

# Tenant Consultative Forum (TCF)

Thursday 26 November 2015, 1pm  
Salon, Convent Building

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## **ATTENDEES:**

Graham Hardy, Felicity Mark, Tom Rendell, Delphine Laboureau-Ormancey, Sal Cooper, Caroline Williams, Clare McKenzie, Judith Clifton, Jo Molloy, Maggie Maguire, Maureen McCarthy

## **APOLOGIES:**

*NIL*

## **Item 1: Updates from previous meetings**

### **Congestion Levy:**

The Convent's liability has been waived for 2015, however, no ongoing exemption has been given. The Abbotsford Convent Foundation (ACF) and Collingwood Children's Farm are unsure what this means but will continue to explore options to fight paying the tax, including a community campaign

### **Smoking at the Convent:**

No Smoking Signs have been placed at Convent building entries and their efficacy will be monitored. A site wide ban is beyond the ACF to resource at this point.

### **Sacred Heart:**

The ACF has appointed Kerstin Thompson Architects for the restoration project. A Tenant brainstorm session will occur on **Thursday 3 December, 1pm** in the Salon. Please tell other tenants and RSVP to Felicity Mark (Tenancy Manager) if you are coming.

### **Tenant Kitchenettes:**

ACF will restock sponges, paper towels, detergent and replace a recycling bin. If there are further requirements please let Felicity Mark (Tenancy Manager) know.

### **Wi-Fi:**

The ACF hopes to fund the remaining amount required soon.

## **Item 2: RFP Process for Hospitality Tenants**

### **Background**

The ACF adopted a Hospitality Policy in 2014 that includes the process for renewing Hospitality Leases. A Hospitality Reference Group including prominent and successful Hospitality experts developed Policy. Recently two leases (Lentil as Anything & Kappaya) have been put to a Request for Proposal process managed by Future Foods, an external hospitality consultant. Proposals were due on 20 November 2015 and we are yet to get the consultants' report.

### **Discussion**

The ACF confirmed that Lentil as Anything and Kappaya indicated they have submitted proposals, beyond that management is still awaiting the consultant's report. The ACF will be able to confirm both outcomes before Christmas.

Somewhere in Sacred Heart and St Annes will likely be the site for another hospitality tenant in the future.

### **Item 3: Open Spaces Debrief**

**Background**

There were no major incidents or accidents. We estimate between 6000 – 8000 people attended the event. The general public, participants and staff have been very positive about the program and format of the day.

**Feedback Sought:**

For those who attended and participated please provide feedback on the logistics, program and concept of Open Spaces.

**Discussion:**

Tenants reported and it was acknowledged that open studios in the Convent were sporadically attended, despite having a dedicated time and tours. Having the tours in the middle of the day was problematic and the weather and music program made outside programming more attractive.

Tenants who participated were eager to get more funding and more time in the spaces to bump in and out.

It was noted that Sacred Heart construction will likely to be underway next year and could impact Open Spaces next year.

The Idea of having a standalone Open Studio event separate from Open Spaces was well received. The ACF will continue negotiations with Open House regarding the Convent's open studios being a part of the program in 2016.

### **Item 4: Other Matters**

**Christmas party:**

Tenant and Staff Christmas party - 16th of December 4 – 6pm Ironing Rooms (Sacred Heart). Please RSVP to Felicity Mark.