A-frame Sign By-law Amendment - by Councillor Adam Vaughan, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton

Notice of this Motion has been given.
This Motion is subject to referral to the Licensing and Standards Committee. A two thirds vote is required to waive referral.

Recommendations
Councillor Adam Vaughan, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton, recommends that:

1. City Council request Right-of-Way Management and Municipal Licensing and Standards staff to immediately suspend enforcement of the A-Frame Sign By-law (Chapter 693-18 of the Toronto Municipal Code) in the area of special significance identified as "Chinatown" in the Citywide Sign By-law, and to also suspend enforcement in the Queen Street West Heritage Conservation District.

2. City Council instruct Municipal Licensing and Standards staff, in consultation with Transportation staff, to consult with the Chinatown BIA and the Queen Street West BIA, the local Councillor and other stakeholders, including the City’s Pedestrian Committee on new guidelines for A-Frame signs that reflect the heritage and unique nature and sidewalk dimensions of these two business districts, while protecting the integrity of the public right of way.

Summary
The current provisions of Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 693, ARTICLE III 693-18. Portable signs; A-frame signs do not recognize long-standing business and built form conditions in two distinct districts. In particular the one-size fits all by-law does not recognize the unique heritage of Chinatown and the exemptions recently granted to the district under the City’s new harmonized sign by-law. The Queen Street Heritage Conservation District also has a unique approach to signage and public realm design. These two districts also have significantly different sidewalk dimensions.

(Submitted to City Council on December 16, 2010 as MM2.5)