



October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Anthony Perruzza  
**Councillor, City of Toronto**  
100 Queen Street West  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Suite C41  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor Perruzza:

**RE: Review of Refreshment Vehicle By-Law as it affects GTA Mobile Catering Association**

I would like to thank you for taking the time to meet with me on Thursday October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:30pm. I truly appreciate your attentive listening to my concerns and issues that are shared by my colleagues in the GTA Mobile Catering Association.

Councillor Perruzza, I am confident that you now have a better understanding of our issues and concerns. The bylaw as it stands does not make sense in today's landscape and needs to be revisited. For the past three years, we have been expressing our concerns to Bruce Robertson and Richard Mucha from the MLSD and they are well aware of our issues. Furthermore, we have enlisted the assistance of Tony O'Donohue to represent our interests as they pertain to the bylaw.

Simply put, the by-law is not working for our industry and to date we have not had the opportunity to make representation regarding the bylaw. That said, we would like to respectfully ask that we be given the opportunity to make representation at the upcoming Licensing Committee Meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Given this opportunity, the following are the issues/concerns/recommendations that we would like to bring to the attention of the Licensing and Standards Committee:

- We would like to give the Licensing Committee background as to how the Mobile Catering Industry Operates so that the committee will be able to put our issues in better perspective.
- Recommendation to amend the current Threshold System. As it stands, we believe that we have been needlessly over-regulated. We would like to request that the number of infractions should be based on the vehicle license plate and not on the corporation/fleet owner.
- Recommendation that One refreshment Vehicle License be issued to the catering vehicle and not to the individual operator as well.
- Recommendation that Licenses for more than one vehicle in a company should be renewed at the same date in order to avoid numerous visits to the licensing offices and endless hours of waiting in line.
- Recommendation that MLSD should schedule visits to catering facilities to inspect and license vehicles at the same time.

- Recommend the cost of \$153 for individual vehicle health inspections be eliminated since the Commissaries where food is prepared and pre-packaged are inspected by Region governance and this should cover the vehicles, which are part of the commissary.
- It is important that the point be made clear that our Mobile Catering Vehicle drivers are in fact not Food Handlers. Furthermore, they should not require a Food Handler's certificate. All the food on the Mobile Catering Vehicles are not prepared on the Vehicles, they are made in the commissary and prepackaged.
- Recommendation that a Temporary Transferable License be available to a catering vehicle should a vehicle be temporarily replaced due to a breakdown.
- Drivers have been singled out for special attention with the requirement for a license with the MLSD. This should not be a requirement. The regulations, enforcements and heavy fines for what most consider a low paying job must be reviewed.
- Recommendation that any changes to the bylaw should require full discussions with those whose livelihood is affected. The municipality cannot act unilaterally.

As you can see, we have many items we wish to discuss with and we look forward to hearing back from you regarding the upcoming Licensing committee meeting. Again, Councillor Perruzza, thank you for your time and attention to this very important matter that is affecting our Industry.

We truly look forward to engaging with you and the other Licensing Committee members as we strive to move forward and resolve our concerns in a positive and productive manner.

Thank you. Sincerely,

Louie Belcastro, President  
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cc. GTA Mobile Catering Association