

Date: Monday 13 April 2009

TO: The Licensing and Standards Committee
DISCUSS: Item LS20.3 - Wind Screens for Street Vending Locations

My name is Tihomira Pachova. I have been vending on 150 Commissioners Street for the past 18 years. My location is licensed and I pay the City of Toronto vending permit.

In 1997 Ms. B. Chavel, who was director of Municipal Licensing and Standards approved the enclosures which I have—a three-sided vending carts shelter surrounding the back of my hot dog cart. For a roof I use my umbrella. Behind me, the City built a chain link fence in front of a large vacant land.

150 Commissioners Street is not a typical city location: It is a ditch between the road and that chain link fence in the midst of an industrial wasteland. There is no sidewalk. There are no pedestrians.

In order to work everyday, I need my enclosures since the wind-driven snow piles up several feet high. I need them to protect the food preparation area, food holding and food service areas. During the long winter months there is the cold wind from the lake and blowing snow which I shovel myself. My enclosures protect me and my working area from the wind, snow, rain and dust.

The vendors in most populated areas in Toronto have pedestrian and tourist customers brought to them by parades and festivals around the city. Here on Commissioners Street, I rely only on the traffic both winter and summer.

This is my livelihood and my life.

Thank you for looking at this serious and urgent matter for me.

I continue to work hard and do my best for my customers and for the City. I have brought in revenue year after year for the past eighteen years.

Yours sincerely,
Tihomira Pachova
