

MOTION

Liquor Licence Revocation- 580 King Street West - The Century Room

Moved by: Councillor Vaughan

SUMMARY:

On December 1, 2009, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (“AGCO”) issued a Notice of Proposal (“NOP”) number 17610 to revoke the liquor licence issued to 1583381 Ontario Inc. (“Licensee”) operating as The Century Room (“Premises”), located at 580 King Street West. The NOP is based upon alleged violations by the Licensee of provisions of the *Liquor Licence Act*. In the early morning hours of June 21, 2009 three loaded guns were seized at the Premises. A hearing related to this NOP has not yet been scheduled but it is anticipated that it will be held in the first few months of 2010.

In addition to the above noted disciplinary matter, the Premises has also been the subject of a large number of noise related complaints. Several sets of charges have been laid by the City's Municipal Licensing and Standards division between 2007 - 2009, related to noise and other licensing infractions.

City Council should request the AGCO to add a public interest component to the discipline hearing, which will take place in the near future. The Premises are located in the City's entertainment district which has a large concentration of night clubs. There should be little tolerance for violence such as the presence of guns at a nightclub in the entertainment district. The safety of the public should not be compromised. The City would not be added as a party to a disciplinary hearing but the City could be a party to a public interest hearing if there is a Notice of Proposal issued by the Registrar for such a hearing and if the City is granted party status by the AGCO.

The continuation of the liquor licence for these Premises is not in the public interest having regard to the needs and wishes of the residents and the City should be involved in the revocation hearing.

City staff would seek the revocation of the liquor licence for the Premises or, in the alternative, would request conditions to be attached to the licence which would help ensure the safety of the patrons and employees of the Premises as well as the public.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That City Council direct the City Clerk to advise the Registrar of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (“AGCO”) that the continuation of the liquor licence issued to 1583381 Ontario Inc. operating as The Century Room (“Premises”), located at 580 King Street West (“Premises”), is not in the public interest having regard to the needs and wishes of the residents of the City.

2. That City Council request the AGCO to provide the City with an opportunity to participate in any proceedings with respect to the Premises.

3. That the City Solicitor be authorized to attend all proceedings before the AGCO in this matter and be directed to take all necessary actions so as to give effect to this Motion, including adding and deleting conditions to any liquor licence issued for the Premises, in consultation with the Ward Councillor, which address issues including, but not limited to, safety, security personnel, crowd control, noise and lighting.