



20 August 2009

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORT**

TO: MAYOR & COUNCIL

FR: Joanne L. McMillin, City Clerk

RE: Retail Business Holidays Act – Public Meeting, etc.

BACKGROUND:

In May this year, Council adopted a resolution to include “Family Day” in the list of exemptions under (a new) by-law for the maintenance and development of tourism. In consultation with Mr. Ormiston’s office, it was determined that because we are preparing a new by-law, all previously exempted holidays should be included or the by-law would only apply to Family Day (as we cannot just amend a former Town of Kenora by-law). As a result, I advised the Kenora & District Chamber of Commerce who made the original request and they have submitted a letter requesting exemption for the other five holidays, in addition to Family Day.

Under the legislation, Council must give thirty (30) days’ notice for the holding of a public meeting and adoption of the by-law. The by-law does not come into effect until thirty-one (31) days after the passing of the by-law, so there is some strategy required in holding the meeting and adopting the by-law so as not to interfere with exempted holidays in the current by-law, so this can be achieved by holding the meeting after Thanksgiving Day.

It is recommended Council adopt all six (6) holidays (as noted below) as exemptions under the by-law and that notice be given that a public meeting will be held on November 16 at 4:30 p.m. prior to the Council meeting (the timing does not work for the October meeting unless Council holds a special public meeting.) It is anticipated the by-law would be adopted at the November 16 Council meeting and coming into effect in mid-December. Mr. Ormiston will prepare the by-law on behalf of the City.

BUDGET:

N/A

COMMUNICATION PLAN/Notice By-law Requirements:

Advertising the notice of a public meeting under the Retail Business Holiday Act.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT further to Council adopting Resolution #6 dated May 19, 2009 regarding “Family Day” as an exemption under the maintenance and development of tourism by-law, approval is hereby given for the following holidays to be included in the new by-law:

- New Year’s Day
 - Family Day
 - Victoria Day
 - Canada Day
 - Labour Day
- Thanksgiving Day; and further

THAT in keeping with legislative requirements, notice is hereby given that Council will hold a public meeting at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2009 in Council Chambers in respect of the proposed by-law to be adopted November 16, 2009 and which is expected to take effect December 16, 2009.