



via email

July 2, 2014

Operations Committee  
City of Greater Sudbury

**ATTENTION: JACQUES BARBEAU, CHAIR**

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**RE: EXTENDED SIDEWALK 'PILOT' PATIO PROJECT**

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As you are aware, the extended sidewalk 'Pilot' patio project as approved for Peddlers Pub (Cedar St.) has now been operational since the end of May.

While it had a 'cool' start (with the late spring season and cool temperatures), the patio has quickly become a favourite and a downtown destination attraction, receiving very positive comments/feedback from both BIA members and the general public, including:

- the general public ... would love to see more such patios as it creates the 'ambiance' they are looking for in downtown (this feedback has been received through numerous social media postings as well as one-on-one discussions)
- economic impact ... many neighbouring businesses have indicated that their sales have increased since the patio has opened and that they have gained new customers/walk-in traffic
- Peddlers has indicated, while slow to start (due to weather), the project has already been successful. They have in fact received reservations from various groups/businesses that have not been downtown in a long time.

That is not to say that there have not been concerns raised specific to the loss of parking spaces for this project. While these concerns have been few in relation to the positive feedback, they are still very valid and, as you are aware, parking has and will continue to be of concern to the BIA. However, it is our thought that we would not wish to see a positive project such as this patio program not proceed as a result of the parking concerns, but rather that we (BIA and the City) continue to work on both short and long term solutions to the parking issue while continuing to move forward with this positive program.

We have also received two (2) specific requests from BIA members, indicating interest to participate in this program ... Frank's Deli (Durham St.) and The Townehouse Tavern (Elgin ST.).

While we understand that original discussions related to this project were specific to Peddlers Pub, and further to discussions with City Staff, we would like to **respectfully request an expansion of this 'Pilot Project' for 2014 to include the two above members** (Frank's Deli and The Townehouse).

At the June meeting of our Board of Directors, this was discussed and the following resolution passed:

**14-150**

**WHEREAS** the extended sidewalk patio 'Pilot Project' has been very successful to date, generating very positive feedback from the public, businesses and media;

**AND WHEREAS** this feedback has strongly expressed the need for more of this type of patio, including from a number of Downtown Sudbury BIA members;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT** Staff be directed to move forward to eliminate the 'Pilot' designation and to make the extended patio program permanent for this season;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this be done in conjunction with a resolution to aggressively seek better parking solutions in the downtown.

**CARRIED**

'Downtown Sudbury' BIA will continue to work with the proponents through their application process, assisting with concerns raised and gathering information to assist in the project review at the end of the season.

Thank you for your support to this project and your consideration to the request to extend the 'Pilot Project' to include an additional two businesses.

Yours truly,



Maureen M. Luoma  
Executive Director