



September 13, 2020

His Worship Mayor Clark + City Councillors
Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services
City Hall | 222 3rd Avenue North | Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

Re: 7.2.4 Proposed Amendments to Policy Co3-026, Provision of Civic Services

Dear Members of PDCS,

Downtown Saskatoon is supportive of the proposed amendments for the Provision of Civic Services Policy. Having followed up with great detail, we analyzed the reports from the perspective of hosting our own events, and keeping in mind those event planners who host within the Downtown district, with whom we work closely.

Our organization supports the administrative task of having policy reflect current practices. Understanding the process of interdepartmental charges, and that other departments have increased their rates, it only seems appropriate for the Special Event Interdepartmental Committee to be armed with up-to-date policy. We additionally appreciate the administrative process that ran all recent events through the rating tool to determine that few would result in very different fees due.

Saskatoon is perceived as an excellent place to host an event due, in part, to low civic service costs. This has afforded us important local + international events to select Saskatoon as their host city of choice. Downtown Saskatoon agrees it is reasonable for tax dollars to subsidize public events, while private events can pay for the services. It is reasonable that 'need' be determined by attendee numbers, keeping them safe, and adequately maintaining the space. Whenever fees are required, it is paramount they are as low as possible so as to not run the risk of losing those events and the ensuing tourism + economic spinoff that occurs.

We would like to thank Lindsay Cockrum + the Special Event Interdepartmental Committee for their efforts on this report. Their + the City's unwavering support for colourful animation within our Downtown district and the entire city is key.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Sarah Marchildon".

Sarah Marchildon
MarCom + Program Director

Cc. Lynne Lacroix + Lindsay Cockrum | Community Services Division, City of Saskatoon