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December 12, 2018

His Worship Mayor John Tory and Toronto City Councillors
City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Sent via email: clerk@toronto.ca

Dear Mayor Tory and Members,

**Re: Member Motion MM1.6 Waiver of Encroachment Fees for Shoppers Drug Mart
Menstrual Hygiene Pilot Project**

This letter is to request your support for MM1.6. The motion requests that City Council waive application, agreement and permit fees related to the piloting of two menstrual hygiene dispensing machines, to be located adjacent to Shoppers Drug Mart locations at Yonge & Carleton and at Queen & Bathurst Streets.

Shoppers Drug Mart is putting women's health first through its program SHOPPERS LOVE. YOU. The company supports women's health in body, mind and spirit in communities across Canada. A successful example of our work is the SHOPPERS LOVE. YOU. Run for Women, which benefits the mental health mission at Women's College Hospital; among numerous other women's health investments made within the City of Toronto.

Specific to this motion, we are piloting an innovative approach to address the issue of Period Poverty. The project makes free menstrual hygiene supplies available to women experiencing homelessness. To do this we make use of refurbished newspaper boxes, void of any corporate identity, and stocked with supplies. A PIN code is distributed to local shelters allowing access to menstrual hygiene products for a single day, without cost to the user. The PIN code is printed on a business-card sized asset.

The cost to refurbish each individual dispensary box is \$12,000. Product costs are also borne by Shoppers Drug Mart, reflecting our commitment to women's health. Additional City costs are respectfully requested to be waived in acknowledgement of this test program, and to symbolize joint support for women facing homelessness in Toronto.

In the spirit of our mutual commitment to support the health of women vulnerable due to homelessness, and acknowledge a basic human need, it is our request that this motion be approved unanimously, as it was when a similar motion was passed by the Toronto East York Community Council in July 2018.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa Gibbs

cc: Mayor John Tory and Toronto City Councillors

