August 30, 2019

His Worship Mayor Charlie Clark and City Councillors
City Hall
222 Third Avenue North
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

Dear Mayor Clark and City Councillors,

Re: Downtown Saskatoon Board Composition & Request for Temporary Exemption

As you know, Bylaw 6710 provides the statutory direction for the Downtown Saskatoon Business Improvement District. Included in the Bylaw is the requirement for board composition. Section 4 states that “the Board is a body corporate and shall consist of persons appointed by resolution of Council. At least one person appointed shall be a member of Council, and the other persons appointed shall be persons who are electors of The City of Saskatoon and who are operators of businesses in the District or who are nominees of corporations which operate businesses in the District.”

The most recent person to join the Board is Shaunna Leyte, a Senior Manager at EY. EY currently has their office located at 410 22nd Street East which is located within the boundaries of the District. As of November 2019, EY’s office is relocating within Downtown Saskatoon to 409 3rd Avenue South. Based on our current boundaries, this location, although Downtown, falls outside of our boundary as it was redrawn by the City of Saskatoon on January 26, 2009. Previously, this area was included in our boundaries when the Downtown BID was formed in 1986 and remained until 2009.

Downtown Saskatoon’s Board has requested that the City of Saskatoon include the River Landing area south of 19th Street and east of Idylwyld Drive as part of the Downtown Saskatoon Business Improvement District. We anticipate upcoming reports from the City Administration regarding a review and consideration of BID governance and River Landing soon. We do not anticipate a decision on the boundary will be finalized prior to EY’s office relocation and unless a temporary amendment is made to our Bylaw, we will lose Shaunna Leyte as a board member.

We are not asking for a permanent amendment to Bylaw 6710 to permit a business owner or appointee of a non-BID located business to sit on the Board. Rather, we are asking for a temporary exception to the current Board composition requirements contained in Bylaw 6710. As these requirements are contained in a Bylaw, we understand that the exception
must also be granted by Bylaw. To that end, Downtown Saskatoon is asking that City Council:

1. Grant the Downtown BID an exception to the Board composition requirements contained in Bylaw 6710 on a temporary basis to permit Shaunna Leyte, a nominee of a business outside of the District (within River Landing) to sit on the Board; and,
2. Direct the City Solicitor's Office to draft a Bylaw that recognizes this exception on a temporary basis (for a period of up to one year).

In conclusion, the Board asks for a timely resolution to this matter so a board member is able to remain on the Board, and that the City Administration's reports on extending the Downtown BID boundary to include the area south of 19th Street East and the area east of Idylwyld Drive are delivered as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Brent Penner
Executive Director

cc: Chris Beavis, Chair, Downtown Saskatoon Board of Management
Cynthia Block, Ward 6 City Councillor
Jeff Jorgenson, City Manager
Joanne Sproule, City Clerk
Lynne Lacroix, General Manager, Community Services
Cindy Yelland, City Solicitor
Lesley Anderson, Director of Planning & Development
Shaunna Leyte, Board Member, Downtown Saskatoon
Michelle Beveridge, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor