



Proposed Zoning Bylaw Change

Stephen Whelan

Fri, Jun 7, 2019 at 11:38 AM

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 our members of both Crossfit Regina and Prairie Gael School of Irish Dance both located on the 1600 Block of McDonald Street which is an industrial zone. Our family considers these facilities as communities rather than businesses and if they were no longer able to operate in an industrial zone, it is uncertain that they would be able to continue in the same capacity that we have come to rely on.

We understand that this change may not have an immediate impact on existing facilities such as Crossfit Regina and Prairie Gael, however, in the long term it would threaten their ability to operate in the same manner they have for over 10 years. Allowing facilities such as these to operate in an industrial zone enables them to keep fees affordable, provide adequate parking for its members and have minimal impact on the surrounding community and other businesses due to higher volumes of traffic and noise levels that come along with the operation of a dance studio or gym.

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

It is small businesses such as Crossfit Regina and 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 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.

Respectfully,

Stephen Whelan, CHA
Founder & Managing Director

Meridian Hotels Ltd.