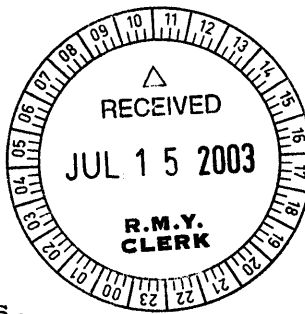




#227-25 Austin Drive,
Markham, Ont. L3R 8H4
July 10th, 2003.

Mayor W. Donald Cousens,
Anthony Roman Centre,
101 Town Centre Blvd.,
Markham, Ontario.
L3R 9W3

REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE

FILE No. - P03

Dear Mayor Cousens:-

In the Markham Economist & Sun of June 17th, 2003, a notice was placed by The Regional Municipality of York to hold a public meeting on July 17th, 2003 at 9.30 A.M. in their Council Chambers to consider a by-law pursuant to the Retail Business Holiday Act to permit Retail Business establishments in The Regional Municipality of York to remain open on holidays for the remainder of 2003.

I assume, since the notice does not state the holidays, that they are Civic, Labour, Thanksgiving and Christmas statutory holidays. These holidays are part of Canada's history and are the cultural and traditions of Canadians. There was an article in The Toronto Star dated June 28th, 2003 under the title "We're working way too hard" dealing with statutory holidays and working hours which are relative to the above subject. This request will only lead to a deterioration in the standard of Canadian Family life.

If the purpose is to turn statutory holidays for Canadians into another working day in order to increase Retail Business sales, I do not believe it will do so as all you are doing is moving four days of sales from 2004 back into 2003 as the problem is people do not have the money to spend as the borrowing is at the highest level as it has ever been in Canada.

Please retain the traditional holidays for Canadians and their families.

Yours very truly

James Puddy
James Puddy.

c.c. Mr. Denis Kelly