



CORPORATE SERVICES COMMISSION
Clerk's Department

June 25, 2003

Mr. Denis Kelly
Regional Clerk
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Dear Sir:

**RE: EXEMPTION OF ALL RETAIL BUSINESSES IN TOWN
OF MARKHAM - SARS ECONOMIC RECOVERY (13.4 & 7.0)**

This will confirm that at the meeting of Council held on June 24, 2003, Clause 10, Report No. 42, was approved as follows:

Whereas Markham Council established a special Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) Economic Recovery Task Force for the purpose of recommending an action plan promoting the economic recovery of Markham businesses negatively affected by the SARS outbreaks;

And Whereas the Task Force has consulted with the cross section of Markham business community in order to better understand the extent of the economic impact and to identify opportunities for government to assist in the economic recovery;

And Whereas the retail sector in Markham and across York Region has been significantly affected by the SARS outbreaks;

And Whereas the Region of York has the authority under the Retail Business Holidays Act to exempt retail business establishments from the requirement to close on statutory holidays;

And Whereas Regulation 711/91 permits such exemption for up to five holidays a year during which a fair, festival or other special event is being held in a municipality;

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Now Therefore, Be It Resolved That:

1. The Region of York be requested to exempt all retail businesses in the Town of Markham from the provisions of the Retail Business Holidays Act, pursuant to Regulation 711/01, for every statutory holiday after Canada Day, up to and including Thanksgiving, 2003, for the purposes of permitting fairs, festivals or other special events.
2. The Region of York be requested to exempt all retail businesses in all of the local municipalities in York Region from the provisions of the Retail Business Holidays Act, pursuant to Regulation 711/01, for every statutory holiday after Canada Day, up to and including Thanksgiving, 2003 for the purposes of permitting fairs, festivals or other special events.
3. The Region of York be requested to schedule a public meeting in accordance with the provisions of the Retail Business Holidays Act as soon as possible to commence the process to permit the exemption requested.
4. The Mayor and Council designate the Civic Holiday in August, Labour Day and Thanksgiving Day as special celebratory events called "Shop and Celebrate Markham".

Sincerely,



Sheila Birrell
Town Clerk

/h

c.

Mr. S. Chait, Director, Corporate Quality & Effectiveness
Ms. C. Conrad, Town Solicitor
Mr. A. Taylor, Commissioner of Corporate Services