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Jurrius, Stephanie

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	
COPIE TO:	FORM
Chair	Committee
CAO	
Corporate Services	Council
Public Works	Dec 13
Employee and Business Services	Public Meeting RBHM
Health Services	File
Human Services	
Peel Living	

From: Shirley MacDuff Kostiuk
 Sent: December 5, 2012 11:24 AM
 To: ZYG-COUNCIL
 Cc: Palleschi, Paul; Blackburn, Trudy
 Subject: Bramalea City Centre's bid to operate on Family Day

RECEIVED

DEC 05 2012

Dear Council,

REGION OF PEEL
CLERKS DEPT.

My name is Shirley MacDuff-Kostiuk and may I address Council please on Dec. 13th at the Regional Council chambers at 10 Peel Centre Drive regarding Bramalea City Centre's bid to operate on Family Day.

I am in favor of keeping the Bramalea City Centre closed on Family Day.

- a) Brampton Residents: I live in Brampton and I believe if the City of Brampton allows the Bramalea City Centre to open causing family members to work on a provincial holiday, voters will be resentful of this decision. Trust, confidence and support for City of Brampton politicians will decline and voters will elect other candidates.
- b) Governments appear divided: The provincial government introduced Family Day to support families. Does this municipal government support families? Is money that important to the City of Brampton that it sends a message to families of "money first – family unity last?" Is the City of Brampton more concerned with keeping business owners open and refuses to respect and follow what the provincial government has established? Taxpayers want to know that if a provincial holiday is established, it will be recognized at all levels of government.
- c) Loss of revenue for other Brampton businesses: Businesses that must remain closed on Family Day because of Brampton's by-laws are not given the same opportunity to earn revenue. Brampton families have only so much disposal income. If that disposal income is spent shopping on Family Day at the Bramalea City Centre, there may be little or no disposal income left to shop at other Brampton retail outlets.
- d) Economic Gain for Who?: Many stores in the Bramalea City Centre have their head offices in the United States. Examples: The Children's Place – New Jersey, Aeropostale – New York City & New Jersey, Old Navy & Gap – California, Justice – Ohio, Hollister – California, Forever XXI – California, Gymboree – California. What about business owners who live in Brampton and not only support our local economy by giving jobs to Brampton residents, but also donate to charities in Brampton such as Brampton food banks, feeding programs at our schools and Brampton sports teams? Many US companies employ staff in Brampton at the store level only. Their head office buildings, the administrative jobs and the donations are all kept in the United States.
- e) Canada's Heritage: Why do Canadians celebrate our national and provincial holidays? There is relevance to our holidays in terms of landmarks, achievements, life-changing events, family and thanksgiving. We celebrate holidays and promote peace, love, sharing, family time and thanksgiving. Are some of the politicians in the City of Brampton trying to change Family Day and minimize this provincial holiday into another shopping day? Is their focus on money and pressure and political influence levied by Bramalea City Centre

REFERRAL TO _____
 RECOMMENDED _____
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businesses who are lobbying for their stores to remain open?

- f) Reducing crime and theft in Brampton: Children need their parents at home. It has been proven by police officials that break-ins, theft and criminal activity takes place not only at night, but also during the day and right after school. I have experienced this at my own residence with a break-in around 11:00 am while working from home and my neighbor caught students trying to break into his house after school. Family Day is a holiday that give parents and guardians the opportunity to remain home with their children - have fun, play, teach, mentor, love their children. Children left unattended and without discipline can become engaged in criminal activity, gangs, drugs, etc. Society benefits when parents are with their children raising them, not working in a store on a provincial holiday.

Sincerely,

Shirley MacDuff-Kostiuk