

From: [Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake](#)
To: [Clerks](#)
Subject: Webform submission from: Delegation Request Form
Date: April 25, 2025 7:09:51 PM

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Submitted on Fri, 04/25/2025 - 19:09

Submitted values are:

Information

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Organization Name

THE IRISH HARP PUB

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[REDACTED]

Presentation

Agenda Delegation

Agenda Delegation

Topic

I have never spoken on this issue before

For Agenda delegations please include the title of the item. In point form, provide an overview of what points you will be speaking to:

Delegation to Niagara-on-the-Lake Council

Title: Support for the Extension of the Temporary Seasonal Patio Program

Submitted by: Adam Brooker

Speaking Points Overview (in point form):

Acknowledgment of Council's March Decisions:

Elimination of the temporary patio program for 16 restaurants

Halting of work with consultant on Permanent Patio Program

Initiation of feasibility study for a Queen Street Heritage District Secondary Plan

Support for the Secondary Plan Concept

Endorse the idea of a long-term plan

Urge continuation of temporary patio program in the interim

Economic & Social Contributions of Temporary Patios:

Vital support for small business survival and recovery

Job creation and local economic stimulation

Enhancing the town's visual appeal and vibrancy

Tourism Benefits:

European-style charm aligns with NOTL's historic character

Appeals to both residents and visitors

Encourages extended stays and return visits

Inclusivity and Accessibility:

Welcoming spaces for those with health concerns and pet owners

Safe, open-air environment fostering community interaction

Support for Town Oversight:

Willingness to pay reasonable fees and square footage charges

Encouragement of design guidelines to preserve heritage aesthetics

Youth Employment and Skill Building:

Seasonal hiring of local youth

Development of work ethic, responsibility, and interpersonal skills

Public Safety and Responsible Tourism:

Late-night, managed spaces help reduce impaired driving

Encourages overnight stays and supports other local businesses

Closing Request:

Respectful call to extend the temporary seasonal patio program

Emphasis on aligning with community values and town vision

Terms

I have read and understand the Delegation Protocol and acknowledge the information contained on this form, including any attachments, will become public documents and listed on Town Meeting Agendas. I also understand presentation materials including speaking notes and electronic presentations must be submitted by email to clerks@notl.com no later than 12:00 p.m. on the Monday prior the scheduled meeting.
Yes

Meeting Time

I wish to appear before:
Committee of the Whole

Date
Tue, 04/29/2025 - 00:00

Presentation Requirements

Do you have a visual presentation (slideshow or photos) to accompany your delegation?
No

I agree

Yes

Delegation

I will be appearing:

In person

I also understand presentation materials including speaking notes and electronic presentations must be submitted by email to clerks@notl.com no later than 12:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the scheduled meeting.

Yes

I acknowledge I have 10 minutes to delegate

Yes

I give permission to be audio and video recorded on the Town of Niagara on the Lake's livestream

Yes

Do you require accessible accommodation to participate:

No

Privacy Disclaimer

I have read and understand the above Privacy Disclaimer.

Yes

Delegation to Niagara-on-the-Lake Council
Support for the Extension of the Temporary Seasonal Patio Program
Submitted by: Adam Brooker

Mayor and Members of Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this delegation in support of the temporary seasonal patio program.

At the March Council meeting, Council elected to do three things:

1. Eliminate the temporary patio program for 16 restaurants.
2. Direct staff to stop work with a professional consultant on a Permanent Patio Program for the NOTL urban areas.
3. Ask staff to report on the feasibility of a Secondary Plan for the Queen Street Heritage District.

We believe the idea of a potential Secondary Plan for Queen Street is a valuable step toward long-term planning and thoughtful development. However, in the interim, my focus today is on the importance of maintaining the temporary program. We respectfully ask that you allow patios to continue—with appropriate design improvements and reasonable fees for use of the space—until a permanent framework is in place.

Over the past five years, temporary patios have played a crucial role in supporting the economic and social fabric of Niagara-on-the-Lake. They've not only helped small businesses survive and recover from unprecedented challenges, but they've also contributed significantly to job creation, local commerce, and a vibrant, welcoming streetscape that appeals to both residents and tourists.

Extending the temporary seasonal patio program ensures that this momentum continues. These patios are more than just additional seating—they have become integral to our tourism economy, offering visitors a unique, open-air experience that enhances the charm and character of our historic town. Their European-style ambiance fits seamlessly within our heritage setting and is something that guests increasingly seek out.

In addition to their economic and aesthetic value, temporary patios offer inclusive spaces for a broad range of community members. They provide a safe and welcoming environment for individuals with health concerns and create more accommodating options for those with pets. Extending the program allows us to continue meeting these needs in a respectful and accessible way.

We are fully committed to contributing to this program through annual permit fees and appropriate square footage costs. Furthermore, we support the development of cohesive design

guidelines that uphold the heritage look and feel of our streetscapes. A unified approach will help preserve our town's visual integrity while allowing businesses to operate responsibly and professionally.

We are simply asking for the opportunity to continue providing this outdoor experience under the existing temporary framework, while remaining aligned with the town's long-term vision and community values.

In addition to these broader benefits, I would like to highlight the direct community impact that our patio provides.

For our regular patrons, the patio is a welcoming and inclusive space that fosters social connection and community spirit—something increasingly important in today's world. It is a place where friendships are formed, milestones are celebrated, and a sense of belonging is nurtured.

Our seasonal patio operations also create meaningful employment opportunities, particularly for local youth. Each year, we hire additional staff, offering young people their first professional experiences. Through this, they develop a strong work ethic, learn accountability, and build valuable life and interpersonal skills. These formative experiences help shape the next generation of responsible, engaged citizens in our town.

Moreover, I want to acknowledge the important role patios play in promoting safety and responsible tourism. As one of the only businesses open late, our well-managed patio space offers a vibrant and safe environment for visitors to enjoy. This helps reduce the likelihood of impaired driving by encouraging guests to stay in town rather than seeking options elsewhere. In turn, it supports our local accommodations and retail businesses the following day. It's a practical, proactive approach that enhances both public safety and the economic vitality of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

In closing, we respectfully urge Council to consider extending the temporary seasonal patio program—not just as a business matter, but as a meaningful, community-serving initiative that aligns with the spirit and values of our town.

Thank you for your time, your leadership, and your consideration. We hope you will support this extension for the benefit of our entire community.