

AGENDA



SHARK FINNING COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2012 –
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING COUNCIL**

**COMMITTEE ROOM D, 2ND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE,
300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO L5B 3C1
<http://www.mississauga.ca>**

Members

Councillor Jim Tovey, Ward 1
Councillor Pat Mullin, Ward 2
Councillor Ron Starr, Ward 6
Councillor Pat Saito, Ward 9
Councillor George Carlson, Ward 11

Agency Representatives

Stephen Chu, Mississauga Chinese Business Association
Victor Oh, Mississauga Chinese Business Association

Contact: Carmela Radice, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk
905-615-3200 ext. 5426 Fax: 905-615-4181
carmela.radice@mississauga.ca

CALL TO ORDERDECLARATIONS OF (DIRECT OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTERESTAPPROVAL OF THE AGENDADEPUTATIONS(a) Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)

Peter DeSouza, Acting Inspector Manager and Catherine Mar, Fish Policy Officer from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency will provide an overview of the roles and responsibilities of the CFIA and general information on the Fish Inspection Program with a focus on imports.

(b) Shark Finning Presentation

Nikki Donnelly, student will present to the Committee a presentation on shark finning.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDEREDInformation Items

1. Letter dated November 30, 2011 from The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq in response to the Mayor's letter requesting the support of banning shark fin products.

Recommend Receipt

2. Letter dated January 16, 2012, from the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans in response to the Mayor's indicating that Canada has prohibited the practice of shark finning since 1994 and will continue to work closely with other countries to promote the sustainable management and conservation of sharks worldwide.

Recommend ReceiptOTHER BUSINESSADJOURNMENT

MINUTES



SHARK FINNING COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2011 – 12:55 p.m.

COMMITTEE ROOM D, 2ND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE,
300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO L5B 3C1
<http://www.mississauga.ca>

Members Present:

Councillor Jim Tovey, Ward 1
Councillor Pat Mullin, Ward 2 (Chair)
Councillor Ron Starr, Ward 6
Councillor Pat Saito, Ward 9 (Vice-Chair)
Councillor George Carlson, Ward 11

Agency Representatives:

Stephen Chu, Mississauga Chinese Business Association
Victor Oh, Mississauga Chinese Business Association

Staff Liaisons:

Martin Powell, Commissioner, Transportation and Works
Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement
Douglas Meehan, Manager, Compliance and Licensing
Roberto Zuech, Legal Counsel, Municipal Litigation
Catherine Monast, Team Leader Media External Communication
Carmela Radice, Legislative Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER 12:55 p.m.

DECLARATIONS OF (DIRECT OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST - Nil

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

APPROVED – (Councillor G. Carlson)

DEPUTATIONS - Nil

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED

1. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

Councillor Pat Saito nominated Councillor Pat Mullin for appointment to the office of the Chair of the Shark Finning Committee running concurrent with the term of Council, to November 30, 2014 or until a successor is appointed.

Appointment

Recommendation:

That Councillor Pat Mullin be appointed as Chair of the Shark Finning Committee for the current term running concurrent with the term of Council, to November 30, 2014 or until a successor is appointed.
SFC-0001-2011

Councillor Pat Mullin nominated Pat Saito for appointment to the office of the Vice-Chair of the Shark Finning Committee running concurrent with the term of Council, to November 30, 2014 or until a successor is appointed.

Appointment

Recommendation:

That Councillor Pat Saito be appointed as Vice Chair of the Shark Finning Committee for the current term running concurrent with the term of Council, to November 30, 2014 or until a successor is appointed.
SFC-0002-2011

2. Terms of Reference

Chair Mullin and Vice-Chair Saito spoke to the terms of reference and suggested that the mandate should include the lobbying aspect of the fishery industry from the Federal government. Robert Zuech, Lawyer Municipal Litigation suggested to included in the terms of reference any applicable agencies that deal with the permits and licensing of importing seafood into Canada.

