue operator and promoter, and the preservation of the Church's charitable tax status was paramount. In the years that we have been working with the trustees, it has been our experience that they are a group that is passionately dedicated to serving equity deserving groups in the community. We have enjoyed a mutually respectful and trusting relationship with them and look forward to continuing that relationship in the years to come. We are confident in the financial operating plans shown to the City which will ensure the long-term operation of this venue.

Therefore, the members of The Alliance Board are strongly in favour of the recommendations in this staff report and the granting of \$900,000 towards the first phase of capital improvements on the building. These funds will be used to create a safer and more functional space for all audiences and artists/users including music and performance acts, community groups, artists and other users.

It is the intention of The Music Hall Alliance, within the renovated space, to strengthen the connections between artists and audiences and ultimately the success of the Music Hall and burgeoning music scene in the city.

We look forward to working closely with the City including Economic Development, Tourism and Culture Divisions and the Healthy and Safe Communities Department to meet City Council priorities.

We wish to thank the Ward Councillor and others for supporting and encouraging this proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

Members, The Music Hall Alliance Board

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ken Dick', written over a horizontal line.

Ken Dick (Chair)

Members of the Board:

Kerry Doole

Sean Jones

Evelyn Myrie

Jeff Martin

Natasha Luke

Glen Norton

Mark Tharme

Jackie Norton (Secretary)