

# Permanent Seasonal Patio Program

Economic Development and Tourism

Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise

July 5, 2023

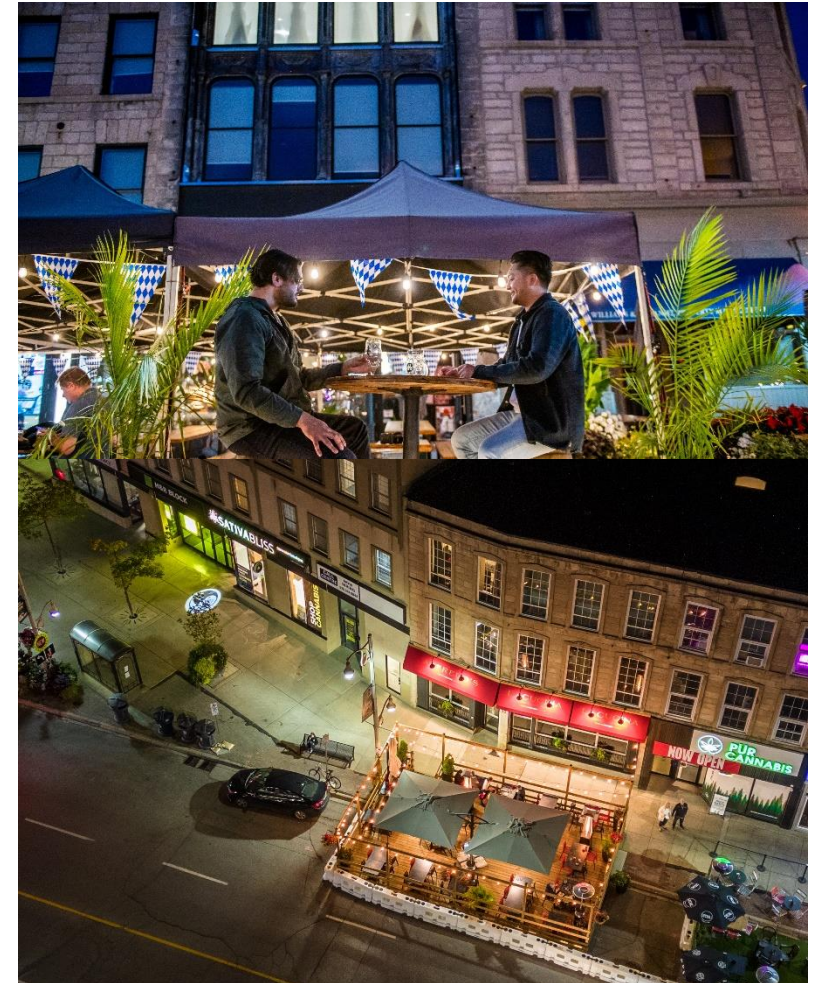
# Seasonal Patio Program 2021-2023

- Created as a pandemic recovery measure
- Annual program from April 1 to October 31
- Applications were accepted for private property through the Temporary Use By-Law and for public property through the City Lands Encroachment By-law



# Seasonal Patio Program 2021-2023

- Funded through the operational budget and supported by the Safe Restart Fund and the Tourism Recovery Fund
- Application and agreement fees were waived
- A parking fee was implemented in 2023 (\$3 per square meter annually)
- More short-term parking spaces were added in 2022 to support delivery



# Engagement

- Community
  - Engagement survey - 907 respondents (2022-2023)
  - Downtown Guelph Business Association (DGBA)
  - Tourism Advisory Committee (TAC)
  - Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)
- Municipal
  - Internal staff survey and feedback sessions
  - Municipal outreach

# Economic impact

## **Businesses with a Patio**

- 91 percent indicated positive revenue and employment opportunities
  - Expanded customer base
  - Job creation
  - Enhanced visibility

## **Businesses without a Patio**

- 71 percent reported the Seasonal Patio Program had a positive or no impact on their business' employment opportunities

# Support for permanent program

“Would you like to see the program continue past 2023?”

