



Gord Perks
Councillor Ward 14 Parkdale-High Park



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April 7, 2015

Councillor Jaye Robinson
Chair, Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

Dear Chair Robinson,

Re: Potential implications of any new agreements regarding liquor, wine and beer sales in Ontario

As the Province of Ontario appears to be moving towards the sale of liquor, wine and beer in grocery stores, the impact of changes to the bottle return system on City of Toronto resources must be acknowledged.

In the first year of the implementation of the deposit return program for wine and spirit containers sold through the LCBO, a Staff Report to Public Works Committee, October 2008, the General Manager of Solid Waste, claims a reduction of approximately 10,000 tonnes of glass received in the City of Toronto's recycling program in 2007 and an additional reduction of 13,000 tonnes of glass in 2008.

Any move away from deposit return system would presumably have the opposite impact and possibly would increase costs to the City.

According to the Stewardship Report 2013-14, the Beer Store's recovery rate for refillable bottles is 99%.

It is important that any change to the sale of liquor, wine and beer, supports the continuity of a bottle return system.

Recommendation:

City Council direct staff to report on the potential implications of any new agreements regarding liquor, wine and beer sales in Ontario.

City Council further direct staff to meet with the Provincial government to raise Council's concern that any changes not have negative consequences for the City.

Sincerely,

Gord Perks
City Councillor
Ward 14, Parkdale-High Park