



August 6, 2020

Mayor Charlie Clark
City of Saskatoon
222 Third Avenue North
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

Re: Another Concern Regarding Negative Street Activity in Downtown Saskatoon

As indicated in my letter dated July 22, 2020, concerns received about negative street activity received by our office will be forwarded to you and others involved in finding ways to improve the situation for everyone.

On July 30, 2020, I received the following email from Kim Paur, a Senior Commercial Property Manager with Macro Properties. Macro Properties is a key Downtown stakeholder and manages several properties in the district. Kim's voice as a representative of someone working with tenants is an important one to be heard and she gave permission for her name to accompany her comments below:

Hi Brent,

I needed to walk to one of our parking lots that is situated beside the old Continental Hotel at 314 2nd Avenue South. It was so disheartening to see what some of our tenants that park there need to walk by. I had to walk in between someone who was sleeping on the sidewalk and someone who was clearly high on meth or something like it. He was pacing/running in circles and started to follow me aggressively. Thankfully, I was able to cross the street and he didn't follow me.

I have worked downtown for the past almost 11 years and I can see the progressive turn for the worst in the downtown core. I am not sure if it was because it was a hot day and there is low occupancy in the office buildings but in between the parking lot and the Macro Building at 115 – 2nd Avenue North, I walked by quite a few unsafe situations with people intoxicated and not even being able to stand properly.

I do have a couple of questions. Does The Lighthouse close during the day and if so, where do people go to cool off on days like today? Also, our corner has now become the new meeting place on the steps of the Mahatma Gandhi's statue. There are always numerous people sleeping or passed out on the steps, drinking, fighting, swearing at our tenants and clients of the bank, and littering everywhere. Do you know who I could talk to regarding the possibility of removing the



steps at least and that will alleviate most or all of the problems we are seeing on that corner? You are probably not the person that I should be talking to about these items but maybe you could steer me in the right direction. I would really appreciate it. Thank you.

Regards,

Kim

Senior Commercial Property Manager| Macro Properties

Again, the purpose of sharing comments such as this is to aid in those responsible in shaping public policy to realize that the status quo is creating challenging situations for everyone, and we must seek new ways of doing things or risk an escalation of the present-day situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brent Penner'.

Brent Penner
Executive Director

cc: Chris Beavis, Chair, Downtown Saskatoon Business Improvement District
Kim Paur, Macro Properties
Deputy Premier Gordon Wyant, Q.C.
Hon. Paul Merriman, Minister of Social Services
Hon. Jim Reiter, Minister of Health
Saskatoon City Councillors
Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners
Chief Troy Cooper, Saskatoon Police Service
Supt. Randy Huisman, Saskatoon Police Service
Insp. Cameron McBride, Saskatoon Police Service
Rob Garrison, Community Support Program
Don Windels, The Lighthouse
Silvia Martini, Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce
Todd Brandt, CEO, Tourism Saskatoon