

B.2

MOTION ON NOTICE

2. Supporting Public Safety through ID Scanning Software

MOVER: Councillor Kim Capri

SECONDER: Councillor

WHEREAS:

- Barwatch was created in response to growing safety issues facing the nightlife industry;
- Barwatch is mandated to assist its member establishments in meeting their legal obligations in providing a safe and secure environment for their staff and patrons;
- Membership in Barwatch is conditional and all members must adhere to strict guidelines and adopt security measures and procedures;
- In 2002, the Board of Directors of Barwatch created a privacy committee to investigate PIPA compliant and customer friendly solutions to the Liquor Control and Licensing Board suggestions that members “record each person’s name and ID serial number...[and] use video surveillance to record an image of the person and his or her ID”;
- The Barwatch privacy committee identified the current product they use as the only acceptable software;
- The software in use is the only product that does not extract all the information from a patron’s identification - the software allows members to restrict access to the necessary personnel, does not record address, and information has high security protection and is stored in locked down stations;
- The Barwatch board and membership determined that use of this software was mandatory for membership in Barwatch;
- Use of the system is supported by Vancouver Police Department;
- Almost all of the Barwatch members have had a reduction in their liability insurance premiums due to safer environments facilitated by the use of this software;
- In 2004, the Office of the Information and Privacy Commission for BC, under the Personal Information and Privacy Act commenced investigation following a complaint arising from the security software; and
- A decision by the Privacy Commission which impacts the usefulness and effectiveness of the software product would stand directly in the face of attempts with law enforcement to improve the safety and security of staff and patrons.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- Vancouver City Council be on record in support of the nightlife industry using client identification software as supported by Barwatch and the Vancouver Police Department; and
- Through the Mayor, write a letter to the Privacy Commissioner and Solicitor General indicating our support for the continued use of this software.

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