Councillor Starr inquired as to why a Federal government representative is not on the committee. Chair Mullin suggested that a representative from Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans Canada and representative from Canada Food Inspection Agency should be included in the composition of the terms of reference. She indicated that Councillor Fonseca asked that Glenforest Secondary School who sent in a petition on behalf of the shark fin ban should be included in the Committee. Carmela Radice, Legislative Coordinator indicated that an email was sent out to the contact person on the petition advising them of the meeting today.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Shark Finning Committee's Terms of Reference be approved as amended to include the following:

- (a) **Mandate**
That the committee lobby the Federal government and any applicable agency for the enactment of legislation including any regulations that will ensure only shark fins harvested in a humane and sustainable manner be allowed to be imported into Canada.
- (b) **To be added to the Composition**
One (1) representative from Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
One (1) representative from Canada Food Inspection Agency

Stephen Chu, Mississauga Chinese Business Association indicated that he has requested a meeting with a representative of the Federal government in Ottawa on the shark fin matter. Chair Mullin, Vice-Chair Saito and Martin Powell, Commissioner of Transportation and Works inquired as to when he will be going and if a representative from the City of Mississauga will be able to attend with them. Victor Oh, Mississauga Chinese Business Association indicated that he will keep the Committee posted.

SFC-0003-2011

Councillor Carlson asked if the government verifies that the shark products that are being imported under a permit or license are being killed in a humane way and that at least 98% of the whole shark product is being used. Mr. Martin, indicated that there was no clear answer and suggested that a deputation from a representative of the Federal government would be beneficial for the Committee and indicated that his department would try and set it up.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Federal government representatives attend the next Shark Finning Committee meeting bringing information on humane and sustainable fishing practices and the requirements as to obtaining a permit for non-Canadian harvested shark fins.

SFC-0004-2011

3. Information Item

An email dated October 18, 2011, from Jason Agius re: **the banning of shark fins and shark fin products and the assumption that it poses a health hazard for mercury.**

Victor Oh and Stephen Chu commented on the mercury in the fish and how if they are banning shark fins or shark products for that then they should ban all food. Councillor Carlson explained that the by-law is in place for the inhumane way shark fins and shark products are being imported into Canada. The federal law needs to be stricter on importing of shark fins or shark products.

OTHER BUSINESS

Stephen Chu and Victor Oh spoke to the fact that there is a law in place and they do not understand why the City of Mississauga has a by-law to ban shark fin products. Councillor Tovey asked which countries are harvesting sharks. Mr. Oh answered the question indicating that Portugal, Spain, England, France and Australia harvest shark fins and shark products.

Mr. Chu asked why the by-law was pushed through quickly without discussion. Vice-Chair Saito indicated that Councillor Mullin and Mickey Frost, Director of Enforcement and herself had in fact met with the Mississauga Chinese Business Association prior to the passing of the by-law.

Stephen Chu asked when the by-law is enforceable. Roberto Zuech, Lawyer Municipal Litigation indicated that the by-law is enforceable as of October 12, 2011. He mentioned that an amendment to the by-law should be considered to give time for a phase out period and for representatives from the Federal and Provincial government or any applicable agency to attend a Committee meeting and provide information. All members agreed to the change to the by-law to indicate no longer in force and effect until June 30, 2012.

RECOMMENDATION

That By-law 0268-2011 be amended so that it is no longer in force and effect until June 30, 2012 to allow time to meet with the Federal government representatives and any applicable agency.
SFC-0005-2011

ADJOURNMENT 1:50 p.m.

DRAFT

Minister of
Fisheries and Oceans



Ministre des
Pêches et des Océans

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0E6

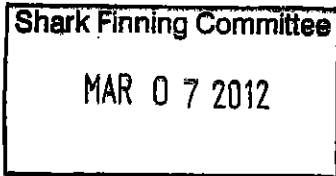
RECEIVED

REGISTRY No.

DATE JAN 20 2012

FILE No.

JAN 16 2010



Her Worship Mayor Hazel McCallion
The Corporation of the City of Mississauga
300 City Centre Drive
Mississauga, Ontario
L5B 3C1

Dear Mayor McCallion:

This is in response to your correspondence of October 13, 2011, regarding the City of Mississauga's request that the federal government protect Canadian shark populations and ban the import of shark fins and their derivative products. Your letter was forwarded to me by the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health, and I appreciate the opportunity to address your concerns.

At this time, the Government of Canada is not considering a ban on the importation of shark products, including shark fins from non-endangered shark species, subject to food safety considerations. Only imports of great white shark, basking shark and whale shark are restricted, as all are protected species under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). In addition, both the great white shark and the basking shark are listed as endangered under the *Species at Risk Act*, which prohibits the possession, collection, purchase or sale of these species in Canada.

Canada has prohibited the practice of shark finning (the act of removing the fins from sharks and discarding the rest of the carcass) since 1994, and implements strong measures to ensure compliance in Canadian fisheries. Shark fins cannot make up more than 5 percent of the overall weight of shark onboard Canadian fishing vessels, with all landings being monitored by independent dockside observers.

