

**Item No. 22**

May 16, 2012

To: The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place

From: Dianne Young, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: **Licence Agreement – Canadian National Sportsmen’s Shows Ltd.**

**Summary:**

This report recommends the Board approve a five-year license agreement with the Canadian National Sportsmen's Shows Ltd. for the use of Halls A, B, C, and a portion of G; and Heritage Court, with Direct Energy Centre, on the terms and conditions outlined in the Board's Standard License Agreement.

**Recommendations:**

**It is recommended that the Board:**

- 1) Authorize a license agreement with the Canadian National Sportsmen’s Shows Ltd. to rent the Direct Energy Centre for 7 days or less in any one year, and for a term commencing 2013 and expiring in 2017, based on the terms and conditions of the standard license agreement, and such other terms and conditions satisfactory to the CEO and City Solicitor; and**
- 2) Direct that the confidential report contained in Attachment 1 to this report not be released publicly in order to protect the competitive position, future economic and legal interests of the Board.**

**Financial Impact:**

The licence agreement recommended in this report provides revenue to the Board over the five-year period and is set out in the Confidential Attachment.

**Decision History:**

At its June 24, 2011 meeting, the Board approved a report entitled “Council Policy on the Display of Guns at Exhibitions / Events, wherein the CEO was requested to meet with the City Manager to address issues relating to the interpretation of the City policy on “City-Based Measure to Address Gun Violence” and its detrimental effect on trade and consumer shows being held at Exhibition Place.

At its meeting of January 22, 2010, the Board endorsed, as part of the Relationship Framework Agreement between the Board and the City, a new management term which would allow the Board to enter into license agreements for a period of 20 days or less in any one year for a term no greater than 10 years. At its meeting of March 31 and April 1, 2010, City Council approved the Relationship Framework Agreement between the Board and the City.

The Exhibition Place 2009-2012 Strategic Plan had a Financial Goal to *effectively monitor costs and revenues* and as a Strategy to support this Goal we will *ensure operating budgets are met or show a positive surplus to budget*.

Issue Background:

The Toronto Sportsmen's Show was held at Exhibition Place from 1948 to 2009. However, as a result of the Firearms Policy adopted by City Council on March 24, 2009, the Toronto Sportsmen's Show moved from Exhibition Place to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, a provincially owned facility which permits such activities. This resulted in a loss of \$1.1 million of annual gross income.

Following the CEO's discussions with the City Manager's Office, a motion was submitted and approved by City Council at its meeting of May 8 and 9, 2012, wherein the following motions were adopted:

1. City Council exempt the Board of Governors from the City Policy prohibiting use of City facilities for the promotion of firearms, for the purpose of permitting the Toronto Sportsmen's Show to host its annual five-day show at Exhibition Place;
2. City Council request that the Toronto Sportsmen's Show continue to have the Ontario Chief Firearms Officer on site at its show at all times, and continue to provide educational seminars on the safe use and storage of firearms to all show attendees through the Ontario Chief Firearms Officer;
3. City Council request the Toronto Sportsmen's Show to hold a gun amnesty during the days of its show with assistance from the Toronto Police Services;
4. City Council request the Toronto Sportsmen's Show to have two (2) complimentary booths in a prominent location for animal protection and welfare organizations to present fair and alternative wildlife management issues and the impact of hunting and fishing; and
5. City Council request the City Manager to report to the Executive Committee on the status of the measures adopted in the report "The City of Toronto: City-Based Measures to Address Gun Violence" – May 2008.

Based on the approved exemption from the City Policy above, the Canadian National Sportsmen's Shows Ltd. wishes to return to its Toronto Sportsmen's Show "home" at Exhibition Place. The show's location within the City of Toronto represents \$6 million in Economic Impact to the City.

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Dianne Young, Chief Executive Officer