



March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Mayor Andy Letham  
and Members of Council  
City of Kawartha Lakes

On behalf of the Lindsay Downtown BIA Board of Directors, we write to you with a recommendation regarding the winter maintenance of downtown municipal parking lots, and how we believe this process may be streamlined by City Staff.

As you are aware, over the past 3 years, the Lindsay Downtown BIA has addressed parking in our downtown core and related issues within our geographic area, which includes municipal parking lots. These tasks are being done by our Community Liaison, as part of a pilot project supported by you, in 2018.

One of the issues monitored closely is winter maintenance, including road plowing, sidewalk maintenance and lot plowing. Our Community Liaison keeps a close eye on the snow piles in the parking lots, to ensure that an excessive number of spaces is not taken up by the pile, as parking inventory in our downtown is already limited. Currently the snow plowing and removal contract is managed by the Municipal By-Law Enforcement department, and not the Public Works department, which is responsible for the rest of the snow plowing and snow removal within our geographic area.

We are appreciative of the By-Law Enforcement department and their willingness to contact the contractor to remove the piles when we request it. However, this service is not always consistent, and is often removed in the middle of the business day, causing concern for pedestrian safety and traffic flow. We believe that these lots would be better served by the Public Works department as they have regular patrols of the downtown under their current snow removal mandate.

With the heightened level of service suggested by the City this winter, Public Works has the ability to monitor piles, and which point they should be removed, where the snow should go, and what time of day this should be done – generally after business hours, just as the removal of sidewalk snowbanks is performed. As this conforms to the current by-law prohibiting parking overnight in the winter, this will make winter maintenance safer and easier to conduct.

The municipal parking lots are very important to our membership. These lots provide much-needed additional parking for all of our businesses, as street parking is simply not sufficient, which is why having every available spot is so important to us. We truly believe that winter maintenance consolidated under one City Staff department will make for improved continuity of service, and allow the BIA to communicate with one liaison for all of our concerns.

We respectfully ask that Council consider our request moving forward, prior to the 2021/2022 winter season.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steve Podolsky  
Vice-Chair – LDBIA Board of Directors

Melissa McFarland  
Executive Director