

STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY WITH IATSE LOCAL 58

July 27, 2018

On Friday July 20th, Exhibition Place locked out the workers of IATSE Local 58 and ended negotiations for a new collective agreement. Those workers are now picketing for their right to get back on the job, while Exhibition Place, Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment, and the City of Toronto import labour that may be under-skilled and unsafe to replace them. City Council has rejected motions to add discussion of the lockout to their agenda.

We at the Toronto Fringe would like to join the ever-lengthening list of arts and labour organizations voicing their support of IATSE Local 58 at this time. Standing together is the only way to effect change, improve working conditions, and protect ourselves and our industry's workforce from exploitation.

We would encourage everyone to write their city councillors to express their dismay that a City of Toronto-owned venue would lock out unionized workers, and to join IATSE on the picket lines if they are able; to send a clear message to Mayor John Tory that workers' safety cannot be compromised, and to demand a reversal of the lockout so that the membership of Local 58 can get back to work.

In solidarity,



Lucy Eveleigh
Executive Director