

**Subject:** Vote **YES** on Business By-law 2020-31 being amended to adopt the proposed Personal Wellness Establishment with stricter language and requirements

To: Mayor John Taylor, Newmarket Town Councillors & Staff

I am writing as a concerned citizen and resident of Newmarket, to thank you for the work you have done to protect the wellbeing and safety of our community, families and children from the negative impact of Body Rub Parlours. I am asking that you hold firm to your decision and vote YES to ratify By-law 2020-31 being amended to adopt the proposed Personal Wellness Establishment with stricter language and accreditation requirements.

I am deeply troubled by the fact that advocacy groups like Butterfly from Toronto are attempting to cloud the truth of what body rub parlours really are and what “sex work” truly represents. Survivors of human trafficking, the Toronto Police and front-line service providers have all confirmed that people are being trafficked in body rub parlours and holistic spas throughout Ontario and Canada under the umbrella of “sex work”. These ‘businesses’ are fronts for prostitution. The City of Toronto has itself acknowledged this reality.

I would ask that you watch this short 5-minute video, where 6 women who were formerly in body rub parlours talk about the truth and realities of this experience.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B5rZon5hgwE&feature=youtu.be>

Unlike those Toronto groups, I am a resident of Newmarket and I am standing with you to bring an end to sexual exploitation through body rub parlours and other similar establishments in our town. I am asking that you vote **YES** to ratify By-law 2020-31 to adopt the proposed Personal Wellness Establishment with stricter language and accreditation requirements.

With respect,

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William A. Stassen  
409 Alex Doner Drive, Newmarket (Ward 7)