

MOTION ON NOTICE

5. Encourage and Expand Performance Venues

MOVER: Councillor Heather Deal

SECONDER:

WHEREAS a thriving creative sector is vital to the continuing economic and cultural success of Vancouver, and

WHEREAS live performance venues for music, theatre, literary, visual and media arts make up a part of that creative sector, and

WHEREAS Vancouver has the highest percentage of its workforce in cultural industries among Canadian city-regions, and

WHEREAS local artists and entrepreneurs face a variety of challenges in opening and operating performance venues including (but not limited to) fire code and building codes, liquor license by-laws, zoning restrictions and start-up costs, and

WHEREAS many of these challenges are identified in the Cultural Facilities Priorities Plan,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. City Council direct staff, in consultation with the Cultural Facilities Advisory Team, to convene a Round Table to provide advice on;
 - Opportunities and options for enabling the creation and sustainable operation of live performance venues,
 - Current barriers to the creation and operation of live performance venues;
 - Solutions to address the barriers for the creation of performance spaces in nontraditional venues and locations (art galleries, retail stores, etc.)
 - Potential impact of liquor by-laws and Special Occasion Licenses on performance venues and suggestions for requested changes to liquor by-laws,
- B. Council direct staff to consult relevant City departments to identify base life-safety standards, issues/barriers and recommended solutions for enabling the development of live performance venues, in particular small and medium sized independently owned venues, and
- C. Staff report back to Council by the 2009 summer break with a plan for implementation of recommendations based on A and B above, including immediate actions.