Only a few shark species are harvested within Canada, including spiny dogfish, porbeagle shark, shortfin mako shark and blue shark. These harvests are carefully managed, based on the best scientific advice, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada monitors shark populations to ensure sustainability. In fact, the British Columbia spiny dogfish fishery recently became the world's first shark fishery to be certified as sustainable by the Marine Stewardship Council.

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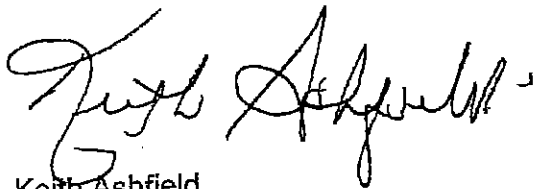
1(a)

- 2 -

Internationally, Canada promotes the sustainable management and conservation of shark through international organizations, including the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organizations and the Regional Fisheries Management bodies. Canada was one of the first countries to implement a National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, which outlines Canada's overall plan to ensure the sustainable management of sharks. Canada also works with partners to support bans of shark finning in other countries. Additionally, Canada will continue to work within CITES to ensure that the trade in shark products is sustainable.

Thank you for your taking the time to write and express your views about this important issue. I assure you that Canada will continue to work closely with other countries to promote the sustainable management and conservation of sharks worldwide.

Yours sincerely,



Keith Ashfield

c.c.: The Honourable Gerry Ritz, P.C., M.P.
The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, P.C., M.P.
Mr. Wladyslaw Lizon, M.P.
Ms. Stella Ambler, M.P.
Ms. Eve Adams, M.P.
Mr. Bob Dechert, M.P.
Mr. Brad Butt, M.P.

1(b)



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

October 13, 2011

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq
Health Canada
Brooke Claxton Building, Tunney's Pasture
Postal Locator: 0906C
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9

Dear Madam Minister:

Re: Shark Fin and Shark Fin Products Ban

In response to the concerns raised with respect to the cruel practice of shark finning and its consequences, the Council of The Corporation of the City of Mississauga at its meeting on October 14, 2011, adopted the enclosed Resolution 0236-2011 requesting action on behalf of Health Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to prohibit and enforce the import of shark fins and shark fin food products into Canada.

In addition, we are requesting the support of the United Nations and other municipalities in the Greater Toronto Area to lobby the federal government to take action on this issue as well.

Sincerely,

HAZEL McCALLION, C.M., LL.D.
MAYOR

cc: The Honourable Gerry Ritz, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
(responsible for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency)
Achim Steiner, UNEP Executive Director
and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations
Mississauga MPs
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Greater Toronto Area Municipalities

Enc.



RECEIVED 2

REGISTRY No.

DATE DEC 05 2011

FILE No.

MAYORS OFFICE

Minister of Health



Ministre de la Santé

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0K9

NOV 30 2011

Her Worship Hazel McCallion
Mayor of the City of Mississauga
300 City Centre Drive
Mississauga, Ontario L5B 3C1

Shark Finning Committee

MAR 07 2012

Dear Madam Mayor:

Thank you for your correspondence of October 13, 2011, concerning the import of shark fins and shark fin products into Canada.

Health Canada is responsible for establishing policies, setting standards and providing authoritative advice and information on the safety and nutritional value of all food sold in Canada, whether it is imported or produced domestically. As the issue of shark finning is not related to human health and safety considerations, it is not within the Department's mandate to prohibit the import of shark fins and shark fin products into Canada. If a food safety concern were identified with shark fin food products sold in Canada, Health Canada would take appropriate action to maintain the safety of Canada's food supply.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is responsible for the conservation and management of sharks in Canadian waters and works with international organizations, such as the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, to help protect and preserve the shark population globally. I have, therefore, taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your correspondence to the Honourable Keith Ashfield, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, for consideration

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Leona Aglukkaq

~~The Honourable Gerry Ritz, P.C., M.P.~~
The Honourable Keith Ashfield, P.C., M.P.

Canada

2(a)



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

October 13, 2011

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq
Health Canada
Brooke Claxton Building, Tunney's Pasture
Postal Locator: 0906C
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9

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Sincerely,

HAZEL McCALLION, C.M., LL.D.
MAYOR

cc: The Honourable Gerry Ritz, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
(responsible for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency)
Achim Steiner, UNEP Executive Director
and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations
Mississauga MPs
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Greater Toronto Area Municipalities

Enc.

