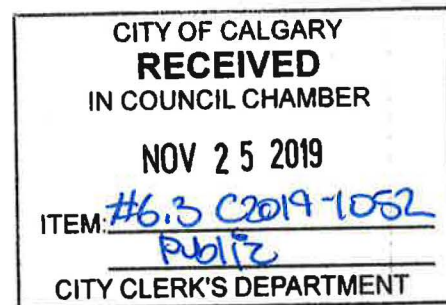


Wally Kaczmarek

Calgar

November 13th 2019



Mayor Naheed Nenshi
Office of the Mayor,
The City of Calgary
P.O. Box 2100, Station M
Calgary, AB, T2P 2M5

Mayor Naheed Nenshi:

You don't know me and I'm presuming that you also do not know my small business. What you need to know is that Kacz' Kids has been serving Calgarians, surrounding areas of Alberta, Saskatchewan and part of eastern British Columbia for the past 35 years.

Over the past 10 years, your seeming indifference to the unrelenting challenges of small business has been nothing short of...shocking! Exasperated by increasing property and business tax hikes that have now succeeded in crushing many small companies and their ability to survive. Yet, you still don't listen!

Your "tax + spend" attitude demands the question "does our Mayor really understand basic business economic practices?" Does it make good business sense to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to create new jobs, when some could have been saved through just "sincere listening", responsibility to your constituents, followed by frugal spending during a provincial downturn over the last 5 years? Are you truly blind to this?

As a business owner operating in Calgary since 1984, I've managed to find many efficiencies, made great sacrifices and made the hard decisions in order to survive, like many other companies. As the economy has been clearly faltering since 2014, I want to know, why has City Hall not done the same?

As owner of Kacz' Kids, I have had to endure 10 years of stress, \$60,000 in legal fees not to mentions the countless hours spent away from my family and business just to fight for tax reductions to keep my business going. My business taxes, under your leadership have gone from \$40,600 per year in 2009, to \$85,800 in 2019! How is that sustainable for any small business?

Did you learn anything from the large rally outside of City Hall last July? There were hundreds of small business owners, all of which showed up to protest the double and triple digit tax increases! I know you did not attend, but did you listen? Did you tell these people that they did not matter to you by your lack of attendance?

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My counsellor, Jeremy Farkas, attended the business rally at City Hall, he listened and he spoke. Jeremy GETS IT! He tries to bring some common sense to City Hall but you, nor your colleagues, LISTEN. It seems that you prefer to silence Jeremy as well as the ordinary, hard-working Calgarians that dare to challenge your reckless spending. It would appear that you prefer to go behind closed doors to do your dealings, unless there is a photo op or a ribbon to cut.

THE SITUATION IN OUR CITY IS GRIM. All of 2019 has been disastrous. Our younger generations are getting disheartened about their future as job opportunities are dwindling and it is believed that it will be years until diversification is achieved for our city. It is farcical that you continue to state that Calgary has the highest citizen satisfaction. I would strongly suggest that you read the Calgary Herald article by B. Kaufmann from November 13th. You are a train wreck.

Kacz' Kids will be closing it's doors this year; however, it's not too late for you to impart change. You still have two more years to revert Calgary's despair, reverse your legacy back to that of the Mayor who provided genuine leadership and concern for Calgary's citizens when the 2013 Floods happened.

WAKE UP! Calgary is suffering on all fronts. Rise to the challenge and be remembered for making positive change.

Respectfully,



Wally Kaczmarek

KACZ KIDS
CEO