## This July 30<sup>th</sup> is United Nations World Day against Trafficking in Persons

## **OUR CALL TO ACTION TO YORK REGION COUNCIL!**



July 27, 2020

York Region Chair, Mayors and Regional Councillors,

This World Day against Trafficking in Persons was established to raise awareness of the plight of human trafficking victims, promote and, very importantly, protect their rights. In Canada, as of end of 2018, 97% of the trafficking victims were WOMEN. Trafficking involves recruiting, transporting, transferring, holding, concealing or exercising control over a person for the purposes of exploitation.

**I'll repeat: 'promote and protect their rights'**! Specifically, I refer to the women who are sextrafficked in York Region's many body rub parlours during this pandemic. In particular, they seek and are entitled to protection from the criminal body rub parlour operators who bully/instruct their female sex attendants to NOT wear masks, NOR to practice social/physical distancing while sexually servicing the 'johns'. This insistence from the bully pimps must stop. Your leadership is required in this matter.

If, on the other hand, you dare think that body rub parlours and their sex attendants are not your responsibility, think again as you license both the operators and the sex attendants. The two exceptions are Mayors Lovatt and Pelligrini and we thank them for not licensing body rub parlours, erotic spas and alleged holistic wellness centres.

In the world of body rub parlours, the effective approach in protecting women is **NOT** education. It is **ENFORCEMENT** to be applied by the municipalities' respective By-law Enforcement staff. But a very worrisome fact, which you should know, is that one of the criminals operating Club Dynasty in Markham claimed, via email back on June 15<sup>th</sup>, that he had received the go-ahead from the city of Markham with the help of "*our health inspector*". The BRP operator received this go-ahead a mere ONE day before Ontario government made the announcement on June 16<sup>th</sup> according to the government's media release. Talk about insider information. See the criminal operator's email below.

## **Robert Vallee**

From:	Robert Vallee <vallee_robert@hotmail.com></vallee_robert@hotmail.com>
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

Furthermore, view Club Dynasty's '**Covid-19 Action Plan**" as to Masks & Gloves on their website (<u>www.clubdynasty.ca</u>) and I quote: "*All masseuses will have masks and gloves available if requested by the client. This is up to each individual client.*" So much for protection for the sex attendants who, by the way, are not registered massage therapists!

As for health inspections, our research reveals that the existing protocol with York Region Public Health calls for a By-law Enforcement Staffer to officially request York Region Public Health to do a health inspection of the BRP. The problem is that our investigation revealed in 2018-2019, that York Public Health did not conduct any inspections of Markham body rub parlours as per Selina Nazim, Manager, Health Protection with Public Health Community & Health Services (many thanks Selina for your transparency).

An additional layer of protection is, of course, the **suspension** of the BRP operator licences. Each municipality in Ontario has the power to suspend a business licence and I quote the Municipalities Act: *"Power to suspend a licence:* 

Section 151 (2) Without limiting sections 9, 10 and 11, for the purpose of clause (1) (b), if a municipality is satisfied that the continuation of a business poses an immediate danger to the health or safety of any person or to any property, the municipality may, for the time and on such conditions as it considers appropriate, without a hearing, suspend a licence subject to the following:

- **1.** Before suspending the licence, the municipality shall provide the licensee with the reasons for the suspension, either orally or in writing, and an opportunity to respond to them.
- 2. The suspension shall not exceed 14 days. 2006, c. 32, Sched. A, s. 82.\*

\*Item 2 (regarding the 14-day suspension) could be repeated at the municipality's discretion.

As well, actively consider getting out of the 'PIMPING through LICENSING of BRPs and SEX ATTENDANTS" all together. After all, BUYING SEX and OPERATING BRPs have been illegal since 2014 when Federal Law Bill C-36 came into existence. Two of the crimes are defined as follows:

**1.** *"Purchasing Offence:* (section 286.1) *Obtaining sexual services for consideration, or communicating in any place for that purpose.* Maximum 5 years jail time for customers/'johns'.

2. Receiving Material Benefit Offence: (section 286.2) Receiving a financial or other material benefit obtained by or derived from the commission of the purchasing offence. It is illegal to earn money by owning, managing or working for a commercial enterprise, such as a strip club, massage parlour or escort agency, knowing that sexual services are purchased there. Maximum 5 years jail time for the procuring pimps.

And then you, as elected officials, must deal with the accusations of 'Aiding and Abetting in the Commission of a Crime'! Here is the definition: "In Canada, a person may be charged with the crime of aiding and abetting, even though he/she was not present during, or did not physically assist with, the commission of the crime. The 'person' who aids and abets a crime, may provide support by giving advice, financial support, or by taking action not directly related to the crime itself, but for the purpose of facilitating its success." In other words, the driver of the getaway car is aiding and abetting (facilitating) in the commission of the crime. As for each York Region Mayor & Council, this means that, thanks to your active licensing of their businesses and the sex attendants, the BRP operators and the 'johns' are helped by you to commit the crimes of 'buying sex' and of 'pimping/procuring' the girls.

## BACK TO THE PRIORITY OF THE PROTECTION OF THE SEX ATTENDANTS!

That, at the July 30, 2020 Special Meeting, York Region Council AMEND their July 9<sup>th</sup> Motion in order to protect young women from Covid-19 by SUSPENDING Body Rub Parlours' and Erotic Spas' operating licences.

My two groups and I look forward to your POSITIVE replies.

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!



