



March 8, 2021

Dear Mayor & Council,

Thank you for receiving this letter relating to my thoughts and opinions on recent staff discussions on beach vendors and developing potential beach vending hubs.

I would like to express that I am opposed to the development of food “hubs” in the City of Penticton. I do not believe they make good business sense for Penticton and obviously, I have personal and business reasons based on our location of Patio Burger & Ice Cream Co. at 796 Lakeshore Drive inside Lakawanna Park.

To explain with some more clarity, I have outlined some points below:

- Penticton is too small and does not have enough traffic even during summer months to viably create successful food hubs. If we lump 4-8 food vendors together, you can guarantee that 3 will not be there the following summer. This false sense of hope for potential small business owners will only lead to empty spaces in the long term. There is not enough volume on any given day (with few obvious exceptions – Car Show, Canada Day, etc.) for multiple food vendors lumped together to succeed. We have seen this before on Lake Okanagan, Gyro Park and during large sporting events.
- Densification of food hubs is not the way to go for our community or parks. From bathroom usage, to accessibility challenges, to food safety concerns, it just does not make sense.

More specifically to the idea of creating a food hub in Lakawanna Park where we are located:

- Big picture...this is not the time to be adding competitive infrastructure to Lake Okanagan restaurants. In the last 5 years we have had floods (2 seasons), fires (2 seasons) and a pandemic shutting us down completely for a period of time. We are all significantly financially wounded at this time.
- Further to this, we, and all vendors have only 120 days to provide for the remaining 245 days of the year. This is something we all know but it must be repeated and not forgotten.

- Within the past four years in Lakawanna Park, there has been a donut vendor, a sunglass vendor, a clothing boutique and a taco truck all together at the same time. One remains today. The concept in Penticton does not work (or at least at this location).
- I do consider the diverse menu at Patio Burger to already be a food “hub” offering with our variety of menu options. We offer chicken burgers, beef, vegetarian, salads, ice cream, tacos style meals, kid’s meals, etc.
- Allowing a different type of cuisine next to Patio Burger does not make sense either. We compete on customer’s disposable income on what they are going to have for lunch that day. Different food offerings are still direct competitors.
- Patio Burger is a tenant of the City of Penticton. Our lease alone at over \$22,000 far exceeds the entire vendor program in the City of Penticton combined. This does not even include the \$5,700 a year in property taxes that we pay. We are community partners, and we are business partners. There is no partner I have ever known in my history that would even consider taking the risk of hurting the other financially by doing something so risky.
- Patio Burger planted and successfully grew over 500 plants, flowers, trees and shrubs in Lakawanna Park and we continually allocate resources to beautify the park and infrastructure every year. We are very proud of that. Historically, any suggested changes to the green space on the West side of Lakawanna Park has been met with opposition.
- Beautification of city parks. Nothing could hurt that more than the addition of sea cans or 10x10 tents.

Thank you all for receiving this letter and considering my points. I am happy to have further conversation at any time. Many thanks,

Gordon Ferguson
Owner
Patio Burger & Ice Cream Co. Ltd.

Email: gordon@patioburger.com
Cell: 250-460-2246

cc. JoAnne Kleb, Public Engagement Program Manager
Sheri Raposo, Land Administrator
City of Penticton Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

From: Hannah Hyland
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 4:27 PM
To: Penticton Committees
Cc: Council; Donny van Dyk; shaeri.raposo@penticton.ca; Anthony Haddad; JoAnne Kleb
Subject: Attention: March 11 Mtg, Parks & recreation Advisory Committee

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Hello members of the Parks & Rec Advisory Board, Council and Staff,

Please protect and keep our people and Parks safe by not recommending liquor sales at Skaha Lake Park..And consider the thoughts hereexpressed about Vendor/Hub sites.

The Parks Master Plan gave an excellent Guideline to protect people and Parks in the 2018 Park Land Protection and Use Policy, and I hope that our Council and Committees will follow it to keep this special Skaha Nature Park the way it is. If you haven't already done so, I urge you to go for walks in it! Drink in the view!Revive and refresh your souls.

Business is necessary, but people, their safety and quality of life is most important. And that is what we need most and receive back from our time at Skaha, being there in a safe, respectful way. with others.

Re. Liquor sales at Skaha Park

I have engaged with the community for several years here at Skaha Lake Park.
And I would like you to hear what they are saying.

Just this past week, hundreds of people at Skaha Park signed a Petition opposing the sale of liquor at the Park. Young parents with children came, seniors, middlers, all kinds of people who passionately love to be here at Skaha for its characteristic Natural beauty, wholesome, family-friendly atmosphere, with its many amenities.

