



**City of Kingston
Information Report to Council
Report Number 19-162**

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Peter Huigenbos, Acting Commissioner, Community Services
Resource Staff: Luke Follwell, Director, Recreation & Leisure Services
Date of Meeting: June 4, 2019
Subject: First Capital Place Filming Opportunities

Executive Summary:

The new Kingston Film Office facilitated by Tourism Kingston, on behalf of and in partnership with the City, has been actively working to attract and support film production locally, largely pursuing spill-over from the saturated Toronto market. This past quarter has seen scout visits and serious interest from major productions including Netflix, FX, Warner Brothers and Fox Searchlight. The majority of interest is around filming at Kingston Penitentiary and Springer Market Square.

The Kingston Film Office is identified as a key asset supporting the implementation of the Integrated Destination Strategy (IDS) recently adopted by Council. Film tourism has both short term and the potential for longer term economic development benefits for the community. The IDS recommends that to be competitive in the industry, Kingston should continue improving logistical supports for the film industry, including access to film locations.

In order to facilitate filming opportunities on Springer Market Square, staff have been working with the Kingston Public Market Vendors Association to discuss potential relocation sites or buy-out options for days that the seasonal vendors would be displaced during filming.

Recommendation:

This report is for information purposes only.

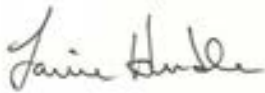
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Authorizing Signatures:



**Peter Huigenbos, Acting
Commissioner, Community
Services**



**Lanie Hurdle, Acting Chief
Administrative Officer**

Consultation with the following Members of the Corporate Management Team:

Gary Dyke, Commissioner, Corporate Enterprise Services	Not required
Jim Keech, President & CEO, Utilities Kingston	Not required
Desirée Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer	Not required
Sheila Kidd, Commissioner, Transportation & Public Works	Not required

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Options/Discussion:

The new Kingston Film Office has been actively working to attract and support production locally, largely pursuing spill-over from the saturated Toronto market. 2019 has seen scout visits and serious interest from major productions including Netflix, FX, Warner Brothers and Fox Searchlight. The majority of interest is around filming at Kingston Penitentiary and Springer Market Square.

The film and television production industry had a record year in 2018 both provincially and nationally. There were 250 major productions in Ontario, totalling \$1.6 billion spent and 32,800 jobs created in the province. Netflix has committed \$500 million to original production in Canada over the next 5 years, and there is 1 million square feet of new studio space planned in Ontario by 2020.

Springer Market Square is occupied by the public market on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and the antique market operates on Sundays. In discussion with film production companies who are interested in the space for filming, and due to the complexity of some of the period-specific filming requests, a minimum of four (4) consecutive days would be required for productions to set up, film and then remove their sets from the site. It is anticipated that if successful, film productions could occur three to four times a year.

In order to understand the needs and concerns of market vendors, and to ensure Kingston can be positioned in a way that is both appealing and flexible to attract film productions, staff and the Film Office have met with the Kingston Public Market Vendors Association (KPMVA) board about these potential disruptions. All parties are currently reviewing options of relocation to the Ontario Brock Lot or possible buy-outs from the production companies during their displacement. As per the First Capital Place Policy, any proposed temporary displacement of the public market requires consultation with the KPMVA in advance. Continued communications will take place with the KPMVA over the coming months to understand their needs and concerns as interest in filming at Springer Market Square grows.

Existing Policy/By-Law:

By-Law Number 2006-118 A By-Law Respecting the Kingston Public Market

Policy Number POL-9 Film Policy

Policy Number FCP-4 First Capital Place – Programming and Operations

Notice Provisions:

The Kingston Film Office will communicate with all parties related to the potential use of First Capital Place for filming.

Accessibility Considerations:

Not applicable

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Financial Considerations:

Film production companies will be responsible for any and all costs incurred to displace or buy-out market vendors. The film permit will be coordinated with the Film Office which will include costs associated with the use of First Capital Place.

Contacts:

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Luke Follwell, Director, Recreation & Leisure Services 613-546-4291 extension 1815

Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

Not applicable

Exhibits Attached:

Not applicable