

Ward 15, Eglinton-Lawrence

City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
2nd Floor, Suite B30
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-392-4027
Fax: 416-392-4191
councillor_colle@toronto.ca



November 15, 2012

Licensing and Standards Committee
10th Floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Chair Palacio and Committee Members,

Re: Supporting Toronto's barbers and barbershops: Petition to the Province of Ontario to Change the Certificate of Qualification Examination for Barbers

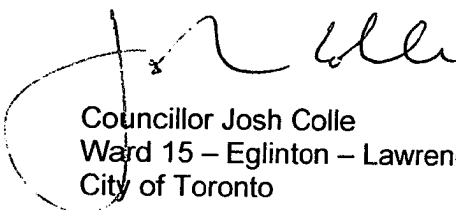
The current provincial regulation, *Ontario Regulation 565/99, Restricted Skill Sets*, requires barbers to write an examination, as part of the Certificate of Qualification process, on which a majority of questions have no relevance to the actual practice of barbering. This criteria is a barrier to new barbers entering the trade and a hindrance to job growth in this industry and our City.

The Province classifies barbers, along with hairdressers, as hairstylists. Hairstyling is a restricted certified trade, regulated by the Apprenticeship and Certification Act, and hairstylists are anyone in Ontario who cuts, colours, styles, and chemically weaves or relaxes hair. A person working in this trade must hold a valid Certificate of Qualification or be registered as an apprentice. The process of obtaining a Certificate of Qualification involves writing an exam. The exam contains questions that encompass the full set of skills associated with hairstyling, including technical questions on chemical processes. As barbers traditionally only perform cutting and styling, to subject them to requirements that have no relevance to their trade or business is unfair.

In order to support our many great barbers, I strongly urge the Province to change their certification process to reflect barbering as a trade which practices only a fraction of the skills that define 'hairstylist'. I respectfully recommend that the Licensing and Standards Committee and the City of Toronto formally request the Province of Ontario to change the Certificate of Qualification examination process for barbers.

Thank you for considering this recommendation. I look forward to your support.

Sincerely,



Councillor Josh Colle
Ward 15 – Eglinton – Lawrence
City of Toronto