They expressed that liquor sales are not the place for this Park.

Some told me that they are not against liquor per se, but that the selling of it is a much different thing. I take their word for it. I wish you could have seen and heard them. I have many comments on the Petition sheets.

In brief, the message was "No Booze, No liquor sales here!"
"we love this Park, the way it is!"

There are many more yet that will be writing and speaking up.

Re. Vendor Sites/ Hubs

There were many concerns.

- that their numbers be limited at Skaha to like 4
- that liquor not be sold out of them
- people do not want to have them obstructing the unique natural beauty and scenery they enjoy
- that these not obstruct the pathways and natural flow of all

- that they especially do not hog the green shaded areas
- not happy that they take business away from similar existing businesses downtown
- that they would attract overnighers and invasion of the more permanent Hub sites
- would require more policing, especially at night (already not enough)
- Hub vendors should not be parked overnight in the area that is already trying to discourage other overnight campers in the parking lot after 11 or 12 pm - 6 am
 - this is not to become the Penticton campground or a new residential neighborhood
- the residents nearby cannot be expected to be "the eyes on the ground", disturbing their own night's sleep

I hope you can appreciate the input of many voices here.

Best regards,
Hannah Hyland

From: Raymond RP deCarvalho
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 5:24 PM
To: Penticton Committees
Subject: Skaha Park

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to Committee members :
I am emphatically against any liquor sales and/or vender hubs in Skaha Park

Raimundo deCarvalho

From: Gary & Lynn Crassweller <
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 8:48 PM
To: Penticton Committees
Subject: Re: Presentation to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

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Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee March 11 2021

Good afternoon

Before I start please be clear, I am not against alcohol , progress or change. All three can make things better or worse and that is why, each must be handled carefully.

I would like to question the wisdom of having a designated area for alcohol consumption and a concession for the sale of alcohol and explain why I question.

Canada has strong legislation governing tobacco and cannabis sales. Meanwhile provincial governments are aggressively loosening restrictions on the sale of alcohol.

From a public health and safety perspective this makes absolutely no sense. According to a Health Canada funded study, they estimate, in one year, 15,000 deaths, 9,000 hospital admissions and 240,000 years of life lost directly attributed to alcohol use.

Along with impacts on productivity and crime, the annual economic toll of \$15 billion was greater than that of either tobacco use or from cannabis, opioids and all illegal substances combined.

On the other side of the ledger , the federal and provincial governments collected less than \$11 billion in revenues in the same year. A net loss of \$4 billion.

Those are the facts.

Here in Penticton ,we know that signs do not generate compliance, that people don't necessarily stay in designated areas, that police and by laws are spread thin and that you are more likely to see dangerous or aggressive behavior when alcohol is consumed. People get silly.

Yes, people sneak rum to the picnic in their sippy cup and when they're out , they're out. If it's handy because you're selling it ,they can go get more. It's handy.

Why do we need to sell liquor in a family park? Why do we need to encourage disruptive or dangerous behavior by selling liquor. We do not have policing on our lakes but we do have lake users that bend the rules. Swim out of designated areas, dock out of designated areas and worse. Boating accidents are deadly.

We know that we can't save everybody but we can make better decisions to try to keep people safe. Why would you make the decision likely to cause more problems?

Please vote NO to selling liquor in the parks.

Now Vendors

Why would the city or this committee openly support competition for our local struggling businesses? We are in a pandemic.

We should be supporting our downtown before it becomes a ghost town.

If someone is at the beach, do you think they will walk 2 or 3 blocks for a meal to support our local restaurants or shop at our local shops when they can get something two steps away?

Why do we need to fight our way through tents and hockers selling everything from junk to jewels when we came to enjoy the lake?

Why would the city or this committee openly support taking up parking spaces, green space or beach space? We have a Parks Protection clause.

Also

Vending Hub container ,shipping crates need to sit somewhere and won't they be a target for vandalism ,just like the washrooms?

Three years for an illegal encumbrance on public park land.

Is that what you want, as a committee, for your legacy?

Please vote No more vendors and no to vending hubs.

New Business

The question on the ballot must be worded carefully. You can not lump a café, which, from all reports, is highly valued, in with licensed restaurant, which is somewhat valued.

It is a tactic used to push through an unpopular business to get the popular business.

You want to present a ballot that is perfectly clear and fair. The reputation of this committee stands on that.

Thank you for taking the time to seriously consider this information and realize that change needs to be managed carefully for the benefit of citizens of all ages.

Lynn Crassweller