

**Communication (b) to the Board of Governors
for its March 7, 2014 Meeting – Re BMO Expansion**

Hello Fatima,

As per my communication today with Dianne Young, I would request that this statement be included as an official document of the meeting and distributed to all board members.

This is on behalf of Informa Canada, producers of The One of a Kind Christmas Show, The One of a Kind Spring Show, The Artist Project and The Delicious Food Show. All of these events take place at Exhibition Place.

The plan for expansion of the BMO Field is one that could be great for the City, great for the people of Toronto, great for the Exhibition Place and great for the soccer league. However, what needs to accompany that plan and design is:

- 1) Additional parking to facilitate the additional 10,000 visitors coming to the games and events at BMO Field. The current number of parking spaces is insufficient especially when more than one event is taking place on the grounds at the same time.
- 2) Better traffic infrastructure to improve access and egress onto and off the grounds. Strachan Ave in particular is a constant traffic jam. Dufferin gates, even post construction, will be a back log.
- 3) Diligent scheduling with all stake holders to ensure there are no soccer games or no football games happening on the same dates as other large events taking place on the grounds. In particular this applies to consumer events where we see large numbers of people.
- 4) The addition of new Way Finding and proper directional signage that is lit and clear to ensure people can easily and efficiently find where they are going and where they should park.
- 5) A better public transit plan and communication including both with GO and TTC.

If and only if all of these components are addressed, will it be a successful outcome. The current state of the above issues (parking, traffic, scheduling, way finding, transit) cannot in any way accommodate an expansion of the BMO Field. These issues are crucial for the existing shows and events at Exhibition Place to remain and grow. Ignoring any of these points will be a detriment to all of your current tenants on the grounds and will come with serious negative consequences for all of us.

Sincerely,

Patti Stewart
VP Informa Canada

Thank you Fatima
Patti
