

December 7, 2016

Mr. Eric Lariviere General Manager Flato Markham Theatre 171 Town Centre Boulevard Markham, ON L3R 8G5

# VIA email:

# **Re:** Request to Cancel Upcoming Apparently Unlawful Performance

Dear Mr. Lariviere:

I am writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Inc. (PETA) to request that the Flato Markham Theatre cancel Greg Frewin's upcoming performance on January 22, 2017, which reportedly involves the use of a Siberian tiger<sup>1</sup>—a prohibited animal—in apparent violation of Markham's By-Law No. 2005-254, section 13(1) (hereinafter the "Animal Control By-Law"), which expressly provides that "[n]o person shall operate or carry on any exhibit, public show . . . or other display or act of entertainment in the Town using any exotic animals or prohibited animals."<sup>2</sup>

Mr. Frewin's use of big cats would be unlawful because he is not accredited by either the Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums or the American Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and there is no evidence that he is otherwise exempt from Markham's ban on the use of prohibited animals in exhibits, entertainment, and performances. *See* Animal Control By-Law, s 13(1)(a). This scheduled performance is not only apparently illegal but also inherently dangerous.<sup>3</sup>

Please cancel Mr. Ferwin's upcoming performance in light of this apparent violation of Markham's Animal Control By-Law. If you choose not cancel Mr. Frewin's show, please require that he not use any prohibited animals in his performance. May I please hear from you by December 16, 2016?

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

rever Leynip

Zeynep J. Graves, Counsel

Attachments

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL TREATMENT OF ANIMALS FOUNDATION

### Washington, D.C.

1536 16th St. N.W. Washington, DC 20036 202-483-PETA

#### Los Angeles

2154 W. Sunset Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90026 323-644-PETA

Norfolk

501 Front St. Norfolk, VA 23510 757-622-PETA

### Oakland

554 Grand Ave. Oakland, CA 94610 510-763-PETA

PETA FOUNDATION IS AN OPERATING NAME OF FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT ANIMAL PROTECTION.

AFFILIATES:

- PETA U.S.
- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Flato Markham Theatre, *Greg Frewin-"Imagine,"* online: Facebook <<u>https://www.facebook.com/events/272581839753533</u>/> [Ex. 1].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Tigers are prohibited animals. Animal Control by-Law, at Schedule "A".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See PETA, Big Cat Incidents in the United States, online:

<sup>&</sup>lt;http://www.mediapeta.com/peta/pdf/Big-Cat-Incident-List-US-only.pdf> [Ex. 2].