

# TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION 938

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March 23, 2011

Councillor Ainslie and Management Committee Members  
City of Toronto  
100 Queen Street West  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, West Tower  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2  
Via e-mail: [councillor\\_ainslie@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca)

Dear Councillor and Management Committee Members:

**Re: City of Toronto Vending RFP**

Teamsters Local Union No. 938 is writing to you to express our extreme concern regarding the conditions and requirements of the Vending RFP to be considered by the City of Toronto Management Committee on Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011. This proposed RFP threatens the livelihood of our hard working members; citizens and taxpayers of Toronto and other cities in the GTA.

Teamsters Local Union No. 938 is the largest union in Ontario representing almost ten thousand workers. One of our largest group of members works in the soft drink industry, most of our members have families to support in addition to maintaining their own livelihood, and all of our Union members are consumers in this Province.

**Why are we concerned?**

- Because to the best of our knowledge the requirements of this RFP are unworkable for any major beverage and vending company and, as a result, will mean that vending in City facilities and the union jobs it supports may disappear.
- Because other Canadian municipalities look to the City of Toronto for leadership and by consequence the decision made by the City will be felt by the Union's membership across the Country.
- Because we know that seventy percent of consumer choices in the City facilities to be covered by the RFP are either soft drinks (full calorie and no-calorie) or sports drinks. That's what people (citizens of Toronto) want to buy and in absence of this they will just bring the products from home.
- Because as far as we understand, obesity is caused by taking in too many calories from all sources, not just soft drinks. This simple fact is being ignored and risks putting the livelihood of people like our members, union brothers and sisters, at risk.

Let's let common sense prevail here. The proposed RFP is unworkable, but there's a better way to resolve this without threatening the livelihood of our members. It's called working together to find a balanced solution. Please reject the proposal and let industry and the City work it out so we have a win-win.

Sincerely,

**Craig McInnes**

Craig McInnes  
President

cc/

Councillor Doug Ford [councillor\\_dford@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_dford@toronto.ca)  
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*AFFILIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS/TEAMSTERS CANADA - CLC*