“Yes” and “Yes, with modifications”:

- Patio operators: 91 percent
- Non-patio operators: 65 percent
- Patio patrons: 97 percent



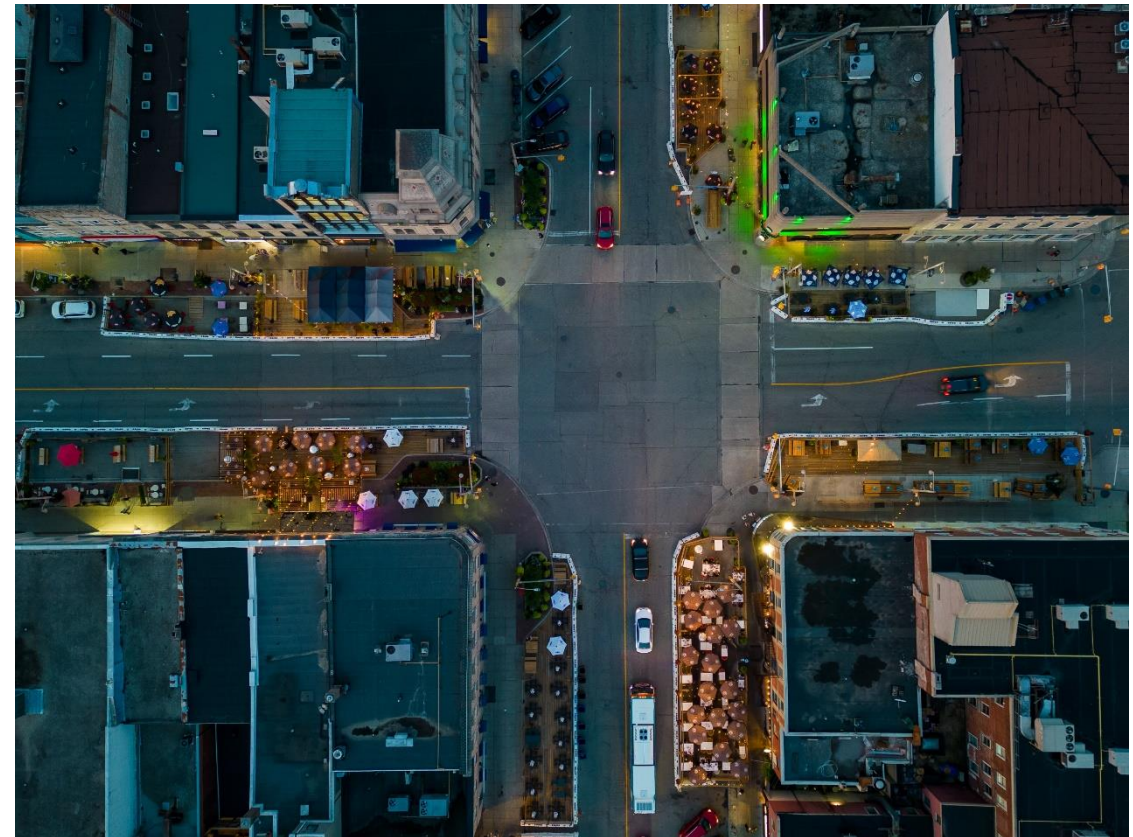
# Support for permanent program

"Gives downtown a European atmosphere."

"A busy downtown is good for everyone."

"The best thing to happen to downtown in decades."

"A true sense of community."



# Improvement opportunities

- **Updated Fees:** Adjust fees to support program sustainability and cost recovery.
- **Adjusted Dates:** Adjust application timelines and program dates to reflect usage rates and maintain City service levels.
- **Parking Solutions:** Explore additional parking options and solutions to mitigate parking-related concerns.
- **Beautification & Activation:** Incentivize and partner to improve quality of patios and consistent usage.
- **Education:** Provide regular training in Accessibility for inspections staff and resources to participating businesses.

