



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

October 13, 2011

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq
Health Canada
Brooke Claxton Building, Tunney's Pasture
Postal Locator: 0906C
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9

Dear Madam Minister:

Re: Shark Fin and Shark Fin Products Ban

In response to the concerns raised with respect to the cruel practice of shark finning and its consequences, the Council of The Corporation of the City of Mississauga at its meeting on October 14, 2011, adopted the enclosed Resolution 0236-2011 requesting action on behalf of Health Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to prohibit and enforce the import of shark fins and shark fin food products into Canada.

In addition, we are requesting the support of the United Nations and other municipalities in the Greater Toronto Area to lobby the federal government to take action on this issue as well.

Sincerely,

HAZEL McCALLION, C.M., LL.D.
MAYOR

cc: The Honourable Gerry Ritz, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
(responsible for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency)
Achim Steiner, UNEP Executive Director
and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations
Mississauga MPs
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Greater Toronto Area Municipalities

Enc.



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA
300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ON L5B 3C1
TEL: 905-896-5555 FAX: 905-896-5879
mayor@mississauga.ca



RESOLUTION 0236-2011
adopted by the Council of
The Corporation of the City of Mississauga
at its meeting on October 12, 2011

Moved by: Pat Mullin

Seconded by: Chris Fonseca

WHEREAS shark finning is a major cause of the slaughter of sharks in other parts of the world;

AND WHEREAS Health Canada is responsible for the safe food supply within the country;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is responsible for enforcing the food safety policies and standards set by Health Canada;

AND WHEREAS the CFIA maintains a list of fish species that are allowed into Canada, including numerous species of sharks;

AND WHEREAS the United Nations Environment Programmes (UNEP) mandate is to help governments further develop and strengthen their national, subregional and regional policies, laws and institutions underpinning environmental governance and to help national governments to use partnerships to harness a results-oriented approach to address environmental challenges;

AND WHEREAS the UNEP helps governments develop and strengthen their judicial, political and legal systems to provide a sound basis for environmental governance;

AND WHEREAS the UNEP's mandate is to work with States and other stakeholders to strengthen their laws and institutions, helping them achieve environmental goals, targets and objectives.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Health Canada be requested to prohibit the import of shark fins and shark fin food products into Canada.
2. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency be tasked with vigorously enforcing the ban on the import of shark fins and shark fin food products into Canada.
3. This resolution be forwarded to other municipalities in the GTA seeking their support.
4. The Council of the City of Mississauga forward a copy of this resolution to the United Nations seeking its support.
5. The City of Mississauga requests other municipalities to join with the City in lobbying the Federal government to take the necessary actions for a ban on shark finning.

A recorded vote was requested with respect to this motion, the results of which are as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT
Mayor H. McCallion	X		
Councillor J. Tovey	X		
Councillor P. Mullin	X		
Councillor C. Fonseca	X		
Councillor F. Dale	X		
Councillor B. Crombie	X		
Councillor R. Starr	X		
Councillor N. Iannicca	X		
Councillor K. Mahoney			X
Councillor P. Saito			X
Councillor S. McFadden	X		
Councillor G. Carlson	X		

Carried (10-0 - 2 Absent)