

bloor-yorkville

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA

April 17, 2015

City Clerk
Licensing and Standards Committee
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Members of the Licensing and Standards Committee:

RE: LS3.1- Toronto's Street Food Vendors – April 21, 2015

We would like to take this opportunity to express our support and commend the Municipal Licensing and Standards staff for their one year review of the bylaw which offers recommendations, which are not only fair and reasonable, but continues to give consideration to all parties involved. The report addresses the need to have a balanced approach to mobile food operations and existing licensed restaurants. Toronto is in the fortunate position of being able to offer a wealth of eating and dining options to the consumer, at many price points and from numerous and varied cultures.

With the proposed amendments to the bylaw, food vending operators will be provided an even more affordable option for a permit fee that was \$5,066 annually and will now be offered at a lower rate, should they not wish to operate during certain months of the year, particularly winter. The fee structure is extremely reasonable when compared to rent and commercial property tax, which must be paid in full, year round.

Our BIA fully supports:

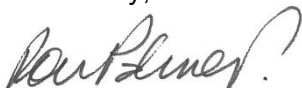
- the continued moratorium in Wards 27, 28 & 29 on boulevard vending;
- the restriction, whereby truck food vendors cannot be located within 50 metres of operating licensed food establishment, which is on par with other cities;

While reviewing mobile food opportunities, it is important to protect the existing 'bricks & mortar' food operators, who cannot easily change their location and have invested heavily in their business based on its location. Many of these are independent, family/owner operated businesses, which solely rely on one location, where they pay rent, taxes, operating costs, license fees, employer taxes etc. They are small business operators, who provide employment and work with tight margins. Their business location is critical to their operations.

We encourage the Committee members to give full support to the recommendations that Municipal Licensing and Standards staff have presented in this report.

Thank you.

Yours truly,



Ron Palmer, BES, MCIP, RPP
PPUD Committee Chair
Bloor-Yorkville BIA

cc: His Worship Mayor Tory
Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

