



REFERRAL OF MEMBER MOTION BY CITY COUNCIL

Request for Report on Licensing Enforcement

Date:	April 7, 2010
To:	Licensing and Standards Committee
From:	City Council
Wards:	All

City Council Decision

City Council on March 31 and April 1, 2010, referred Motion MM47.9 to the Licensing and Standards Committee.

Recommendations

Councillor Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Palacio recommends that:

1. City Council direct the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, in consultation with the City Solicitor, to report to the Licensing and Standards Committee regarding the feasibility of granting the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards and his/her designates, the authority to suspend a business licence without a hearing and if so, under what circumstances.

Summary

In trying to address issues related to problem establishments in Ward 11, both through the Weston Community Police Partnership (WCPP) and the West District Crime Task Force (WDCTF), it has become apparent that licensing enforcement in the City of Toronto would prove to be more effective if Licensing Enforcement Officers were given the authority to take direct action when they witness a repeat violation.

There are problem establishments in Ward 11, and all across the City, where the operators repeatedly violate the terms of their business licence, and yet, they are allowed to keep operating. An example of this would be a licensed bar which operates as a nightclub despite having been cited for this violation in the past; in this case, a Licensing Enforcement Officer

should have the authority, upon witnessing the same violation again, to suspend the business licence.

Providing our Licensing Enforcement Officers with added authority as that described above would be a useful tool to deal with operators who, despite previous notice, continue to violate the terms of their business licence.

(Submitted to City Council on March 31 and April 1, 2010 as MM47.9)