# Seasonal Patio Program: moving forward

- A valuable destination development asset
- Supports investment in the downtown and remains flexible
- Incorporates feedback from participating community groups and staff
- Attributes fair value to the use of public space as commercial space
- Balances the needs and expectations of businesses downtown with cost recovery
- Improved waste management, accessibility, and parking guidelines

# Permanent Seasonal Patio Program

- **Updated program dates**
- **Adjusted fees** in line with the User Fees By-law, and apply fair value to flexible use of public space
- **Remove private property patios**
- **Updated design specifications** in line with Ontario Building Code and removing COVID-19 distancing requirements
- **Added waste management** plans and **accessibility** inspections with expanded resources for business awareness

# Program dates

**February 1**

Applications and renewals open

**April 1**

Existing business applications and renewals close\*

**First weekend in May**

Barrier drop off and patio installation begins

**Last weekend in  
September**

All patios off-street by end of day Friday  
and barrier removal Saturday and Sunday

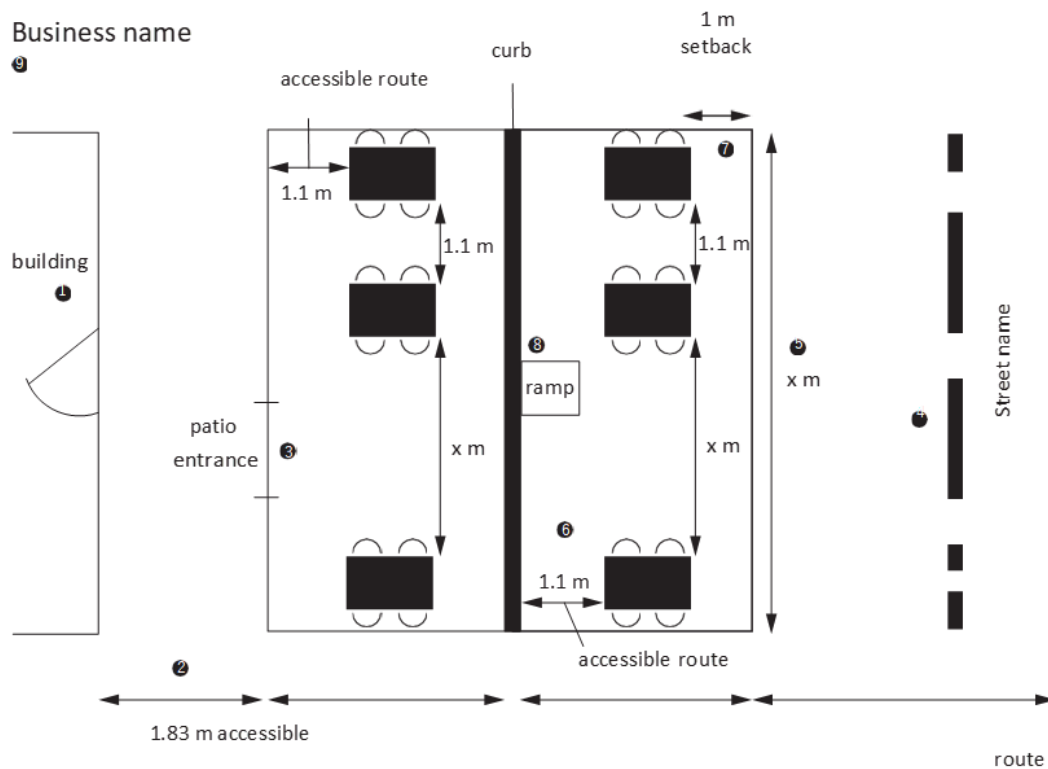
\*New businesses that open within the patio season will be able to apply for a patio until August 15 of each year, dependent on available infrastructure and budget.

# Program Fees

**Focus on cost recovery and fair value of public space through the User Fees By-law (2021)-20655**

<b>Seasonal patio application fee</b>	\$171 +HST
<b>Encroachment agreement fee</b>	\$228 +HST
<b>Seasonal patio inspection fee</b>	\$260 +HST
<b>On-street fee</b>	\$10 per square meter per month +HST

# Example Patio & Fees



If this patio occupied 60 square meters of on-street space, the operator can expect to pay **\$3660** in Year 1 and **\$3260** annually each following year in user fees.

# Revenue and Expenses

**Using the rate of participation from 2023 to estimate the anticipated user fee collection, the below revenue and expenses are anticipated:**

<b>Total expenses</b>	\$175,000
<b>Anticipated User Fees</b>	\$70,000
<b>Transfer from MAT</b>	\$105,000
<b>Impact to Tax Levy</b>	\$0

# Questions

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