



January 7, 2020

Ms. Joanne Sproule  
City Clerk  
City of Saskatoon  
222 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North  
Saskatoon, SK S7J 0J5

Dear Ms. Sproule,

The purpose of this correspondence is to follow up on your e-mail of December 17<sup>th</sup> regarding the governance review of controlled corporations and your invitation to SaskPlace Association to attend the January 27, 2020, meeting of the Governance and Priorities Special Subcommittee for the purpose of providing feedback on the three referred items.

With this letter, I will confirm that our organization will be represented at the meeting and we will be prepared to speak to the three referred items. Additionally, below please accept our written submission regarding each item (our feedback can be found in **red** below):

1. That recommendation 2 (*That the Corporate Bylaws and Policy No. C01-003, Appointments to Civic Boards, Commissions, Authorities and Committees be amended to allow each Controlled Corporation to have a maximum of two non-resident members but that the non-resident members not be allowed to vote on the annual budget*) be referred to the special subcommittee –

The future direction and success of our organization is predicated on the recruitment and selection of highly qualified and motivated board members. The members of our board carry a great deal of responsibility on their shoulders as they are accountable for the current operation and future direction of one of the province's premiere meeting and gathering places; with an annual operating budget of approximately twenty-five million dollars and some six hundred thousand guests annually.

The approval of the budget is one of the most important annual decisions that our board makes. Our board members are legally responsible for the success of the corporation. To preclude some members of our board from voting on this decision, not only mitigates the effectiveness of our board but also would make finding optimal out-of-town applicants more difficult. It should be noted that even though a director may be precluded from voting on the budget, they will still be held legally and personally liable and accountable to the budget. If we are to give someone responsibility, we must also provide them the authority to carry out that responsibility. Additionally, SaskTel Centre not only serves the residents of the



City of Saskatoon, but it also serves the citizens of the province as many of our guests live outside of the city limits. Potentially having board members from the region outside the City positions SaskPlace Association to better represent those who utilize the venue.

2. That recommendations 1 (*That the appointments of Directors continue to be made by City Council in its sole discretion and the Corporate Bylaws of the Controlled Corporations be amended to make this clear*) and 4 (*That the Board Recruitment Process remain status quo*) be referred to the special subcommittee to explore possible changes to the appointment process, including those offered as options by the Leadership Governance Committee; and
3. That the Board Recruitment Process remain status quo (Issue #4: Board recruitment).

SaskPlace Association respects that the final decision in the selection process of new board members lies with City Council (the member). SaskPlace Association is in favor of continuing the recently adopted procedures whereby the board has been included in the decision making process through being permitted to recruit applicants, interview leading candidates and make recommendations to city council. We would support the continuation of this model as it has allowed our organization to grow stronger.

We look forward to meeting with the Governance and Priorities Special Subcommittee on January 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss these matters further.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Will Lofdahl".

Will Lofdahl