Janzen, Heather

Subject:	FW: Email - Communication - Mark Bigland-Pritchard - Combined Business Group -
Attachments:	Climate Impact - CK 7540-1 tocitycouncil20250310.docx
/ (tacimicity)	

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2025 5:30 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Mark Bigland-Pritchard - Combined Business Group - Climate Impact - CK 7540-1

--- Replies to this email will go to

Submitted on Monday, March 10, 2025 - 17:29

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

I have read and understand the above statements.: Yes

I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.: No

I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor .: No

Date: Monday, March 10, 2025

To: Her Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: He/him/his

First Name: Mark

Last Name: Bigland-Pritchard

Phone Number :

Email:

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward: Address: 5th St E Ward: Ward 6

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Governance & Priorities Committee / full council

Comments:

letter attached

Attachments:

• tocitycouncil20250310.docx13.99 KB

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

Dear Mayor Block and Council (especially Governance & Priorities Committee)

I have a couple of linked concerns regarding city council process this year.

Having noted the communication which you received from the Combined Business Group, I have a couple of comments. Of course it is entirely valid for the business community to seek to have an input into Council decision-making. I am just concerned that it be balanced by other interests in the city. Business should not be the only active partner, and if plans move in that direction council decisions run the serious risk of being skewed towards moneyed interests at the expense of citizens and the environment. Other voices need to be heard – including, but not limited to, Indigenous communities, people on low income and the climate justice / environmental community.

As someone who has been involved particularly in the last of these over the last 13 years, I am deeply concerned that the (albeit insufficient) progress already made towards decarbonisation of our systems could be lost. It is vital that the Climate Plan Update be informed more by the science than by sectional financial interests. I hope we can move to a point where commercial, environmental and anti-poverty concerns can work together with Council to retrofit buildings, put in place clear electricity options, develop a non-emitting public transit system, and many other things.

Please, therefore, include the climate justice movement and environmental organisations in the consultations around the Plan update. As people who are committed to constantly updating our understanding both of the science of climate change and of the most workable benign strategies for limiting its impact, we have much to bring to the table. It would therefore be foolish, as well as anti-democratic, to exclude us from this process.

Yours sincerely

Mark Bigland-Pritchard