

## Janzen, Heather

---

**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Dan Jiricka - A New Arena is Not a Good Use of Taxes - CK 4130-14  
**Attachments:** new\_arena\_not\_good\_use\_of\_tax\_money.docx

---

**From:** Web NoReply <[web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca)>

**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2022 3:30 PM

**To:** City Council <[City.Council@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@Saskatoon.ca)>

**Subject:** Email - Communication - Dan Jiricka - A New Arena is Not a Good Use of Taxes - CK 4130-14

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

Submitted on Friday, September 30, 2022 - 15:30

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

Date Friday, September 30, 2022

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Dan

Last Name Jiricka

Phone Number [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED] Braeshire Lane

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code [REDACTED]

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable) None

Subject A New Arena is not a good use of taxes

Meeting (if known)

Comments I will not speak but I have an attachment for my letter.

Attachments

[new\\_arena\\_not\\_good\\_use\\_of\\_tax\\_money.docx](#)

Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting? No

think  
SaskTel  
ena is  
erve all  
rop-  
and  
ility will  
r many  
  
re-  
e as  
y? The  
s for  
rena are  
ouncil  
ess com-  
illenni-  
ng new  
ard of  
  
o  
anning  
uch  
costs to  
  
the  
askTel

Centre are from out of town. They want to come, park and head back out on the highways home. They are not interested in any bus rapid transit or restaurants and bars after the event.

Now, the BRT — I spent my entire working career at Saskatoon Transit Service. We know traffic flow through the downtown is nonexistent at best. Our river valley and bridges are beautiful assets to Saskatoon, but they do not make traffic flow through downtown convenient.

No matter how mayor and council, downtown business and millennials spin it, if a referendum was held, as it should be, I would be a no. But at my age I may not see this anyway.

*Doug Wilson, Saskatoon*

### **New arena not good use of tax money**

The downtown arena and

convention centre proposed for Saskatoon is estimated at a cost of \$330-\$375 million. It's likely that cost will be exceeded in this current environment of ballooning inflation, supply shortages and delivery delays.

Other cities are dealing with a similar situation. The existing arena in Sudbury, Ont. is 61 years old. Their city council proposed an arena/events centre that was originally budgeted at \$100 million, but the estimate has expanded to \$215 million.

Given the challenges of the past few years (pandemic, supply shortages, supply chain delays, unrest on the global front in the war, inflation and a health-care system in need of resources and support), how wise is it for Saskatoon to spend millions on an arena/convention when there are so many other issues that need attention?

Sudbury's city council

voted unanimously to reject the proposed arena project at this time.

The existing SaskTel Centre, built in 1988, and TCU Place, built in 1968 and renovated in 2006, can serve us well for the next decade. Remember, SaskTel Centre has free parking and easy access at the arena for events that garner over 10,000 attendees.

Parking at the future downtown centre will be a headache.

On a proposal that is so costly and one that the public, especially the young, low/middle-income families and the retired, will bear on their taxes — please, use our limited resources wisely and fix the things that need fixing first.

*Dan Jiricka, Saskatoon*

### **SHARE YOUR VIEWS**

letters@thestarphoenix.com