

Tuesday, June 09, 2009

To: The Chair and Members of the Licensing and Standards
Committee
From: Howard Moscoe
Re: Tobacco Retail Licence Fees

I have been approached by the Canadian Cancer Society who is concerned that, while the City of Toronto licenses the sale of tobacco, unlike most municipalities Toronto does not charge to obtain a license.

This is a surprise to me. I had always believed that our municipal licensing regime was operated on a cost recovery basis.

The schedule of fees for Ontario municipalities are:

\$360	Ottawa	\$100	Oakville
\$300	Markham	\$ 75	Chatham-Kent
\$220	Barrie	\$ 55	Guelph
\$209	Mississauga	\$ 50	North Bay
\$200	Kingston	\$ 40	Cornwall
\$195	Brampton	\$ 36	Brockville
\$170	Vaughan	\$ 35	Sudbury
\$150	Richmond Hill	\$ 30	Kenora
\$148	Windsor	\$ 0	Toronto
\$140	Burlington		
\$139	Hamilton		
\$110	Halton Hills		

Excluding the City of Toronto the average fee in the GTA is \$207.

By comparison, the New York State fee for a retail tobacco sales licence is \$1000 and is even higher for the largest stores.

Recommendations:

1. This be referred to staff for a recommendation back to the Committee in September and if an increase in fees is being recommended the September meeting be scheduled as the statutory public hearing.
2. The Medical Officer of Health be requested to forward his comments for the September meeting.

