

DEPUTATION REQUEST

Request for deputation, any written submissions and background information for consideration by City Council must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office by 12:00 p.m. on the WEDNESDAY PRIOR TO THE REQUESTED MEETING.

PLEASE PRINT

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: <i>April 20, 2015</i>		
GENERAL COMMITTEE MOTION NUMBER: <i>15-G-083</i>		
SUBJECT: <i>Parking Operations</i>		
NAME OF PERSON TO APPEAR: <i>Claudine Benoit</i>		
EMAIL ADDRESS: <i>claudine@barrie.filmfestival.ca</i>		
STREET ADDRESS:		
City		Postal Code
PHONE:	HOME:	BUSINESS:
NAME OF PERSON REQUESTING APPEARANCE (if different from person appearing): <i>Claudine Benoit</i>		
PHONE:	HOME:	BUSINESS:
NAME OF GROUP OR PERSON(S) BEING REPRESENTED (if applicable): <i>Barrie Film Festival</i>		
BRIEF STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF DEPUTATION: <i>Concern of proposed addition of evening parking in the downtown</i>		
LETTER SUBMITTED WITH REQUEST: <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO		

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City of Barrie, City Clerk's Office
70 Collier Street, P.O. Box 400, Barrie, L4M 4T5
Tel: 705 739-4204 Fax: 739-4243
www.barrie.ca



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April 19th, 2015

RE: Weeknight Parking Fees

Dear Barrie City Council,

We are writing to express our concern with the proposed addition of weeknight parking fees for downtown Barrie.

We represent three of Barrie's largest arts organizations, the Barrie Film Festival, Talk is Free Theatre and Theatre by the Bay. Each year, our three organizations collectively program hundreds of films, concerts, comedy events and theatre productions in downtown Barrie at the Mady Centre for the Performing Arts, the MacLaren Art Centre, Heritage Park and the Uptown Theatre.

We strongly believe that the implementation of this fee will negatively impact our events, discouraging patrons from attending events downtown. The policy would particularly affect events timed in the mid-to-late afternoon, whose audiences primarily consist of senior citizens. Any event going past 5 pm would effectively double the cost of parking for attendees.

While we understand the need of the City to increase parking revenues, we advise them to carefully consider the impact that this fee will have on our organizations and, most importantly, our efforts to draw citizens to our downtown.

Regards,

Claudine Benoit, Director, **Barrie Film Festival**

Alex Dault, Artistic Director, **Theatre by the Bay**

Arkady Spivak, Artistic Director, **Talk Is Free Theatre**