Date:

July 3, 2007

To:

Board of Governors of Exhibition Place

From:

Dianne Young

Chief Executive Officer

Subject:

74th UFI Congress

Purpose:

This report recommends approval for travel expenses for Joe Pantalone, Dianne Young and Arlene Campbell.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

Funding for participation in the 74th UFI Congress is contained in 2007 Marketing Budget.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board authorize travel expenses for Joe Pantalone, Dianne Young and Arlene Campbell to attend the 74th UFI Congress in Paris from October 24th to 27th, 2007 at a cost not to exceed \$5,000 per participant for all registration fees, flights, accommodations and incidental expenses.

Background:

The Board's travel policy states that travel expenses over \$2,500 must be approved in advance by the Board.

Comments:

On November 2, 2000, Direct Energy Centre was accepted as the first North American member of UFI, The Global Association of the Exhibition Industry. UFI is the association of the world's leading tradeshow organisers and fairground owners, as well as the major national and international associations of the exhibition industry, and its partners. As of 2006 UFI represents 311 Full Members, including 226 exhibition organisers, 139 exhibition centres and 40 associations.

In June 2000, a delegation from the City travelled to Paris, London and Hanover to establish contact with European tradeshow organizers. The delegation consisted of Joe Pantalone, Dianne



Young, Bruce Graham, Director of Business Development and Retention, Economic Development, Tourism & Culture, Ernest Vincent, former General Manager of The National Trade Centre and Laura Purdy, Director of Marketing and Sales. The delegation attended the summer UFI conference in Paris which included representatives from all the major world trade centres.

Exhibition Place was last represented at the 2005 UFI Congress by Arlene Campbell. It would be beneficial at this time to re-establish contact with European tradeshow venues and producers and to further pursue mutually beneficial future business opportunities. In addition, Direct Energy Centre is currently working with Tourism Toronto to facilitate hosting a future meeting of this prestigious international congress in Toronto. The attendance at the annual congress will assist in this sales effort.

PACex, a major client of Exhibition Place, is owned by the Paris-based company EXPOSIUM and Mr. Hazelzet, EXPOSIUM Chairman and CEO has invited the Chair and staff to meet with them while attending the UFI congress.

Conclusion:

This report seeks approval of travel expenses for Joe Pantalone, Dianne Young and Arlene Campbell as required pursuant to the By-Law of the Board. As of the date at writing this report, UFI has not yet published the Congress costs but based on expenses for Arlene Campbell's participation in the 2005, it is expected that expenses that the 2007 costs will not exceed \$5,000 per participant.

Contact:

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Submitted by:

Chief Executive Officer