
Subject: FW: Email - Request to Speak - Ryan Chorneyko - Cashopolis - Amendment to Secondhand Bylaw - CK 300-1
Attachments: hello_ryan.docx

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 12:06 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Request to Speak - Ryan Chorneyko - Cashopolis - Amendment to Secondhand Bylaw - CK 300-1

Submitted on Friday, February 12, 2021 - 12:06

Submitted values are:

Date Friday, February 12, 2021
To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name Ryan
Last Name Chorneyko
Phone Number
Email
Address Myles Lake Rd
City Nanaimo
Province British Columbia
Postal Code
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable) Cashopolis
Subject Amendment to secondhand bylaw
Meeting (if known) February 22nd public hearing meeting
Comments

My name is Ryan Chorneyko. I am the franchisor and previous owner of the Saskatoon Cashopolis. I have been made aware of these proposed changes for the first time on January 19th, 2021 from a letter from the city of Saskatoon. We have not received any notification prior to that date.

We have major concerns about the proposed changes as we feel it will hinder businesses way more than it could possibly help with anything else.

The biggest problem we can see with the new proposed bylaw changes are the requirement to take photos of the items we purchase. I feel that this matter has not fully considered all the repercussions. The extra costs and operational changes to businesses like our will be too great to continue our current business model or even to continue as a business at all. I can understand that this may not be for every business in our category but for most this would be the reality. I'm sure every business in this category will have the same thoughts. Per calendar year 2019, we purchase from 8000 people every year. Those people sell us over 70,000 items. If we only had to take one photo per transaction it would be 8000 x 3 minutes equaling 400 hours. At our current wages that would cost us \$6400(pre tax) a year. If we are required to take photos of every item that would be a bit quicker per photos as we would already have the camera and items ready. it would be 70,000 x 1 minute equaling 1167 hours. At our current wages that would be \$18606(pre tax) a year over and above what we currently do. All of this to have a handful of them looked at. In 2019 we would have had less than 30 of those items looked at by police. This is of course over and above the proposed new software that would cost us another \$8000 a year if we can't make the necessary changes to our software. The new proposed software is a cost per transaction service, meaning the busier we are the more it costs. A possible \$26606 increase to operate a business in

Saskatoon. To put this into perspective we would need to increase our business by 10% just to pay our business license for the year. In 2021 we would have to increase it by 25% since we are already down from closures and restriction related to Covid-19.

What is the plan in place to subsidize this expense? We have no problem sending the police pictures of the items they request on a case by case basis. We don't even have a problem if the police want to come take pictures of every item. We are not the thieves, we shouldn't be punished as one.

This gives businesses no reason to have a business and employ staff and pay rent and grow. Most of the stolen goods are already being sold online and not in our stores. We are already required to collect two pieces of identification from each seller and report all descriptions and serial numbers to police. The people(the thieves) that the police should be catching already know this and do not sell to our stores. The majority of the stolen items that police do catch are because of serial number that we give them. There is no way the police will be sitting at a computer for 1000's of hours a day looking through pictures of stuff that they have no idea what the stolen items look like. They have a hard enough time matching serial numbers.

I have heard the argument, from the current police officer in charge of the pawn division, that these changes will help catch businesses that are possibly buying stolen good on purpose. I quote from detective constable Julie A Clack 548 "Long story short and without the legalese we have companies that are trafficking in stolen property and the update to the Bylaw to make it uniform reporting will assist me in building cases if that makes sense?" So because they can't do their job by simply doing police work and shutting down that one business, all other businesses that have been trusted since 2002 will have to pay for their incompetence or understaff.

We were one of the first business to report electronically to the police back in 2003. We have developed our own software interface with the police over those years and most of the changes came from the requests of the Saskatoon police prior to Julie Clark filling that role. Julie has not made any requests to us about way to help her. This all seems like a jerk reaction to a problem they have no idea how to fix.

I have attached a letter from Bonnie Bowditch, the current citizen of Saskatoon and owner of Cashopolis. She can't imagine what she would do if she would be forced to close her business.

I would love the opportunity to speak at the meeting should you find that helpful in changing this decision.

Attachments

[hello_ryan.docx](#)

Hello Ryan,

Once again thank you for your support and help regarding the changes the city is looking to make to how we do business.

I am deeply concerned with the changes on a lot of levels!

I am all for helping the police catch thieves and try to recover stolen items. I myself have had my business experience numerous attempted break ins as well as 2 break ins that resulted in damage and loss of inventory. I know the feeling of being violated, experiencing loss and wishing to get the items that have been stolen back. It's this understanding that drives me to help the police in any way I can, as unfortunately in both cases the items were never recovered. We have had a few scenarios where we were able to get owners their items back and it was a very rewarding feeling.

Unfortunately, the changes that are being required in the new bylaw won't help or change anything for people like me who have had this happen to them! I think we should be spending more focus on trying to prevent the crime then scrambling after the fact.

The required changes will have a major impact on my business. During a time when businesses are struggling through a pandemic the city wants to require changes that will change how we are able to operate and cost as much as \$30,000 maybe more? Specifically requiring photos of every item purchased, and possibly forcing us to use BWI or make necessary changes to our own software. Although changing our own software will cost money it won't be as much of an ongoing expense as using BWI. Pictures of every item we purchase will also be a major expense and operational adjustment as we will require more manpower to be able to accommodate this. Currently we have two buy tills and during peak season they are lined up. If delayed by taking photos we would slow down the process even more which could result in loss of business for people who do not want to wait or we would have to look at installing another buy station and even more manpower to run it, which our building doesn't currently have the space for.

Requiring business to make this change and take 70,000 pictures a year when on average .00014 % will actually be needed is shockingly unnecessary. It should not be the business owners' jobs to manage this, this is the job of the police. When you make it harder on businesses to do business they will just stop. Why have a second-hand business and pay taxes, business licences etc. when you can buy and sell online without all the logistics required by the city. In that case who will help the police then?

The worst part is these changes, it sounds like, will be taking effect on February 22nd. To require a business to make all these operational changes without any warning is not right. I have been told now that these changes were discussed in 2015 and businesses should have been told. I just received notice a few weeks ago about a

hearing on the 22nd. That is the first i have heard about ANY of this. I have owned my business since 2016 and not once has the city reached out to me regarding this so I could prepare. I have renewed my business licence every year since, that would have been a good time to get a notice of changes coming but no, NOTHING. When I did receive the notice, I reached out right away so that I could comply with the changes to the best of my ability. I asked for the amended bylaw I was told I could get it when it comes out which is about 3 days prior to the hearing. Which means I would have 3 days to make all these operational changes they are requiring, which is extremely unfair and unrealistic. Had they informed me when i purchased the business that changes were coming, I would have had 5 years to prepare!

thanks for listening,

Bonnie Bowditch

Owner, Cashopolis Saskatoon

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