



## City of Richmond

## Report to Council

**To:** Richmond City Council  
**From:** Jim Bruce  
General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services  
**Re:** **Suspension of Business Licence Toh Far Studio**

**Date:** September 18, 2002  
**File:** 8060-20-7048

### Staff Recommendation

That Council suspend the Business Licence of Toh Far Studio for the period September 30, 2002 through October 29, 2002 both dates inclusive.

Jim Bruce  
General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services

Attach.2

**FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY**

**CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER**

## **Staff Report**

### ORIGIN

The City continues to enforce its business licence bylaws with an emphasis on the operating hours and permissive functions within the business complex. These efforts are part of our continuous effort to promote customer, community and employee safety and to ensure that all businesses are operating in a consistent manner so as to not prevent one business gaining an operational advantage over another business in the same business category. The RCMP have also been involved in the enforcement activity to ensure that the business activities are within the rules established by the Criminal Code and Immigration Regulations.

### ANALYSIS

City staff and RCMP personnel continue to make unscheduled visits to various adult entertainment businesses to ensure business operations comply with the City's bylaws, the Criminal Code and Immigration Regulations and Laws. Many of these businesses, because of the nature of the business, are open late at night. The RCMP have on several occasions advised Council of their concerns relative to these types of businesses and the impact on the community of extended operating hours, type of business activity and RCMP policing costs.

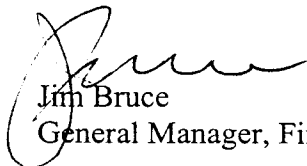
This business appeared before the Chief Licence Inspector on September 12, 2002 to review its operations and to explain why they have chosen to operate in contravention of the City's business operating regulations and bylaws. Having completed the review and taking into consideration information from the City's Business Licence Inspector and the RCMP, I believe this business should have their licence suspended for a period of roughly 30 days. The information detailed in Attachment 1. reflects the information that is the basis of this recommendation.

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no direct financial impact for the City.

### CONCLUSION

That Toh Far Studio has chosen to ignore the City's business licence bylaw and regulations and as such, their non-compliance warrants a business licence suspension of roughly 30 days that should be enforced from September 30, 2002 through October 29, 2002 both dates inclusive.



Jim Bruce  
General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services

JWB:naw



## CITY OF RICHMOND

### LICENCE SUSPENSION HEARING TOH FAR STUDIO

#### MINUTES

held September 12, 2002  
at 11:15 am Room T.2.141  
Richmond City Hall

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Attendees: Mr. Jim Bruce (JB)  
Mr. Vic Duarte (VD)  
Ms. Alla Pervakov (AP)  
Ms. Irina Stsiptsova (IS)

- JB Advised (AP) and (IS) that the process we use for these hearings is identical to the one that they have been involved previously.
- AP Advised that no need to review process (AP started to cry)
- AP Said she had only three girls working that night and a new receptionist was on duty and did not remind girls of the rules
- JB Asked what advice the staff were given and AP advised that they are to follow the City's rules
- JB Asked AP if they allowed the girls to offer sexual favours as part of the massage services. AP advised no, that she did not know that this was happening
- AP Advised she was going to school and raising a family and couldn't always be there to know what was happening
- AP Said this had never happened before
- AP Advised that she has up to 10 staff and that the staff member responsible for the problem had been terminated
- JB Asked about a lock on the front door and AP advised that there now as a lock.. AP advised that the reason for this was they had previously experienced an attempted robbery and put the door lock in as a means to increase security and safety for the staff and customers

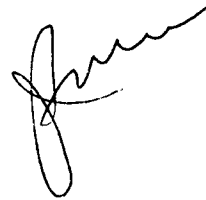
JB Asked about how the staff are paid and AP advised they do not get paid a monthly fee but get \$20 per customer. AP advised that business is very slow. On average they get 5 or 6 customers a day

AP Said business was very slow and is thinking of selling the business and asked several questions about the process and business licence

JB Offered AP the opportunity to present any closing remarks. AP had nothing to offer except to be a bit compassionate as this was a first problem

JB Explained the process from this point and promised to provide an answer by Wednesday September 19, 2002

Meeting concluded at 11:40 am

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'J' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.



## City of Richmond

6911 No.3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Telephone (604) 276-4000

[www.city.richmond.bc.ca](http://www.city.richmond.bc.ca)

September 18, 2002

File 8275-20

### Finance & Corporate Services

Fax: (604) 276-4162

Admin. 276-4219 Accounts Receivable 276-4277

Payroll 276-4137 Purchasing 276-4097

Tax 276-4145

Ms. Alla Pervakov  
doing business as  
Toh Far Studio  
Unit 120 – 11590 Cambie Road  
Richmond V6X 1L5

Dear Ms.Pervakon:

**Re: Toh Far Studio  
Business Licence Review Hearing**

This correspondence will serve as official follow-up to your business licence review hearing held before me at Richmond City Hall at 11:15 a.m. on September 12, 2002 in meeting room T.2.141.

