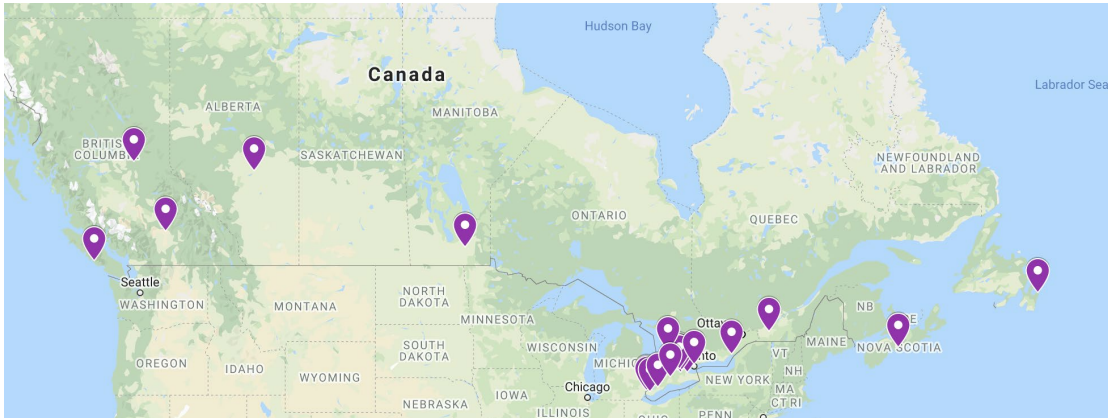


**From:** [Mirko Petricevic](#)  
**To:** [Web E-mail - City Clerks](#)  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Mirko Petricevic - Proposed resolution to strengthen democracy by supporting local journalism - CK 150-1  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 7:21:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [Screenshot 2021-08-03 at 9.02.22 PM.png](#)  
[RESOLUTION - local journalism - SASKATOON August2021.docx](#)  
[BACKGROUND - local journalism - SASKATOON August2021.docx](#)

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Dear City of Saskatoon Councillors.

I'm writing on behalf of the grassroots advocacy group [ink-stainedwretches.org](http://ink-stainedwretches.org) to request that you consider bringing a journalism-support motion to your council meeting on August 30.

We're not asking Saskatoon council to spend money.

We're asking you to raise your collective voice to support a seriously depleted sector that is crucial to a functioning democracy: Local news providers.

We're not asking the federal government to spend money either. We're urging MPs to use the tools at their disposal — legislation and regulation — to build an ecosystem for robust local journalism to survive and thrive.

During the past 14 months, 25 municipalities across Canada (home to 11.5 million residents in seven provinces) have passed journalism-support motions proposed or shaped by our group.

Unfortunately, no Saskatchewan municipalities have yet considered our proposed resolution. Feel free to view the map at [https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1Z4\\_EK74JTppE9\\_FEZ0xS9FGGo5FJjL5&usp=sharing](https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1Z4_EK74JTppE9_FEZ0xS9FGGo5FJjL5&usp=sharing)

We're hoping that Saskatoon council will lead the way in Saskatchewan.

How urgent is the matter? According to the university based journalism website [j-source.ca](http://j-source.ca), from 2008 to 2018, 190 communities across Canada lost roughly 250 established news outlets due to mergers or closures. And since the novel coronavirus pandemic struck in March 2020, more than 3,000 news-outlet employees were laid off temporarily or permanently, and scores

of media outlets closed.

Each newsroom closure or staff cut reduces the amount of reliable information available to Canadians regarding COVID-19 vaccination and other important local issues.

For further details, please see the sources cited in the “whereas” clauses in our proposed resolution (attached).

For more information about our group and campaign, I have attached a backgrounder. You can also learn about us from the [about page on our website](#).

If you would like any clarification or further details, please feel free to call me at (519) 504-2367.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mirko Petricevic  
Co-ordinator, [ink-stainedwretches.org](http://ink-stainedwretches.org)