

PW-C2-1

The Premier  
of Ontario

Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 1A1

Le Premier ministre  
de l'Ontario

Édifice de l'Assemblée législative  
Queen's Park  
Toronto (Ontario)  
M7A 1A1



Regional Municipality of Peel  
Office of the Regional Chair

November 8, 2011

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RECEIVED

Mr. Emil Kolb  
Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer  
The Regional Municipality of Peel  
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A  
Brampton, Ontario  
L6T 4B9

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	
COPY TO:	FOR:
Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee
CAO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Corporate Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Council
Public Works	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dec 8 2011
Employe and Business Services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health Services	<input type="checkbox"/> File
Human Services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Peel Living	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dear Mr. Kolb:

Thank you for your letter regarding the *Retail Business Holidays Act* and for sharing your views and those of council on this issue. I have noted the comments and concerns that have been expressed.

As your inquiry would best be addressed by my colleague the Honourable Margaret Best, Minister of Consumer Services, I have forwarded a copy of your correspondence to her for her review. Minister Best will respond to you directly on this matter.

Mr. Kolb, thank you again for writing. Please accept my best wishes.

Yours truly,

Dalton McGuinty  
Premier

c: The Honourable Margaret Best

REFERRAL TO  
RECOMMENDED  
DIRECTION REQUIRED  
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED





## Office of the Chair

October 27, 2011

Dalton McGuinty, Premier  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1A1

Dear Sir, *Dalton*

**RE: Retail Business Holidays Act**

As you are aware, the *Retail Business Holidays Act* seeks to strike a balance between allowing businesses to remain open on holidays and providing consumers and employees with common pause days.

In its current form, the *Retail Business Holidays Act* places the responsibility on regional municipalities to consider individual applications for tourist area exemptions.

On January 1, 2007, the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* came into force and with it, the *Retail Business Holidays Act* ceased to apply to the City of Toronto. The City of Toronto has been delegated with the authority to regulate retail holiday closures within its geographical limits.

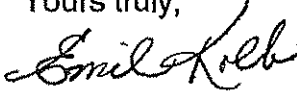
With the exemption of the City of Toronto from the requirements of the *Retail Business Holidays Act*, the Province has given preferential treatment to the City of Toronto that could result in a competitive advantage to retail businesses located in the City of Toronto vis-à-vis other retail businesses in the Greater Toronto Area. Attempting to find a balance within the strict limitations of the *Retail Business Holidays Act* has placed much pressure on Peel Region Council.

In 2006, the Provincial legislature enacted an amendment to the *Retail Business Holidays Act* to allow municipalities to replace the Provincial holiday closure requirements with requirements of its own discretion. To date, this amendment has yet to be proclaimed.

I kindly request your update with respect to the anticipated date of proclamation of the amendment or alternatively what steps will be taken to address the inequality that presently exists between the City of Toronto and other Ontario municipalities.

On behalf of Region of Peel Council, I respectfully request that the Legislature proclaim the 2006 statutory amendments to the *Retail Business Holidays Act* to allow all municipalities to establish rules and procedures regarding holiday openings that both protect for the common pause day principle while better supporting local businesses.

Yours truly,



Emil V. Kolb  
Regional Chair & C. E.O.