

# **Attachment B**

**Qtopia Partnership Presentation**



**QTOPIA**  
SYDNEY



**CITY OF**  
**SYDNEY**

# A Centre for Queer History and Culture

Partnership Presentation  
JANUARY 2024



# Key objectives



**1** To celebrate, remember and highlight the history of the LGBTQIA+ community in Australia, through videos, interviews, testimonials and other artefacts associated with the community.

**3** To promote and nurture a culture of inclusion through contributing to community education.

**2** To raise awareness and educate community through engagement programs, school curriculum programs, living treasures and HIV/AIDS awareness.

**4** To be financially viable through security of tenure and premises, holistic funding perspective and enabling transition to a permanent space.

To include members of the LGBTQIA+ community in the creation, adaptation, and expansion of our exhibitions.



# Project drivers



**Empowerment**



**Celebration**



**Challenge**



**Education**





# The journey so far...

- Incorporated Qtopia Limited (31<sup>st</sup> January 2022)
- ACNC Approval as Charity
- ATO Approval of DGR1 Status
- Appointed External Bookkeeper
- Appointed External Auditor - BDO
- Appointed DGR Committee
- Established Board - monthly meetings discipline
- Established Independent Curatorial Advisory Committees
- Business plan has been updated to align with Federal Government policy



# A centre for

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## History

More than 15 exhibitions that share our history: from First Nations culture, from our criminal past, to the HIV/AIDS crisis, the first Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in 1978, through to more contemporary issues such as the plebiscite, trans rights and Equality and Anti-Discrimination Laws; alongside the celebration of identity, community and culture.

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## Culture

The 'Live at Qtopia' program serves provide live engagement opportunities at Qtopia to extend the knowledge, empathy and understanding gained from a visit to the exhibitions, by provoking conversation through the mediums of live performance and events.

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## Education

Providing both school and corporate programs that actively educate and promote inclusivity.





# Four unique spaces

- Main property secured and initial lease with Create NSW signed
- Lease extended at The Bandstand
- The Substation and Toilet Block secured
- DA process underway
- Current application is to undertake 'soft launch' works + compliance BCA upgrades – this is a temporary use application that will enable us to open for Mardi Gras
- Permanent use application will then be lodged for extended hours, new signage and further building compliance upgrade works



# Qtopia Sydney

## The building will host:

A 1,500sqm exhibition, education, community and theatre space

15 engaging and immersive exhibitions

A multi-purpose theatre, events and education space called 'The Loading Dock Theatre'

An AIDS Memorial to commemorate those we have lost to HIV/AIDS



# Exhibition Themes

Qtopia Sydney will host permanent and temporary exhibitions that explore the LGBTQIA+ community through the lens of history, culture, art and contemporary issues. Launching in Sydney for Mardi Gras 2024 the Centre will feature historical and archival objects, imagery, video and audio, to tell some of the stories of this significant period within Australia's history.



