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To be listed on the Community
Services Agenda 18 September 1997

DATE 02 July 1997

TO/DEST. The Chair and Members of Council

FROM/EXP. Medical Officer of Health

SUBJECT/OBJET **TOBACCO SALES TO MINORS**

The Environmental Health Directorate is responsible for the enforcement of the Tobacco Control Act in Ottawa-Carleton. The Act prohibits the sale of tobacco products to persons under 19 years of age. The Directorate uses a combination of retailer education, surveillance of vendors and prosecution, when sales to minors are observed.

A compliance survey of 260 retailers chosen at random was conducted in May 1997. Sixteen and eighteen year old youths, working on behalf of the Health Department, attempted to purchase cigarettes. We are pleased to report that 87% of retailers refused to sell cigarettes to the youths and that 92% of those refusing to sell asked for photo ID. This represents a substantial improvement over the 78% reported in November 1996. We believe that if these rates stay above 80%, we will likely see an actual decrease in youth smoking unless supplying increases.

While these results are excellent, our ultimate goal is still 100% compliance. The Environmental Health Directorate will continue surveillance activities and will charge retailers selling to underage youth. A list of the retailers convicted of selling tobacco to underage youth since January 1997 is attached for your information.

Approved by
Dr. Robert Cushman

Attach. (1)

**Premises in Ottawa-Carleton Where Convictions Have Been Obtained for tTobacco Sales
Offences from January 6, 1997 to June 17, 1997**

Barake Smoke Shop, 359 Richmond Road

Chez Luvon, 308 Shakespeare Street

Dixie Dairy, 101 Main Street

Donald Street Gas Bar, 455 Donald Street

Gow`s Chinese Take-Out, 1669 Merivale Road

McBean Esso, 3512 McBean Street

McDonough`s Your Independant Grocer, 100 Bayshore Drive

Metcalfe Pizza, 8202 Victoria Street

Nichols General Store, 3798 Olmstead Street

Steven`s Food, 340 Olmstead Street

Ultramar, 1543 Merivale Road

Williams Esso, 644 Bronson Avenue
