

Dear Mayor Tory and Executive Committee Members:

Beechgrove Country Foods is writing to ask that the Budget Committee recommendation to charge for all four parameters covered by the Sewer Surcharge Agreement be turned down.

Our company operates a medium-sized meat processing facility employing 60 employees located in Ward 43. We have been in business 1988 and specialize in pizza Topping. Our input costs such as meat, electricity and water have gone up enormously to the point that we are having difficulty beating the pricing of our American competitors. You may recall several meat processing plants in Toronto have closed their doors because these cost increases. Recently, Maple Leaf Foods announced the termination of 400 management positions nationally (many of the jobs are in Toronto) Also Last Year Quality Meat Packers Closed their door in Down Town Toronto and 550 People lost their jobs. Beechgrove is not a bottomless pit when it comes to absorbing costs.

Our ownership has visited a U.S. border city few times and found that all our inputs costs would be less expensive than in Toronto. The business environment is very friendly and we could serve all our customers with a two-hour drive from the U.S.

We are Toronto people and really do not want to move but business is business and our first duty is to maintain the profitability of our company.

I thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Amir Niaz.