



Popular Caribbean restaurant fights eviction order

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The owners of a popular Caribbean restaurant fighting eviction will have their day in court on Tuesday as they seek an injunction that would keep the kitchen from closing.

The Real Jerk Restaurant was told last month that they would be evicted from their location at the corner of Queen Street East and Broadview Avenue after the building was sold to new owners.

The family restaurant has been at the location for 24 years and was told they would have to move from their location by the end of January – which is Tuesday.

Owners Ed and Lilly Pottinger have filed an injunction to stop the eviction and will appear in a provincial court on Tuesday to plead their case.

"We hired lawyers at Weir Foulds to investigate our options and took the next step to seek relief." Ed Pottinger said in a statement.

Pottinger said the forced closure means his restaurant staff will be out of work on Wednesday if the restaurant is forced to close its doors.

The website www.SavetheRealJerk.com has received over 2,200 signatures in just two weeks and Pettinger says the crowds of supporters clamouring to eat at the restaurant has led to the highest January sales in the past decade.

"The public response to our pending eviction has been tremendously encouraging," Pettinger said. "Our customers are the real inspiration for fighting on. They have said that the Real Jerk helped to revitalize this neighbourhood and now we're here to help you."