

To: denis.kelly@york.ca

Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 4:10 PM

Subject: Retail Business Holidays Act Application For Exemption - Vaughan Mills



Hello Dennis.

I am one of many business owners located in Vaughan Mills Shopping Centre.

Recently, I stumbled across a retail business holidays act application in the Vaughan Citizen Newspaper, stating that Vaughan Mills is applying for exemption for certain statutory holidays and to be open for operation from 9am to 9pm on these days.

At no time has mall management approached the tenants to discuss this application, nor have they discussed it with their Tenant Advisory Committee at the mall.

I have been actively speaking with both anchor tenants and numerous other tenants in the mall **all** of whom are opposed to these changes and none of these tenants were aware mall management had applied for this further exemption.

It appears as though mall management was attempting to "sneak this thru" in order to avoid the pushback and disagreements that would result from releasing this information to its tenants.

In comparison to the 2 other feature shopping centres that are exempt for statutory holidays, Vaughan Mills Shopping Centre operating hours for statutory holidays are currently in line with it's competitors.

Vaughan Mills is taking their "tourist status" to another level of extremity with this application, without any consideration of the effects this change will have to the 1000's of employees and business owners that are employed at the mall.

In addition to taking away valuable family time from the mall employees, the required infrastructure to effectively move these 1000's of employees on these statutory holidays, both within the Vaughan city limits and outside the city limits does not exist. Not to mention that by law, employees can refuse to work on these statutory holidays....so how does one effectively run a business?

If you walk into Vaughan Mills Shopping Centre at any time of day, any time of year, you will notice that more than 50% of the tenants have help wanted signs posted, it is already difficult to employ staff at the mall, these changes will make this issue even worse, not to mention the costs involved in paying employees that work on these statutory holidays.

York Region Transportation hours of operation are already unreliable, inconsistent and not conducive to mall employees during regular business hours and supply VERY LIMITED IF ANY holiday service within and outside of the city limits on statutory holidays.

Below is a comparison between Toronto Eaton Centre, Cookstown Outlet Mall and Vaughan Mills, hours of operation, which clearly illustrates the excessive nature of the proposed changes being applied for.

	Vaughan Mills Shopping Centre	Toronto Eaton Centre	Cookstown Outlet Mall
Regular Business Hours	Monday to Saturday - 10am to 9pm Sunday - 11am to 7pm	Monday to Friday - 10am to 9pm Saturday - 9:30am to 7pm Sunday - 12pm to 6pm	Monday to Friday - 10am to 9pm Saturday - 9am to 6pm Sunday - 11am to 6pm
Current Holiday Hours, open all statutory holidays with the exception of Good Friday, Easter Sunday & Christmas Day	10am to 6pm	10am to 6pm	9am to 6pm
Proposed New Statutory Holiday Hours, open all statutory holidays with the exception of Christmas Day	9am to 9pm		

We are **strongly opposed** to these proposed changes and seek information/direction on how to prevent these proposed changes from being approved.

Please contact me at the number below or reply to this email.

I will be circulating this email to the other tenants in the mall.

Feel free to come and see me at my store for a coffee....."we're always open!!"

Sincerely, Dino Naccarato

Owner, Timothy's World Coffee
Vaughan Mills Shopping Centre

(905) 660-0991