I have now had the opportunity to review all the facts as presented by Mr. Duarte, the City's representative and those of the RCMP as gathered at on-site visits. I have also taken into consideration all the comments put forward by yourself.

The findings clearly indicate that your business was operating in contravention to the City of Richmond Business Licence and Regulations bylaws. This last visit by the RCMP indicates that you were operating in violation of the Business Licence Bylaws and in fact, the RCMP indicated that there was specific evidence that would indicate that there were activities taking place in the room that is not permitted with any type of business licence for the City of Richmond.

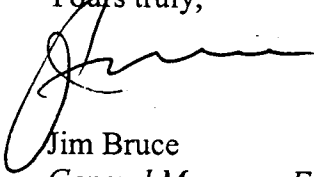
The Facts presented indicate that a licence suspension is warranted. I will therefore be recommending to Richmond City Council that your business licence be suspended from September 30, 2002 through October 29, 2002 both dates inclusive, which is a total of 30 days.

This recommendation will be dealt with by Richmond City Council at their meeting of September 23, 2002 at City Hall, 6911 No.3 Road. This meeting will commence at 7:00 p.m. sharp and you have the right to appear before Council to debate the recommendation and to present your case as to why the recommendation should not be supported. Should you wish to

attend the meeting to present your case, please contact Mr. Richard McKenna, the City Clerk, and he will ensure you are added to the Council agenda as a delegation.

Should you have any questions regarding this recommendation, or the process relating to the Council meeting, please feel free to call me directly at 276-4095.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Bruce', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

Jim Bruce  
*General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services*

JWB:tlm

pc: J. Hikida  
V. Duarte  
R. McKenna  
T. Mahone - RCMP



## City of Richmond

6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Telephone (604) 276-4000

www.city.richmond.bc.ca

September 9, 2002

File: 8275-20

### Finance & Corporate Services

Fax: (604) 276-4162

Admin. (604) 276-4219

Treasury Services (604) 276-4277

Payroll (604) 276-4137

Purchasing (604) 276-4097

Tax (604) 276-4145

Delivered by Hand

Alla Pervakov, doing business as  
Toh Far Studio  
Unit # 120-11590 Cambie Road  
Richmond, BC V6X 1L5

Dear Madam:

### Re: Business Licence Contravention and Licence Review Hearing

It has been brought to my attention that a recent site inspection was conducted by the Richmond RCMP on August 31, 2002. Licence Inspector Victor Duarte, received a Memorandum from Corporal D. MEIKLE and Constable HALE indicating that Toh Far Studio was in contravention of the City of Richmond Business Regulation Bylaw No. 7148.

The contravention was specific to the operating standards as set in the bylaw. Specifically, an employee was found in a room with a customer and possibly performing business activities which are not appropriate conduct, for which the Business Licence was issued.

You are hereby requested to appear at a Business Licence review hearing to discuss these matters, which may result in the suspension or cancellation of your Business Licence. The hearing has been set for 11:15 a.m. on Thursday, September 12, 2002, in room T.2.141 at the Richmond City Hall located at 6911 No. 3 Road.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Mr. Duarte at (604) 276-4389 or myself at (604) 276-4095

Yours truly,

Jim Bruce  
General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services  
Chief Licence Inspector

JWB:vmd

pc: V. Duarte  
Business Licence Inspector

Cpl. D. Meikle  
RCMP Police (Richmond Detachment)





**City of Richmond**  
Finance & Corporate Services Division

**Memorandum**

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**To:** J. Bruce  
General Manager, Finance and Corporate  
Services  
Chief Licence Inspector  
**Date:** September 4, 2002

**From:** Victor M Duarte  
Business Licence Inspector  
**File:** 8275-20

**Re:** **Alla Pervakov, DBA – Toh Far Studio**  
**Contravention of Body-Painting/Body-Rub Studio Regulations**

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A recent site inspection was conducted at **Toh Far Studio** by Richmond RCMP "D-Watch", specifically Cpl. D. MEIKLE and Cst. HALE, on August 31, 2002. Memorandum was forwarded to myself regarding the said inspection, indicating that **Toh Far Studio** was in contravention of the City of Richmond **Business Regulation Bylaw. 7148**.

The contravention was specific to the operators prohibitions set in the bylaw. Specifically, an employee was found in a room with a customer, performing activities which are not appropriate conduct, for which the Business Licence was issued.

To date, the said business has received 4 Municipal Ticket Information's, the last one dated March 03, 2002, for failure to provide written notice of change in personnel.

In careful consideration of the mentioned offences, I feel it may be required that the business representative for **Toh Far Studio**, appear at a Business Licence review hearing in front of the Chief Licence Inspector.

Victor M Duarte  
Business Licence Inspector

VMD:vmd

pc: M. Freeman  
Manager, Business Liaison & Development

J. Hikida  
Licence Inspector

Cpl. D. Meikle  
RCMP (Richmond Detachment)