

Dear Members of the City Council,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my support for allowing the personal use of fireworks within Guelph, provided that clear guidelines and safety measures are in place. Fireworks have long been a part of celebrations, such as Diwali, Canada Day, and New Year's Eve, and I believe their responsible use can enhance community spirit.

While I understand concerns about noise, safety, and environmental impact, I believe these issues can be addressed with proper regulations rather than an outright ban. Some possible solutions include:

1. Designated Days and Times: Restrict fireworks use to specific holidays and hours to reduce disturbances.
2. Public Awareness Campaigns: Educate residents on the safe handling of fireworks and their environmental impact.
3. Fines for Violations: Enforce strict penalties for improper use, such as setting off fireworks outside approved times or locations.

Banning fireworks altogether might affect community traditions and celebrations. A balanced approach—where personal use is regulated, not banned—will allow residents to enjoy festivities responsibly while also maintaining public safety and environmental care.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your efforts to create guidelines that reflect the interests and well-being of all residents.

Gurpreet Sehgal