

Good evening Mayor and City Councilors,

My name is Kari Stenson, I am President of the Saskatchewan Craft Brewers Association and with me is Jamie Singer, Treasurer of the Saskatchewan Craft Brewers Association. We represent 13 craft breweries from across the province, including Regina, Saskatoon, Swift Current and more.

The local craft beer industry is growing rapidly and represents \$30 million dollars of economic activity per year.

We employ hundreds of Saskatchewan workers, and buy locally grown products like barley, wheat, lentils, fruit and honey to make our beer.

Our members win awards and receive global recognition for the high-quality beer we make, as well as for business excellence. Rebellion Brewing just launched a beer in Australia that received national media coverage there. Black Bridge Brewing recently won a provincial ABEX award, as well as several national brewing awards. A recent article on SK craft beer ran in major newspapers across the country, which compared our industry to the prestigious and world renowned Okanagan wine industry.

The secret is out: Saskatchewan is home to world class craft beer.

Less than five years ago, there were only a handful of local breweries, in that time, our membership has more than doubled. You can find our products at hundreds of locations across the province, including restaurants, pubs and liquor retailers. We are an integral part of the Saskatchewan economy and we serve a thirsty, passionate audience that loves a delicious, high quality product. We are also becoming an important part of the provincial tourism industry. Many visitors to the province actively seek us out in their quest for products which are uniquely Saskatchewan. A web based map will be launched this year allowing users to locate the craft breweries located throughout the province and learn about our products and history.

We are excited about the new stadium and the new opportunities it represents for local producers like us.

Across Canada and the United States, progressive sports stadiums and entertainment facilities are responding to customer demand for greater selection of local craft-beer. CenturyLink Field, home to the Seattle Seahawks, offers over 30 local craft beers. The Kansas City Royals are launching an official team beer brewed by a local craft brewery, to be served at Kaufman Stadium. BC Place in Vancouver proudly offers three craft beers produced in the immediate area.

When a city has craft beer on tap in their stadium, everyone wins. Consumers get more choice, local producers get exposed to a wider audience and profits are reinvested into the local economy.

It just makes economic sense.

Through discussions with city and stadium officials, and our own research, we can setup self-sufficient booths offering a variety of local craft beer from our members. These booths would be extremely cost effective to install and operate, while still being functional and looking professional. We do not need to be part of the massive beer system being installed for Molson Coors.

The SCBA has had numerous discussions with city administrators and officials from REAL over the last 2 years. Verbal assurances have been made repeatedly that local craft beer will be offered in the new stadium. This has also been stated on the official RRI Twitter account, and has been stated multiple times during public speaking engagements by various city officials.

However, to-date, we have not received any assurances in writing, nor is there any mention of local craft beer in the document being reviewed today.

Mayor and Councilors, I have two questions for you today:

First, will Saskatchewan producers be given the opportunity to offer their products in the new stadium?

And second, does the estimated \$20.5 million dollar Food and Beverage project include consideration for Saskatchewan craft-beer producers?

Thank you for your time.