

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Mayor June Caul and Council,

Like most businesses Energy Fitness has been greatly impacted by the COVID 19 Pandemic. For the only privately run fitness centre in town reliant on volume based individual and group focused membership, the past year has been devastating. Ongoing closure and or limited and socially distanced volume has resulted in lay-off of all staff and zero income. Thankfully there is CERB to help carry personal and home expenses.

Ongoing business expenses continue however and bills have to be settled. Utilities such as electricity, gas, water, and sewer continue.

As the old saying goes however, there are 2 things that cannot be avoided...Death and Taxes. I recognize this to be true especially in a pandemic.

The former, (death of my business) I have been trying to avoid. Jury is out as to whether or not it will survive.

The latter, taxes, even in the midst of a pandemic, also cannot be avoided.

Since opening my business I have faithfully paid \$304k in taxes in a timely manner. I understand they must be paid. What I am respectfully contesting, given to effect this pandemic and the effect it has had on my business, is an exemption from the assessment of the late fees. The assessment of a \$1060 late fee feels like just another blow at the worst time. I know there has been relief offered for Federal Income tax payments. The TOFF, our local government should do the same.

Yours in Fitness,

Jackie Lampi-Hughes