

Walter, Penny

Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Sherry Tarasoff - Horse racing needs the City's support - CK 4225-3

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 9:38 AM

To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>

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--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED]

Submitted on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 - 09:37

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

Date Tuesday, April 13, 2021

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Sherry

Last Name Tarasoff

Phone Number

Email [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED] Peterson Cres

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code [REDACTED]

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable)

Subject Horse racing needs the City's support

Meeting (if known)

Comments

Hello Mayor Clark and Councillors,

As you are aware, Prairieland Park has permanently cancelled thoroughbred racing at Marquis Downs. The City news release of March 22, 2021 outlined clearly that Prairieland Park is a separate business and not controlled by the City or Council and, as such, the City has no say with respect to the operation of their facility.

There are many organizations in Saskatoon that are not controlled by the City but have benefitted from the support of the City, either through grants (for sports or culture programs) or letters of support (for organizations such as the Saskatoon Optimist Club, Saskatoon Blades and Saskatoon Road Runners). In fact, as recently as July 2016, City Council provided a letter of support endorsing Prairieland Park's submission to the Federal-Provincial "Growing Forward 2 Program".

MARQUIS DOWNS AND THE HORSE RACING COMMUNITY NEED THAT SUPPORT FROM THE CITY NOW, TOO.

If you want to learn more, supporters of horse racing can provide you with information such as:

- The historical and cultural significance of horse racing
- How the sport provides for the community through employment, youth programs, kids in Ag, etc.
- The Indigenous representation at the racetrack and in the province as a whole

- The tourism benefits as the one and only track in the province

To hear directly from those that have been affected, I urge you to check out the Horse Racing Saskatchewan Facebook page.

Prairieland Park has indicated that the cancellation was a business decision based on dollars. The Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (HBPA) of SK is in discussions with the provincial government for funding. The lease with Prairieland Park requires written consent of the City for subletting portions of the grounds, such as the Marquis Downs racetrack. While you do not have a say in Prairieland Park operations, your support of Marquis Downs would send an important message. Similarly, your lack of support to date also sends a message. What message do you want to send?

Sincerely,
Sherry Tarasoff