



Hello Town Clerk's Staff,

Please note the following response to Delegate Request Application has been submitted at Thursday October 19th 2023 12:19 PM with reference number 2023-10-19-039.

<https://forms.milton.ca/Management/Response/View/84d3d59b-9959-4af5-83ba-b0a06101c675>

Application Information

- **First Name:**
Shawn
- **Last Name**
Orrett
- **Email Address:**
[REDACTED]
- **Phone number:**
[REDACTED]
- **Street Address:**
[REDACTED]
- **Town**
Milton
- **Postal Code:**
[REDACTED]
- **Are you representing a group?**
No
- **Council Meeting Date**
10/23/2023

- **Please indicate how you intend to participate during the Council Meeting**
In person
- **Please describe the issue you intend to present:**
Give feedback regarding the sale of consumer fireworks year round in GTA area for 15 years . How a consumer fireworks ban would affect our area as well as Milton.
- **Please describe specific actions you want Council to take:**
We wanted to touch upon a ban of fireworks would work for curve illegal use as consumer since COVID will actual find other ways to buy on line and we would like the council to look in ways for better education and safety for use of consumer fireworks. We like to look at ways to help with post pandemic mis use of fireworks and educate with safety then taking a restrictive approach will only make illegal use increase
- **Staff Report Number (if known)**
COMS-010-23
- **Please provide your comments in support of or in opposition to the staff recommendation:**
Subject: Reconsideration of Fireworks Ban in the Town of Milton

Dear Milton Town Council,

I hope this message finds you well. We are writing to express our perspective as a responsible fireworks vendor in light of the recent investigation into banning the sale, distribution, and setting off of consumer fireworks in the Town of Milton.

While we understand the concerns that led to the proposal for a ban, we believe that restricting the use of consumer fireworks may not be the most effective approach. Instead, we advocate for promoting responsible use, safety education, and community engagement, based on our experience as a vendor in the industry.

Safety and Clearance Distances: The executive summary highlights the

challenge of meeting clearance requirements in urban areas. We acknowledge the importance of safety and fully support adherence to clearance distances to prevent accidents. However, a blanket ban on consumer fireworks may not be the best solution. By promoting education and awareness of safe practices, residents can be informed about suitable locations for fireworks and minimize the risk of accidents.

Impact on Residents: The summary mentions that only two residents would have been impacted by a ban on consumer fireworks in 2023. This suggests that a ban may not be necessary and that it could infringe on the enjoyment of the majority of Milton residents who use fireworks responsibly. Instead, efforts should focus on encouraging safe practices and responsible use, ensuring that the community can continue to enjoy fireworks.

Permit Denials and Enforcement: The data provided in the summary indicates that many permit applications for discharging fireworks are denied due to distance to combustibles requirements. It is essential to address this issue by educating residents about where they can safely use fireworks. Enforcement challenges can be mitigated through proactive community engagement and effective communication with residents.

National Trends and Safety: While it is mentioned that an increasing number of municipalities in North America do not permit fireworks, it's essential to consider the reasons behind such decisions. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) advises caution with consumer fireworks due to safety concerns. However, a more balanced approach involves providing safe options and educational resources for residents.

Community Celebrations: We recommend that any proposed changes to the by-law should exclude events like Canada Day at the Fairgrounds, which are vital for community engagement. Milton can still embrace its cultural diversity and encourage cultural celebrations with fireworks while maintaining safety standards.

Mental Health and Joyful Celebrations: Fireworks have a unique ability

to bring joy and happiness to people's lives. The spectacular displays often act as a source of wonder, excitement, and awe. Fireworks displays can have a therapeutic effect, reducing stress and anxiety. The beauty of fireworks can be a source of solace and celebration for people during challenging times, fostering mental well-being.

Family Bonding: Fireworks are a family-friendly form of entertainment. Gathering around to watch a fireworks show or even lighting small fireworks together can be a memorable experience that strengthens family bonds. Restricting year-round access to fireworks could deprive families of this opportunity to create lasting memories together.

Cultural Celebrations: Milton, like Toronto, is a diverse community, and many cultures celebrate significant events with fireworks. Diwali, Lunar New Year, and various other cultural festivals incorporate fireworks as a symbol of tradition and festivity. Restricting access to fireworks may hinder the ability of communities to express their cultural heritage.

Responsible Vendor Practices: As a responsible fireworks vendor, we prioritize safety and education. We educate our customers about the proper use of fireworks and emphasize the importance of being good neighbors. We believe that responsible sales and education can coexist with year-round access to fireworks.

In conclusion, we believe that a complete ban on consumer fireworks in the Town of Milton may not be the most effective solution to address safety concerns. Instead, we should work together to educate residents about safe use, responsible discharge, and suitable locations for fireworks. As a vendor with over 15 years of experience, we are committed to playing a role in this educational process, ensuring that fireworks continue to bring joy and unity to our community.

We request the opportunity to discuss this matter further and collaborate on finding a balanced solution that benefits the Town of Milton. Thank you for considering our perspective.

- **Optional: Upload the written submission that you wish to share with Council (single document, maximum 15 MB)**



1. Subject Reconsideration of Fireworks Ban in the Town of Milton.docx [12.5 KB]
- **Do you give your permission to be audio and video recorded on the Town of Milton's live Council meeting stream?**
Yes I give my permission

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Regards

Shawn Orrett

Great Canadian Fireworks

shawnorrett@hotmail.com