

To whom it may concern,

My name is Dino Scrementi from Dino's Athletic Direct (21 Wyndham St, N.) I am a business owner and owner of the building at 21-23 Wyndham St. N.

Unfortunately I missed the meeting on July 5th for the Patio Survey. I would like to give my viewpoints in this email.

I feel as a building owner that the patios are effective for walk-by traffic for businesses in the area but unfortunately it has created an overwhelming chaotic scene for parking and for pedestrians. I feel that we should have less patio areas directly on the streets (due to insignificant use) and only have sidewalk patios for businesses that have constant stream of people using them.

I think that the businesses that benefit the most (e.g. various bars in the downtown area) should be required to pay a higher fee for usage and they can have them. However, the smaller businesses shouldn't have to pay as much. And for those that do have patios - boundaries should be set for those patios to NOT exceed the frontage of their particular business. That way neighbouring businesses do not have to deal with smoking, drinking, and particularly the noise that is created by these patios in front of their store/business when they are not participating with a patio themselves. For example this year I felt the need to purchase patio space myself for the front of my sports store simply to keep the area free of patrons from neighbouring businesses patio. I should not have to deal with that. This also creates some dissention between business neighbours/

Before considering making these patios permanent, perhaps some of your staff should take a walk around the downtown area and observe both day and nighttime usage of the patios. They are under used many times throughout the day and yet they are there... taking up parking spaces that could otherwise be used by shoppers looking to shop in the downtown area. Smaller businesses that would like to have a patio area could perhaps be allowed to have a smaller space on the sidewalk instead.

Thank you for your time and patience. Hopefully you will consider doing the right thing for Downtown Guelph's future.

Sincerely,

Dino Scrementi

Dino's Athletic Direct