

Janzen, Heather

Subject: FW: Email – Communication - Aleem Kanji - Canadian National Fireworks Association - Saskatoon Fireworks and Diwali – CK 2500-1
Attachments: Saskatoon_Nov 10 2022.docx

From: Aleem Kanji <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2022 1:48 PM
To: Clark, Charlie <Charlie.Clark@Saskatoon.ca>; Web E-mail - City Clerks <City.Clerks@Saskatoon.ca>; Web E-mail - Mayor's Office <Mayors.Office@Saskatoon.ca>; citymanagersoffice@saskatoon.ca; Hackl, Morgan <Morgan.Hackl@Saskatoon.ca>
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Good afternoon Mayor Clark, Members of Council, City Manager Jeff Jorgenson and Fire Chief Morgan Hackl,

Please see the attached letter for your review and follow up. The CNFA welcomes the opportunity to meet with city officials.

May I also kindly request the City Clerk to share this letter with all Members of Council.

—
Kind Regards,

Aleem Kanji, BES, MAES, Ec.D
CAO - Chief Advocacy Officer
Canadian National Fireworks Association



Canadian National Fireworks Association
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November 10, 2022

Mayor Charlie Clark
City of Saskatoon
122 3rd Ave North
Saskatoon, SK
S7K 2H6

Re: Saskatoon Fireworks

Dear Mayor Clark,

As the leading national voice in the fireworks industry, the Canadian National Fireworks Association (CNFA) advocates for our members in our mission to promote fair access and safety in the sale and use of fireworks through public education, advocacy with regulators as well as strong and engaged member compliance. The CNFA does not sell fireworks, but instead we work with all three levels of government to promote the need for mandatory education and training for sales staff similar to the Smart Serve program regarding alcohol sales in Canadian provinces such as Ontario.

I read with interest the recent media piece: *"Saskatoon considers including Diwali and other Celebrations"* As you indicated at the recent Planning, Development and Community Services meeting on November 9, 2022, this would be *"very meaningful for the Hindu community and is a reflection of our city becoming a more diverse city,"* We could not agree more with your assessment.

Indeed with over 15% of Saskatoon's population being of South Asian and Asian diaspora, Diwali and Lunar New Year are increasingly becoming part of your community's culture. Diwali as you may know is celebrated by 1 billion Hindu's globally and celebrates light over darkness where fireworks are commonly used and Lunar New Year is the largest annual holiday of the year celebrated by 1.5 billion Asians globally.

The CNFA would like to meet with city staff in fire, by-law enforcement and communications and is offering the City of Saskatoon our experience to help you draft a new fireworks bylaw that addresses the inclusion of Diwali and potentially other days. We invite you to lean into the CNFA so that we can provide you with information in your report on additional dates for by-law exemptions for potential exemptions for community festivals. Having worked with hundreds of cities across the country on fireworks by-laws, we hope to make a meaningful contribution to Saskatoon and your residents.

We look forward to hearing from your staff in order to facilitate a meeting in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

Aleem Kanji

Aleem Kanji
Chief Advocacy Officer
Canadian National Fireworks Association
aleem@c-nfa.org

CC:

Members of Saskatoon City Council

Jeff Jorgenson, City Manager

Morgan Hackl, Saskatoon Fire Chief