

CITY OF VAUGHAN

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2014**

Item 16, Report No. 10, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 18, 2014.

16

**RETAIL BUSINESS HOLIDAY ACT EXEMPTION**

The Committee of the Whole recommends:

- 1) That the recommendation contained in the following resolution submitted by Regional Councillor Di Biase, dated February 25, 2014, be approved subject to adding the following after the word "Sunday":

"providing that the benefiting businesses in this area be requested to pay any applicable fees; and

That Regional Council be requested to consider this application as soon as possible."

- 2) That Communication C16, from Mr. Martin Wray, Cadillac Fairview, Queen Street West, Toronto, dated February 24, 2014, be received.

**Member's Resolution**

Submitted by Regional Councillor Michael Di Biase

**Whereas**, The Retail Business Holidays Act prohibits certain businesses from opening on statutory holidays, and

**Whereas**, Regional Council has the authority to grant exemptions from the Act for businesses in order to promote tourism, and allows business or business area to be open on any of the nine statutory holidays as outlined in an exemption application, and

**Whereas**, there is a significant population of residents of Orthodox Jewish faith in Thornhill and from other areas within Ontario and Upper New York State who are patrons of retail businesses in Thornhill because of the unique availability kosher food and other required items, and

**Whereas**, Jewish residents in the community have requested that local businesses that address their particular needs be exempt from being closed on statutory holidays that often coincide with Passover.

**It is therefore recommended** that the Council of the City of Vaughan approve the submission of an municipal application from the City of Vaughan, to The Regional Municipality of York, for exemption from the *Retail Business Holidays Act*, for all retail businesses within the following boundaries: Steeles Avenue to the south, Yonge Street to the east, Highway 7 to the north and Dufferin Street to the west, to remain open on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.