

Stanker, Mandy

From: Voelk, Brenda
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2019 2:43 PM
To: Stanker, Mandy
Subject: FW: Business License Bylaw

From: devserv
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2019 2:36 PM
To: Voelk, Brenda
Subject: FW: Business License Bylaw

From: Marilyn Carlaw
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2019 2:32 PM
To: devserv
Subject: Business License Bylaw

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Dear PG Development Services Staff,

Thank you for the opportunity to leave comments/questions regarding the new Business License Bylaw.

I have a Home Business license. Might the staff consider reviewing the fees for this category, as I pay a \$140 fee per year, and for 2018 that represented about 3% of my net income. I am a very small business, more like a craft-type. Perhaps it could be considered that the category of Home Business is broken down via income \$10,000/year, or something similar? Just a thought.

If the fee amount for craft/home business was less, perhaps more people would actually take out a license (it should be a matter of integrity, but I don't see business licenses popping up via the dozens of artisans at Christmas craft fairs!). Let's encourage our small entrepreneurial home businesses/crafters!

Thanks for your time,

--

Marilyn Carlaw

Declutter Bug & Co.

Ph: * REDACTED *
Email: declutterbugandco@gmail.com
Prince George, BC

Stanker, Mandy

From: devserv
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 8:34 AM
To: Stanker, Mandy
Subject: FW: Business License

* REDACTED *

From: Wendy Schmidt
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2019 9:56 PM
To: devserv
Subject: Business License

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I read over the draft business license and see there is home based business category 1, 2, and 3, but I could not find the definitions of those categories. I would like information on those categories please. My current business license is classed as home business other. Is that also a category in the new license by-law.

Trying to see where my part-time home based business would fit into the new by-law.

Also what is the proposed new fee structure?

Thank you.

Wendy Schmidt

* REDACTED *

<http://dancepg.ca/>

<https://threebestrated.ca/wedding-dance-choreography-in-prince-george-bc>

Sent from my iPhone

Stanker, Mandy

From: BME <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2020 11:06 PM
To: Stanker, Mandy
Cc: kaliholahan@princegeorge.ca; Nitz, Melissa
Subject: Business licensing

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Ladies,

In regards to our discussion on February 13 2020, regarding the proposed business licensing, the following will be in point form. As you are aware and also have my business card for your information, my business does not really fit with the current bylaws. Changes definitely need to be made as proposed; however, some also need to be reconsidered. In point:

1. Licensing requirements and fee schedules for home businesses categories 1 and 2 needs to be redrawn. These fees need to be reduced thereby cutting costs for small home operations should be implemented making it more affordable along with a change in the bylaws as to whom is required to hold a business license. Small home businesses such as Amway, Watkins, Tupperware, and others should be required to hold licenses. By reducing costs and changing the requirements in the bylaw would increase revenue and still making it affordable.
222. Using the BCID account system and the Canada Services accounts as models, this city badly needs an innovative upgrade in citizen communications. Every citizen residing in the City of Prince George should have an option of having an online city profile account. This is not impossible; it only takes initiative and some web present project funds for engineering, equipment, installation of computer hardware, and implementation. By doing so internal cost of staffing, office supplies, and postal services can be substantially removed. It also makes access to City government more accessible. By being able to renew a business licenses for example, without mail outs, one like myself regarding my provincial BCID account, I can renew for example my FMC, pay for it, and print the new license from home. As a provincial customer, there was no waiting for my new certificate, the government did not have to spend money on postal service, and they did not have to waste time, money, and staffing to mail the new certificate to me. As I enter my account I also get updates and other information that is pertinent to me including information on public forums etc. You are way behind the times. This system also gives me reminders. My profile and services used are all in the government database. How easy is it to communicate? It is all about ease of access and communications.
- 3.3. The city should also have public access to in house computers for those customers that would like further access to city resources. It only makes sense when someone can come in, sit down, and view what the city is offering. That is known as accessibility. They have these computers at the government access centre, why not the city.
- 4.4. On the subject of business development and incentives, there appears to be no plan. Especially for some areas within the northern districts of the city. No city promotion for development at all, or seen. If there is a plan, it is definitely not properly communicated on the city web site which is looking like a dinosaur; in fact nothing posted on the bulletin and information boards at city hall. There is no incentive for commercial development for the northern districts.

5. This deals with fiscal tax period. Your licenses are set up to be valid for a period of one year from January 1 to December 31 of each year. This does not synchronize with a business's fiscal taxation year. It starts at the beginning of the business's start up and ends the last day of the full year. Example: April 1 to March 31. This would be the reporting schedule to Canada revenue. It is a problem for businesses when the need to start putting together their expenses for the operating year. Your business licenses should synchronize with the business's operational year. This can easily be done through a city ID account. Call it PGID like the province calls theirs the BCID and government Canada CSID (Canada Services ID). I have a CSID account as well.

There are other benefits to upgrading your systems for the future. It is time for the Mayor and City Counselors to sit down and truly put city tax money to better use regarding municipal accessibility. These are only a few of my observations regarding the subject of the city's support towards business endeavors and promotions. Somehow I do not believe that council and mayor really knows what municipal support and development really is. I sincerely hope that you will take this to the table and try to convince the city administration to place more emphasis on their internal systems and incorporate the higher government models to accessibility and services. It only makes sense as these types of changes reduce costs, and maintenance of such systems are not as much after the initial expenditure.

Respectfully Ladies,

Rob Boyko

