

Guelph City Council,

As we are entering our busiest season we are experiencing record low numbers in sales and customer traffic, while receiving record high complaints from people being afraid to shop in the downtown core.

In the last 4 years Downtown Guelph has experienced an increase in crime and violence, making for an unpleasant environment, forcing many people to avoid our wonderful downtown area.

We have heard the stories of physical and verbal threats hurled at people trying to patronize our shops

We have seen the increase of vandalism, garbage and excessive drug use in the streets.

There is fecal matter and drug paraphernalia left on the sidewalks like landmines to avoid.

We now have tents set up in the square, again.

There are plenty of other areas in our city other than the square.

People are more than welcome to wander the downtown, patronize the shops or relax by the fountain but they are not welcome to set up an encampment to reside and disrupt local businesses and their patrons.

We need to do something before there's no more businesses left to shop at!

Sincerely

Kathy Regts

IF.. Footwear Boutique

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Guelph On N1H4E6