Request to Speak to a Committee of Council

If your request is for a specific committee meeting, this form must be received by NOON the day before the scheduled committee meeting. Requests for Monday meetings must be received by NOON the Friday before the meeting. Requests for meetings scheduled for the day after a statutory holiday must be received by NOON the last business day before the meeting. For summer meeting requests (July/August), please contact the City Clerk's Office at (905) 546-4408 for further information.

Committee Requested

Kindly indicate which Committee: *
- General Issues Committee

If you selected Advisory/Sub-Committee from the above list, please indicate name of Committee:

Requestor Information

Name of Individual: * Dave Bryans
Name of Organization: Ontario Convenience Stores Association (OCSA)
Contact Number: * 905-845-9152
Email Address: * bryans@conveniencestores.ca
Mailing Address: * 466 Speers Road #217 Oakville, Ontario L6K 3W9
Reason(s) for delegation request: * On behalf of the Ontario Convenience Store Association (OCSA) and the many convenience store retailers in Hamilton, I would like to address a serious problem impacting not only small businesses in the community, but the safety and security of Hamilton residents. The distribution and sale of contraband tobacco is a growing concern in Hamilton. A recent butt study conducted in the Hamilton region shows that contraband tobacco usage rates as high as 26%. The use of illegal tobacco products in the youth population is widespread and the recent trend confirms that the prevalence of contraband products is growing from large urban centres such as Hamilton to smaller cities throughout the region. This problem that was once limited to Eastern Ontario is growing rapidly in municipalities across our province. Not only does the sale of contraband hurt small business and government through tax evasion, it contributes to organized crime schemes and the deterioration of community safety. It is a serious public safety concern that must be addressed at all levels. Sources of contraband include counterfeit cigarettes from overseas, tax-exempt cigarettes diverted from First Nations reserves, and domestic illicit production of cigarettes. The safety of our young people is also at risk. Contraband is typically sold at very low cost and without age verification checks, making it easily accessible to underage youth. It is directly impacting retailers that continue to abide by lawful practices as the cheapness of illicit tobacco directly undercuts their profits. The Ontario government has taken the important step of addressing contraband in the recently tabled provincial budget, and we want to work with municipalities to ensure timely implementation of the proposed measures set out by Finance Minister, Dwight Duncan. I encourage the Hamilton City Council to support our proposed motion, and join other municipalities such as Windsor, London, Oshawa, Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, Ottawa and North Bay to stop the spread of contraband tobacco in our communities. I hope that Hamilton's convenience store retailers can count on your support to address this vital community safety issue. The Ontario Convenience Stores Association (OCSA) represents more than 7,000 convenience store operators throughout the province, serving more than 3 million people a day. These small business owners are an integral part of Ontario's economy and an important staple in communities across the province.

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? *  
- Yes
- No

Overhead projector required for the presentation *  
- Yes

https://authoring.hamilton.ca/citydepartments/corporteservices/clerks/request%20to%20speak%...  30/07/2012
Power Point required for the presentation

- No
- Yes
- No

Are you a lobbyist?

- Yes
- No

(The information collected for the Lobbyist registry system was implemented by City Council in 2004 and the information provided is on a voluntary basis.)

If your answer is Yes to the lobbyist question, who are you representing?

Requests to speak to Council are forwarded to the Committee for consideration. Once considered by Committee, and approved, you will be notified of the date for your presentation.

This form is not for the purpose of presenting unsolicited proposals by Vendors to Committee. Such proposals are subject to a competitive process as required by the City's Purchasing Policy.

Personal information collected on this form is authorized under Section 5.10(2) of the City's Procedural By-law No. 10-053 for the purpose of contacting individuals and/or organizations requesting an opportunity to appear as a delegation before a Committee and will be published with the Committee Agenda. The Voluntary Lobbyist Registry is a public document and will be available for viewing in the City Clerk's office. The Procedural By-law is a requirement of Section 238(2) of the Municipal Act. Questions about its collection can be directed to the Manager, Legislative Services / Deputy Clerk, City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5 (905 546-2424 ext. 4304).