HIV/AIDS PANDEMIC & WARD 17



FIRST NATIONS STORIES



CRIME, DECRIMINALISATION



EVOLUTION OF LGBTQIA+ PEOPLES



PRIDE ACROSS AUSTRALIA



SYDNEY WORLD PRIDE



TRANS HISTORY



1978



# Exhibitions

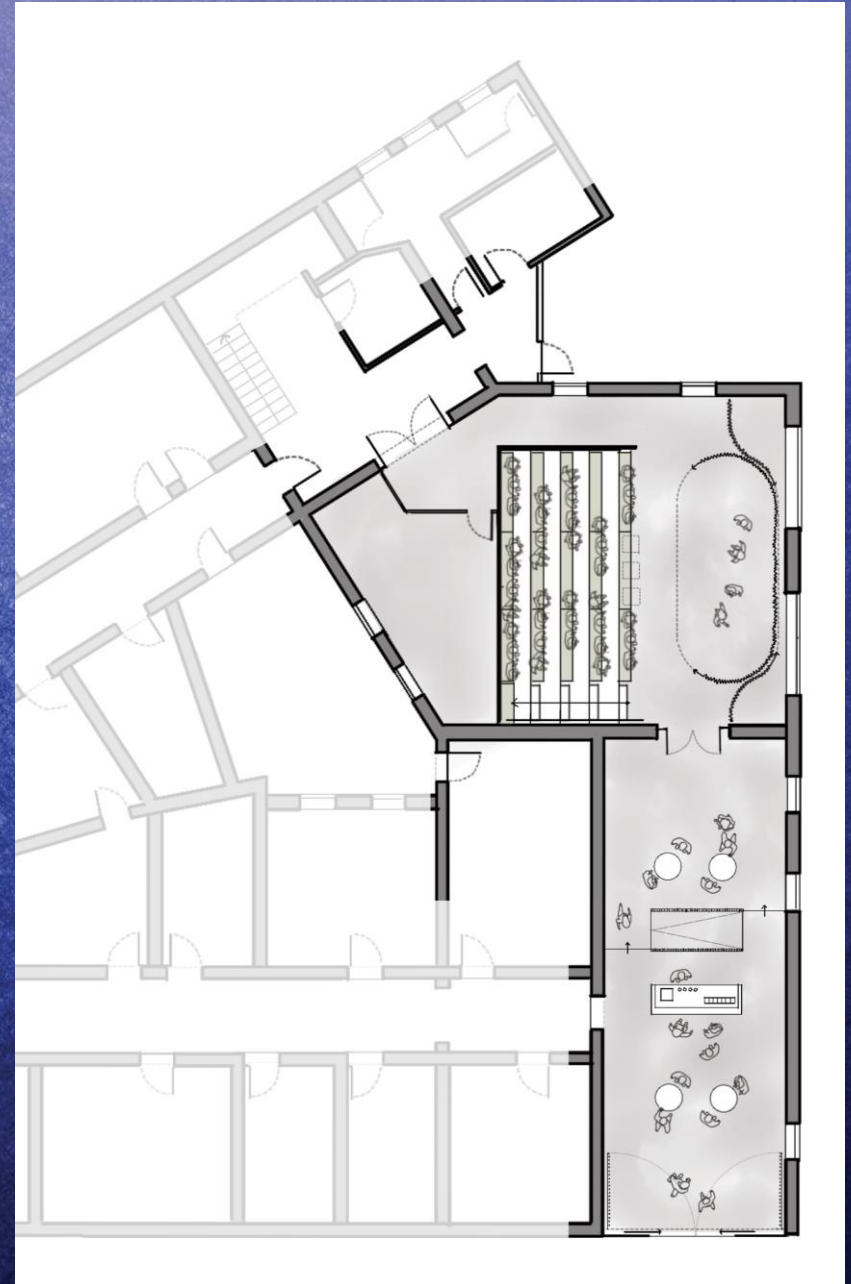






# Theatre

- Multi-functional space
- Retractable seating
- Seats up to 60 guests
- Multi-functional entry space



