

THE TORONTO FRINGE

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The Fringe Club 2017 Finds New Home at Scadding Court Community Centre

For Immediate Release: June 29, 2016

Toronto, ON – The Toronto Fringe Board of Directors is thrilled to announce the new Fringe Club location for the **2017 Fringe Festival** at **Scadding Court Community Centre** on the corner of Bathurst and Dundas. While the 2017 festival marks the beginning of the partnership, it will be the Fringe Club home for the foreseeable future.

The new location is in the heart of Fringe Festival Country. **Scadding Court Community Centre** is an easy stop off point in between all major Fringe venues along the Bathurst corridor. Over the 12 days of the Fringe Festival, **Scadding Court** will be completely transformed to an urban playground; the beer gardens (complete with shipping container bars) will be located in the parking lot and the large hockey rink next to the lot will be transformed into a vibrant arts market with a large outdoor stage for daily performances. The footprint is the largest in Fringe Club history and holds great possibilities for the future.

Scadding Court Community Centre's Executive Director, Kevin Lee is thrilled to welcome the Fringe to the SCCC Community:

"The partnership brings the arts closer to the community and the community closer to the arts. SCCC looks forward to working with the Toronto Fringe to continue creating opportunities to showcase talent, creativity and an entrepreneurial spirit that exists right here in our neighbourhood and across the City of Toronto"

The Fringe and Scadding Court will work in partnership to bring the following elements to our combined communities:

- The Fringe Festival will source food vendors and arts market vendors from the vibrant **Scadding Court Urban Market Vendor Program** that gives opportunities to marginalized vendors to create a sustainable business model.
- The Fringe will look to enhance the **Scadding Court Drama Interact program** where Youth and Young Adults who are physically or developmentally challenged come together for weekly classes and a summer camp through access to relaxed performances as a part of the festival.
- The Fringe will work with **Scadding Court's Newcomer Integration Program** to provide work placements and volunteer opportunities.

In addition to the parking lot and hockey rink, the Fringe will activate the entire Scadding Court area with pop up events and busker style performances. Sarah Farrell, Toronto Fringe Festival Board President notes:

"The Scadding Court Community Centre is perfectly situated within our family of festival venues, making it the ideal location to host our home base in the summer of 2017. Accessible by the Dundas and Bathurst streetcars, and within walking distance of most of our theatres, we are excited to transform the space into a Fringe hub, reflective of both our and Scadding Court's commitment to honouring the diverse and vibrant neighbourhood, city, and dedicated communities we serve. We look forward to working with Kevin Lee at Scadding Court to integrate food and arts market vendors from their community vendor programs, as well as activating the space with classic Fringe creativity, artistry and revelry! We can't wait to welcome 2017 Fringers to the Fringe Club at Scadding Court!!"

The Fringe Club move takes us from the Annex area, which has been our home for 28 years, to the Trinity-Spadina neighbourhood and into **Councillor Joe Cressy's** ward:

"Fringe is creative, vibrant, and grassroots theatre at its very best. Fringe was made for downtown and I'm thrilled that we've identified a new location to keep them in the heart of Toronto for years to come."

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