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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 12/19/2022 12:51:10 PM
Subject: Update re: controversial event booked at VCT in Feb 2023

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find below an update from Sandra Singh regarding an upcoming event booked for the QET in February 2023 for which you may receive public communications/complaints:

- Jordan Peterson has been booked by Live Nation for a speaking performance at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre on February 21, 2023. Mr. Peterson's show is booked by event organizer Live Nation who holds the license/rental contract.
- As Council may be aware, Mr. Peterson is generally recognized to be a controversial public speaker given some of his opinions have been very polarizing.
- As City-owned and operated venues, Vancouver Civic Theatres makes best efforts to give access to a variety of events and performances organized by local, national, and international presenters, provided the content does not violate the BC Human Rights Code or involve criminal activity. These requirements are in the rental/license agreement.
- Given Live Nation has agreed to the terms in the license agreement, we have no grounds to assume that they will not ensure they and their performer comply with those terms during the course of their booking. There may be calls for the City to cancel the booking, however we cannot pre-emptively cancel a booking for what might be said during it.
- Recognizing some recent social media postings by Mr. Peterson, staff will remind Live Nation of their requirements under their contract to ensure that their use of the theatre complies with all City of Vancouver bylaws and Federal and Provincial legislation, including the Criminal Code and the British Columbia Human Rights Code which prohibits discriminatory conduct including conduct that would expose persons or groups to hatred or contempt.
- Should any content during the event contravene the terms of the license agreement above, VCT will not permit a rebooking of this performer in the future.
- As the Licensee, Live Nation has accepted full responsibility for any claims resulting from the infringement by Licensee of any rights of any other person, or defamation, or controversial content of any promotional or advertising material and performance, play, concert, musical, broadcast, telecast, meeting, lecture or other event conducted by the Licensee in the Premises.

If you have any questions, please contact Sandra at Sandra.singh@vancouver.ca and she will ensure a response through the weekly Q&A.

Best,

Karen

Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager (she/her)
karen.levitt@vancouver.ca telephone

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm/Musqueam, Skwxwú7mesh/Squamish and səliłwətaʔ/Tsleil-Waututh nations