

To Whom It May Concern,

Please consider this letter as you discuss the impact of the proposed zoning bylaw changes. We strongly urge you to reconsider this decision and allow fitness facilities to remain in the Industrial area.

Our family currently supports 3 fitness facilities on a regular basis within the Industrial Zone and we strongly believe the future for each program will be at significant risk should the proposed changes move forward.

Gymnastics Adventure - 18hrs per week, members since 2011

Queen City Gymnastics Club - 2hrs per week, members since 2007

Crossfit Iron Society - 6-Bhrs per week, members since 2018

These clubs are incredibly important to us and so many others and we greatly fear the long term impact of the proposed bylaw changes to the programs we love so dearly.

We believe wholeheartedly that not one of these facilities will be able to exist outside of the industrial area. Not without numerous neighbour complaints, significant increases in fees and serious changes to their programming availability.

A few short years ago I was a member of the QCG board of directors. Our club was being "pushed out" of our current space by the Regina airport, due to what is best described as zoning issues.

We tried to buy our own building in a commercial space but our non-profit couldn't make it work. Not without putting the club at serious financial risk (and we were already very much on the edge already). We had to walk away from a sizeable deposit to protect our program. We spent months trying to find a space that was appropriate for the growth and development of our athletes at a rate we could afford.

Unfortunately, once again our club, and so many others, find our future very much at risk. While it is understandable that the change to the bylaw allows a grandfather clause, what happens when the lease expires? What happens if the program exceeds the current available space? We believe that these changes to the zoning bylaws will force our hand and tip favour to the landlords.

Thousands of Regina and surrounding area families regularly visit the over 50+ facilities within these areas over the course of a given year. The negative impact to the affordability and availability of these programs is directly tied to their ability to expand and grow.

It is our belief that the bylaw changes put a choke hold in these local businesses. Businesses that support health and wellness. Businesses that develop confidence and positive body imaging. Business that are committed to helping people better their lives. Businesses that encourage kids to dream big. Businesses that are owned by local citizens as opposed to the big box store. Businesses that are not able to exist outside of the rates and space found in the Industrial areas.

Please reconsider the proposed bylaw changes to find a common solution that supports the needs of all parties. Our ask is that you please allow fitness facilities to co-exist within the industrial area. Don't push us into spaces we can't afford that over time will force local businesses to close.

Thank you,

The Thackeray Family