

CSS-23-25
COW October 6, 2025
Correspondence

From: Penny
Sent: Friday, October 03, 2025 12:10 PM
To: Mailbox, Clerks <Clerks@burlington.ca>
Subject: Sound of Music

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

It is my opinion that The Sound of Music Festival needs to be self-sustaining.

The time has come for residents to stop funding through their taxes this festival.

Times change, people want different things and it is obvious that corporate sponsors feel the same way as to date no one has stepped up to take this on.

This festival has not been "free" for many years and still they have been unable to repay the city the money that was "loaned" to them.

Enough is enough. I hope the council votes NOT to fund this festival.

Penny
Burlington Ontario

CCS-23-25
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correspondence

-----Original Message-----

From: Charlie

Sent: Friday, October 03, 2025 12:05 PM

To: Mailbox, Clerks <Clerks@burlington.ca>

Subject: Sound of Music

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We taxpayers have been forced to pay too much for frills which this council has deemed necessary. So NO to the suggestion we PAY or support the sound of music festival! We need not help provide it for "free" with our TAX \$\$\$.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Gina
Sent: Friday, October 03, 2025 12:44 PM
To: Mailbox, Clerks <Clerks@burlington.ca>
Subject: Sound of Music

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How about charging a minimal entry fee for all ages over 16 years? \$5 each should help you support this wonderful annual event.

Gina
Ward 2

From: Ms Pinki >
Sent: Friday, October 03, 2025 12:30 PM
To: Mailbox, Clerks <Clerks@burlington.ca>
Subject: BSOM - review, discussion between October 6-7, 2025

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi,

My Councillor's newsletter suggests I write to this email address to have my say on the annual Sound of Music.

First, my appreciation for City Staff who have put together a solid report on the subject.

<https://burlingtonpublishing.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=39254076-a756-4a0d-a002-359950f19ed0&Agenda=Agenda&lang=English&Item=30&Tab=attachments>

Should our fair City continue to host BSOM? Yes.

Should it be held at the Spencer Smith Park? Yes.

Should it be in its current format? - No. In the last few years it's been an increasingly incoherent, weed-smelling, collection of strange sounds masquerading as music.

From what I also understand, please see link below, there's an outstanding \$225,000 yet to be returned back to our city [therefore us, the tax-payers].

<https://www.burlingtontoday.com/local-news/more-money-concerns-for-sound-of-music-festival-as-council-set-to-pull-future-funding-11279291#:~:text=city%20assuming%20direct%20responsibility%20for%20the%20festival%20programming%2C%20development%2C%20and%20logistics.%C2%A0>

Surely then, organisers should be expected to return loans before expecting more financial assistance.

Please let's get back this whopping amount.

For the rest, follow what Staff recommends in their report:

- * reallocate the \$150,000 —originally designated for Sound of Music in the 2026 Operating Budget—to the Community Investment Fund.
- * staff to report back to Council on exploration of potential opportunities for a different form of music festival and/or a different operator of a music festival at Spencer Smith Park, following a call for expressions of interest from potential event organizers.

If we're getting a chance to Do It Better, let us please keep in mind that what kind of festival would work best for all in Burlington: the children during the mornings and afternoons, the mid-agers and seniors through the rest of the day by way of a music festival.

Devised afresh, with the benefit of so much experience, the reinvigorated -- and reimagined -- BSOM at Spencer Smith Park could be both, entertainment and income for the City.

Thank you for reading this and giving it due consideration.

Best

Ms Pinki

From: Gary >
Sent: Friday, October 03, 2025 2:11 PM
To: Mailbox, Clerks <Clerks@burlington.ca>
Subject: Sound of Music

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

There are very few things in Ontario as festive and fun as the Sound of Music Festival. I think it is very short sighted of the city to even consider putting an end to this event.

The amount of money in question is miniscule compared to the entire city budget. Why don't you work it out on a percentage basis and see what that comes out to?

In closing I would like to say that in my humble opinion, there are some very narrow minded people behind this.

Gary