BU14.1.3



Personal Care. Professional Clean.

November 20, 2015.

Members of the Budget Committee 10th Floor West, City Hall 100 Queen St West Toronto Ontario. M5H 2N2

Dear Budget Members Committee

I am writing you today in opposition to your proposed increase to water rates, and Industrial Surchargeable Parameters on waste water.

Topper Linen and Uniform is a family owned business operating a 50,000 square foot facility in The Junction. We began operating in 1956 in my parents home, and today we employ over 125 staff.

We are one of only two commercial laundries left in Toronto servicing the Food and Beverage industry, and are finding it very difficult to compete in Toronto. Currently we have spent over 1 million dollars to meet the onerous criteria of Toronto Water. Our water rates have increase 9% per year over 9 years, and now Toronto Water is considering increasing the rate again to 8%. This represents an 80% increase of water in 9 years, and is well beyond the rate of inflation. If the City of Toronto and Budget Committee begins to charge our family business on all four parameters of the Industrial Surcharge, we will not be able to sustain ourselves, and will be forced to sell our business to a US competitor, who will operate outside the city. With the declining Canadian dollar, and the challenges of operating a business in Toronto, the city must position itself to assist business. We are not in a position to increase our rates, as the City does, and in fact in most cases we are required to decrease our rates to compete with similiar company's trucking laundered goods into the city.

We are completely apposed to an increase on Surchargeable parameters at any time, and if this was to occur it would result in a 200% increase to our current costs.

The City of Toronto must help business, not penalize us for operating in a city we love.

Respectfully

Tim Topornickí President