

Walter, Penny

Subject: FW: Communication - Tara Mewis - Concerns Regarding Proposed Property Tax Increases (2026–2027)

From: Tara Mewis <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, August 11, 2025 4:20 PM

To: Web E-mail - City Clerks <City.Clerks@Saskatoon.ca>

Subject: Communication - Tara Mewis - Concerns Regarding Proposed Property Tax Increases (2026–2027)

I am writing as the owner of Honey Cut Studios, located in Ward 2 of Saskatoon, to express serious concerns about the proposed property tax increases of approximately 9.9% for 2026 and 7.3% for 2027. While I recognize the need to maintain essential services, these proposed increases are significantly higher than those planned by several other Canadian cities. For example, Calgary aims for a total increase of around 3.1%, with notably smaller hikes for non-residential properties. Vancouver is considering even lower scenarios, including 0% to 2.5% increases. As a business owner, these elevated tax hikes place a substantial burden on my operations. Whether I own my commercial space or lease it (most leases in Saskatoon are triple-net), the cost is directly passed on to me, putting pressure on margins and potentially pricing me out in the future. Furthermore, the pace of cumulative increases—nearly 18% over two years—threatens long-term business sustainability. Given these concerns, I respectfully request that Council:

1. Consider more moderate and phased tax increases that align more closely with inflation and the models adopted by peer cities.
2. Explore additional budget efficiencies to reduce pressure on taxpayers and the business community.
3. Initiate formal consultation with the business sector through the NSBA or a dedicated forum—this would help build a balanced and transparent approach to budget decisions.

I appreciate your service to Saskatoon and thank you for considering these points ahead of finalizing the 2026–2027 budget.



TARA MEWIS

President
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