



July 7, 2020

York Region Council Chair, Mayors and Regional Councillors,

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, York Region Council will be entertaining a motion "to make wearing masks mandatory in enclosed indoor spaces where physical distancing is not possible" in the Region of York.

We support this important initiative but we ask that you include body rub parlours, erotic massage spas and 'alleged' holistic/wellness centres in the group of businesses that must abide by the mandatory use of masks or suspend their operating licences.

We ask you to do so for health & safety reasons:

**1. Health & Safety**: the sex-trafficked workers are entitled to protection from the 'johns' who are purchasing sexual services that include 'happy endings'. To quote a medical practitioner and fellow activist: "As a health care professional who is rigorously using the guidelines at my medical clinic, I cannot understand public health allowing the opening of an erotic spa with the use of masks only in common areas. Obviously, within the rooms where the erotic massage takes place, the masks will undoubtedly NOT be used, NEITHER will the 2-meter physical distance requirements and also the clients and masseuse(s) would NOT be members of their Bubble of 10."

**2. Deliberate exclusion by Mayor Scarpitti**: he was quoted in the press as saying: *"I am asking retailers and personal shops in Markham to implement a 'no mask, no service' policy."* Note his deliberate exclusion of body rub parlours, erotic massage spas and holistic/wellness centres from the *'personal service shops'* group. FYI: Markham By-law 2018-90 lists *personal service shops* in a category of its own whereas body rub parlours and erotic massage spas are in the category of *Adult Entertainment*.

**3. Major concern with re-opening BRPs**: Markham's City Clerk Office gave the go-ahead to *Club Dynasty* on June 15 to begin their re-opening with the help of a **York Public Health** officer. (See the email from Club Dynasty on page 3 below my signature).

We have questions for Dr. Kurji and look forward to his answers:

a) Did the York Public Health officer instruct the sex-trafficked women in person or via virtual meeting as to their rights to personal health protection? (Club Dynasty claims on its website that it has 20 Non-Registered Masseuses).

b) Did the York Public Health officer instruct the body rub owner/operator in person or via virtual meeting as to his obligations under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*? This owner, as an employer/operator, must take precautions to keep 'workers' safe, including keeping them informed, creating health and safety policies and procedures and ensuring workers use the right protective equipment.

Yet, on his website, <u>https://www.clubdynasty.ca/covid19/</u>, he writes: "*Masks & Gloves: All masseuses will have masks and gloves available if requested by the client. This is up to each individual client.*" Clearly, Club Dynasty's owner/operator needs additional instruction on the benefits of 'mandatory masking' and will need to be ordered to abide by the mandatory mask initiative. Or, more assertively and effectively, please insist that the city of Markham suspend his body rub operator licence for "*posing an immediate danger to the health or safety of any person*". The suspension is doable as per the Municipal Act of 2001 Part 4 LICENSES Page 67 Section 151 (2). You can expect pushback or indifference from Mayor Scarpitti as he ignored our first 'licence suspension' request back on March 2nd before Premier Ford, thankfully, imposed the Emergency Act.

**Reason #4 in support of our request**: It is unreasonable for anyone to fathom how Club Dynasty's speciality service of 4-Hands Massage can abide by the 'physical distancing' requirements. Quoting from their website: "*These massages are done by two ladies simultaneously. Your entire body will be enveloped in erotic touch as you experience two fullbody massages at the same time.*" This time we have questions for the 21 members on York Region Council:

- a) How on earth can 2 female masseuses simultaneously perform a 4-hand massage on a paying customer, keep 2 meters (6 feet) from each other AND from the paying customer who is not required to wear a mask but is paying for a happy ending?
- b) How can a female masseuse protect herself from contamination when the customer paid for a 'body slide' in which she rubs the oil on the customer using her body rather than hands only.
- c) How can Yoyo, a popular 'masseuse' at Club Dynasty and La Monny Spa, protect herself when she is advertised as a BJ specialist and the male customer pays for this service? How does she not become a COVID-19 casualty and a transmitter of the virus?

In closing, we ask that the motion before you on July 9-2020 which is "to make wearing masks mandatory in enclosed indoor spaces where physical distancing is not possible', you will include body rub parlours, erotic massage spas and 'alleged' holistic/wellness centres in the group of businesses that must abide by the mandatory use of masks or suspend their operating licences.

Thank you.

Robert Vallee Board Chair & CEO Parents Against Child Trafficking - **PACT-***Markham* And Council of Women Against Sex Trafficking in York Region - **CWASTYR** 905.201.1005 rvallee@pactmarkham.com www.pactmarkham.com **Make Markham the FIRST ZONE in Ontario FREE from Human Trafficking & Sex Exploitation!**  -3-

## **Robert Vallee**

From:	Robert Vallee
Sent:	June 15, 2020 3:58 PM
To:	Marnie Hill; 'Robert Vallee'
Subject:	Fw: Club Dynasty Opens this Friday June 19th

From: Reception Desk <reception@clubdynasty.ca> Sent: June 15, 2020 3:01 PM Subject: Club Dynasty Opens this Friday June 19th

Just want to let you know that we received approval today from the city of Markham to re-open the spa this coming Friday June 19th.

We are in the process of preparing our facility to follow all guidelines and recommendations regarding social distancing and cleaning procedures.

Some of our services may not be immediately available (steam room for example) but we are finalizing all of those details this week with our health inspector and will post a thorough update on our website <u>www.clubdynasty.ca</u> in the next couple of days.

We look forward to welcoming you back.

- Club Dynasty Management