July 6, 2020

Good Afternoon,

It would appear from information gathered that the decision to formerly put a request to the Town that parking be taken out and barriers put in, without proper consultation with and consideration to the stakeholders, was not in the best interest of the Bruce Street businesses or the community. As members, we have lost confidence in the BIA to hear our voices and represent our interests and as such it may be time for the Chair and Co-Chair to resign.

During these challenging times, one would have expected an even more consultative street approach from the BIA in attempting to come to a democratic resolution in light of provincial guidelines and ensuing responsibilities.

Our understanding is that the BIA board is there to assist businesses and communicate with the membership clearly and transparently as to what they are considering and will be voting on during the meetings. Listing a major subject such as taking out parking and putting in barriers under “Items for Discussion” and “Consideration of...” in the Agenda does not indicate that a vote will take place at the meeting. Moreover, a ‘revised agenda’ sent out at 6pm on June 2nd just 14 hours before the June 3rd 8am meeting is unacceptable and did not provide enough time for any reply or comment.

In addition under present circumstances, the fact that members are not invited to attend any of the Zoom meetings to follow what is being discussed and offer comments throughout the meeting should put the responsibility on the BIA to better communicate with the membership in arriving at such critical decisions.
I am voting for a profound change with the BIA procedures and how the board interacts with and informs its membership.