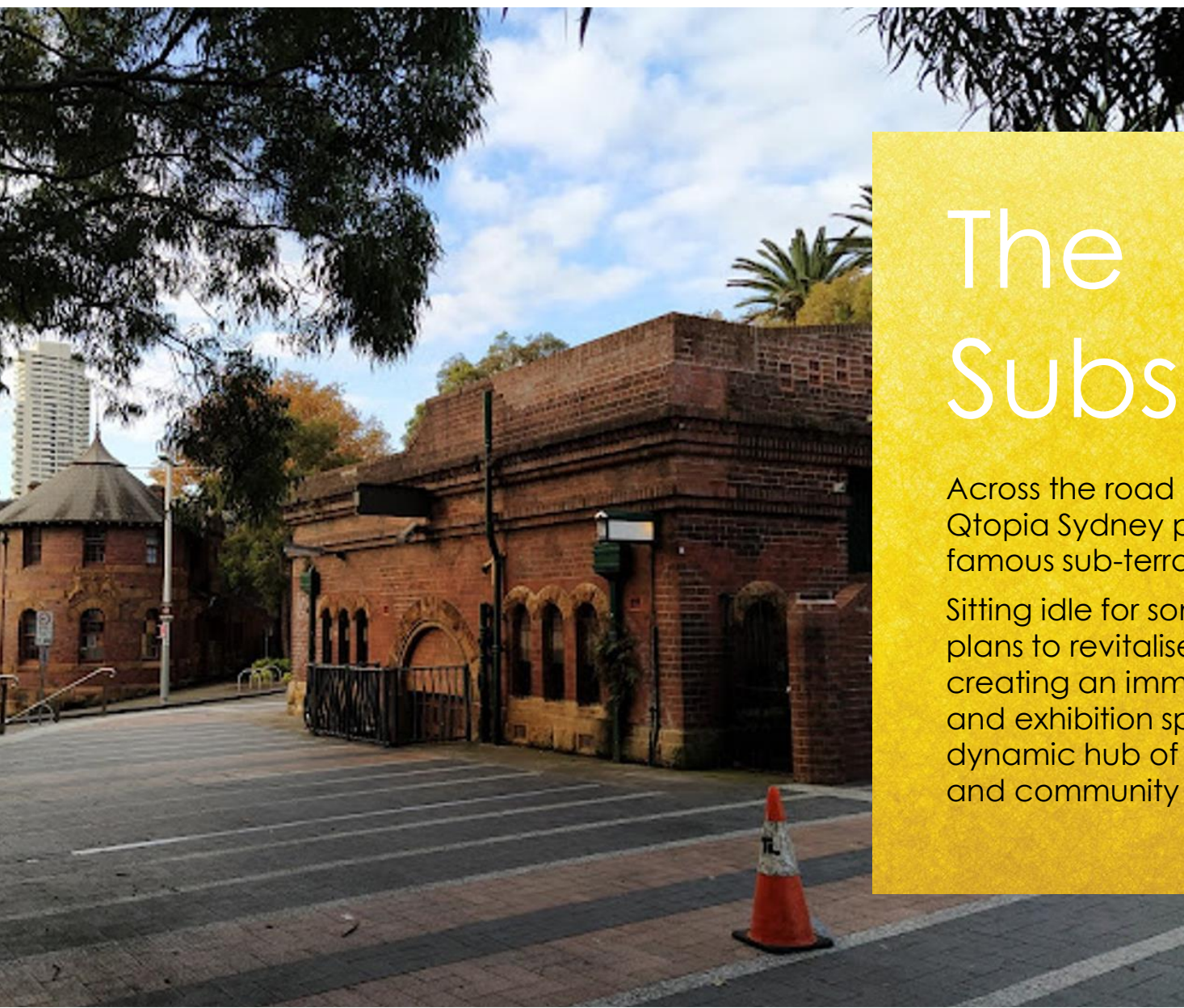




# The Bandstand

Our inaugural exhibition space at Green Park will continue to provide Queer performative representation through the Live at the Bandstand series as well as smaller pop-up exhibitions.





# The Substation

Across the road from its main building, Qtopia Sydney plans to activate the famous sub-terrain Substation.

Sitting idle for some 3 decades, Qtopia plans to revitalise the Substation through creating an immersive performance and exhibition space that will serve as a dynamic hub of LGBTQIA+ arts, culture and community engagement.





# The Toilet Block

The underground toilet block presents an ideal over 18's stand-alone space for documenting a specific history of the queer community in situ and in microcosm.

Out of this history has sprung many subcultures over time: beats, exclusive bars and clubs, baths and saunas, leather groups, motorbike gangs, bears, sex on premises venues, Troughman, Wicked Women, Gurlesque, etc

Highlighting decriminalisation and the success of HIV harm minimisation campaigns will be included, as well as the current ending transmission work from ACON.

The toilet block will present a narrative of the politics of this sexual revolution.



# Teamwork

- Main property secured plus satellite exhibition spaces
- Governance measures enhanced
- 12 curators plus lead curator appointed
- Designer for 5m high AIDS memorial engaged
- Senior educationalist appointed and school education programs created
- Corporate programs in development
- Internal team established
- Bandstand activation maintained
- Significant community engagement – past and future
- Volunteer management system active
- New partnerships formed to enhance visitor experience
- Lead time items being ordered
- New website to come
- Installs to begin in December





# Our Partnership

Qtopia Sydney would like to offer free admission to the public on Sunday's, courtesy of City of Sydney.

1. The premise is that you would be viewed as the sponsor of Sunday's at Qtopia Sydney, offering free admission to all visitors
2. With 18 exhibitions launching within the space in February 2024, Qtopia Sydney will provide a host of opportunities for the community to engage, learn, reflect and contribute as they move throughout the ground floor of the building

**QTOPIA SYDNEY**





# What your recognition looks like

## Free Sundays at Qtopia Sydney – proudly sponsored by City of Sydney

Qtopia Sydney would recognise the City of Sydney partnership through:

1. Acknowledgement as the sponsor of our Sunday's, offering free admission to the public, courtesy of your organisation
2. Acknowledgement across social media platforms, including Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn, in content related to Sunday's at Qtopia Sydney
3. Acknowledgement in our monthly newsletter
4. Acknowledgement on the website
5. Acknowledgement on all marketing collateral relating to Sunday's

Given this we propose that our partnership reflect the below:

1. **Payment 1 for Year 2024** - \$100,000 + GST

QTOPIA SYDNEY





# Announcing the Partnership

**The commitment would also allow announcement of the partnership by the Lord Mayor on behalf of all of the Councillors, at our Opening Event on Friday 23 February 2024, officiated by the Prime Minister and New South Wales Premier. This would include an opportunity to speak alongside our Chair and CEO. The partnership would be included in all official media releases distributed world-wide to support the opening.**

The partnership between Qtopia Sydney and City of Sydney not only reflect an official dialogue with the Queer community, but rather a reinforced commitment to the arts and education via engagement – with the aim of a more cohesive community achieved via our focus on diversity and inclusion for all.

With a footprint as the largest Centre for Queer history and culture in the world, this is a unique and elevated opportunity to reaffirm your support for this Australian first, but to capitalise on the international audience who have already demonstrated their interest in Qtopia Sydney.

The strategic collaboration between City of Sydney and Qtopia Sydney goes beyond financial support – it becomes a catalyst for positive change. This partnership amplifies our capabilities, allowing us to reach new heights. Together, we would extend opportunities beyond urban centres, reaching rural and remote communities to invite a change in thought and action.

QTOPIA SYDNEY





[qtopiasydney.com.au](http://qtopiasydney.com.au)



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