CP19-163

City of Regina
Office of the City Clerk
Queen Elizabeth II Court
2476 Victoria Avenue
Regina, SK S4P 3C8

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing in opposition to the proposed zoning bylaw change that would prohibit the operation of recreational facilities in industrial zones. This proposed change would negatively impact our family, as we currently participate in Irish dance with the Prairie Gael School of Irish Dance, which is located in an industrial zone. If this dance school were to no longer be allowed to operate in an industrial zone, it is uncertain if the school would be able to continue to operate in the same capacity that we have come to rely on.

We understand that this change may not have an immediate impact on existing recreational facilities such as Prairie Gael, however, in the long term it would threaten its ability to operate in the same manner that it has been for the past 15 years. Allowing facilities such as Prairie Gael to operate in an industrial zone enables the school to keep its fees affordable, provide adequate parking for its members and have minimal impact on the surrounding community and other businesses due to the higher volumes of traffic and noise levels that come along with the operation of a dance studio.

Further, industrial zones are among the only areas in Regina that have properties large enough to accommodate the space requirements of a dance studio. If Prairie Gael were forced to move from an industrial zone, or prohibited from expanding within an industrial zone, finding a property with adequate space and parking in a commercial or residential zone would be difficult and unaffordable.

It is small businesses such as Prairie Gael School of Irish Dance that have been invaluable in contributing to a vibrant and diverse community of fitness facilities, dance studios, martial arts studios, and yoga studios that provide important opportunities for our family to live a healthy and active lifestyle. By no longer allowing these types of locally owned small businesses to operate in industrial zones, the City is effectively discouraging the development and expansion of facilities that provide valuable services to our family. We ask that you reconsider this change.

Shannon Carson