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November 9, 2012

Councillor Anthony Perruzza  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West, Suite C41  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2  
Email: [councillor\\_perruzza@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_perruzza@toronto.ca)

Dear Councillor Perruzza,

Subject: Toronto Plastic Bag Ban Bylaw

On behalf of all the parties at the meeting November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012, we want to thank you for listening to our deep concerns about the negative impacts the ban will have on local jobs, local business investment and the environment. This bag ban bylaw is a lose-lose situation for Toronto's economy and is anti-environmental.

Our businesses are located in and around Toronto and employ your constituents. Torontonians will certainly question City Councillors actions on banning their ability to work and support their families when there is absolutely no benefit to the economy and environment. A city-wide poll has found 2 out of 3 Torontonians do not support the ban. This is a significant majority of citizens. As a Councillor, this poll should be taken very seriously for the next municipal election – your constituents want you to do the right thing and reverse the bag ban.

The facts are:

- **The ban will not eliminate plastic bags from the system – kitchen catchers (76% more plastic) will add more plastic to the system**
- **3R's programs are well supported by citizens, Toronto, retailers and plastic industry – 95% of bags reused and recycled**
- **The ban will kill jobs – manufacturing and local convenience stores – drive consumers out of Toronto.**

- **The ban will add new and a higher level of fees for residents to pay because paper bags cost more.**
- **A switch to paper will increase operational costs for the city – 7 times heavier/more volume so that means more waste in the system and more garbage trucks.**
- **A ban will make life more difficult and expensive for Torontonians.**
- **Toronto litter audits show plastic shopping bags are only 0.13% of all litter. This means 99.8% of litter still remains.**
- **As a percent of solid waste, bags are less than 0.6%.**

Plastic shopping bags are a necessity to citizens in managing their organics, household waste and are recycled in Toronto's Blue Bin. We know citizens support having a choice on using all 3 R's (reduce/reuse/recycle) and this approach has been highly successful in managing bags with 95% of bags reused and recycled.

The fact is a ban on bags will not protect the environment, economy and will not improve the litter situation. The attached linked on bans and world-wide experience show bans do not work:

(<http://www.allaboutbags.ca/bansdontwork.html> )

We are looking for the support of you and your council associates to find a solution to reversing this bag ban, to save the 5,000 plastic industry jobs in Toronto and stop the negative impact on local businesses. If you want to be environmental we ask you to support the 3R's options Torontonian's have fully embraced on bags. Do the right thing and "Reverse the bag ban".  
Sincerely,

Steve Ghantous  
President

Copy:

Mark Lichtblau, Haremar Plastic Manufacturing Ltd.  
Philip Latchman, CCC Plastics  
Steve Barkel, Petro Plastics Corporation Ltd.  
Joe Hruska, Canadian Plastic Industry Association & Hruska & Associates