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**City Council**

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**Motion without Notice**

MM14.26	ACTION			Ward:All
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**Comprehensive Review to investigate the legality and impact on individuals and the community of indoor smoking in public lounges and businesses of substances in water pipes and other apparatus - by Councillor Mark Grimes, seconded by Councillor Cesar Palacio**

- \* *This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*
- \* *This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral.*
- \* *This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate*

**Recommendations**

Councillor Mark Grimes, seconded by Councillor Cesar Palacio, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, in consultation with appropriate City Officials, to undertake a comprehensive review into the legality of businesses operating as "Vapour Lounges" and their impact on the neighbourhoods in which they locate, and report back to the February 2012 City Council meeting, through the Licensing and Standards Committee, on their findings, such report to include comments from the Chief of Police, the Medical Officer of Health and the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards.
2. City Council direct that the report also include:
  - a. recommendations on any changes to City approval processes and regulations for licensing such businesses and smoking by-laws to better control this activity; and
  - b. actions to be taken on ongoing monitoring of the existing businesses to ensure illegal activity is not happening on the premises, and they are undertaking only those activities permitted in their licences.
3. City Council direct that until the report requested in Recommendation 1 above is considered by City Council, no further businesses undertaking this activity be licensed in the City of Toronto.

**Summary**

Currently across the City of Toronto, Ontario and Canada a number of businesses are being licensed as cafes or similar business but are advertising themselves as Vapour Lounges. These lounges are permitting clientele to use, water pipes, vapourizers and vapourizing accessories to smoke and inhale substances such as marijuana and herbal mixtures.

Residents in local communities are concerned regarding the establishment and licensing of these sites, which are rapidly increasing in number across the City, and are not deemed conducive by many as family friendly, beneficial to the neighbourhood or in keeping with the intent of anti-smoking legislation. Residents in the immediate vicinity of these businesses are concerned that there is increased illegal drug trade, prostitution and other illegal activities in neighbourhoods where these businesses are arising.

(Submitted to City Council on November 29 and 30, 2011 as MM 14.26)