



Randy Leonard

March 4, 2024

Dear Mr. Leonard,

At the Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, the Board of Education received your email dated January 30, 2024 and directed your letter to my office for response.

First, I would like to express appreciation for your letter and for raising your concerns. The district appreciates the work that you're doing to encourage safe driving practices.

During our telephone conversation, I assured you that I would review the matter and get back to you quickly.

Upon review, I can confirm that the district has regularly received concerns from our community with respect to noise levels associated with motorcycle training. The district relies on positive relationships with our communities and takes concerns very seriously. Given this we have determined that this type of activity is not suited for a school site in a residential neighborhood.

However, we have reviewed our sites and are pleased to offer you the option to rent the parking lot at the district administrative centre. While other venues such as our secondary schools may be appropriate, these schools are bustling with activities over the weekends. This makes it impossible to guarantee the availability of an empty parking lot for the rental as school use will always take precedence over a private rental activity.

Additionally, it has come to our attention that the district had inadvertently been providing you with a youth nonprofit rate for a rental associated with an adult for profit activity. If you wish to rent the parking lot as offered, please note that the appropriate rate will be applied.

Thank you so much for reaching out and although the solution we propose might not be the perfect fit for you, we hope it addresses your company's needs and allows you to continue the important work of teaching road safety.

Best regards,

Mark Walsh
Secretary-Treasurer

From: [Karen Matthews](#)
To: [Karen Matthews](#)
Subject: FW:
Date: January 31, 2024 4:32:19 PM

From: <>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 11:24 PM
To: District Administration Centre Manager <DistrictAdministrationCentreManager@sd68.bc.ca>
Subject:

CAUTION: External Message

ATTN: Karen Mathews, Manager, Administrative Service SD68

Good Evening, Karen.

My name is Randy Leonard, and I am the owner operator of Cedar Motorcycle Riding School Ltd. We are an ICBC insured, regulated, inspected, and registered driving school in Cedar, specializing in teaching basic and advanced motorcycle safety courses for new riders. We are also an ICBC motorcycle testing facility. We have been renting the parking lots from the school district since approximately 2010, first Cedar, then Georgia.

I am writing to appeal the fact that although we used the Cedar Community School Parking lot routinely in the past, approximately three years ago, a person built a house across the street from the school and immediately started a campaign attempting to have us removed from the school facilities. While she has specifically named "noise" as the primary reason, that cannot be the case as all our motorcycles are small CC, factory muffled and newer bikes. Years ago, I did receive an email from someone complaining about a squeaky brake, and very soon after that, I replaced that bike with a bike with disc brakes that doesn't squeal. All of our bikes are newer, well maintained, and less than ten years old.

I have spoken to many of the neighbors, and most, if not all, have informed us that we are more than welcome and are doing a great service to help the safety of motorcycle riders. The lady that is complaining is someone who has registered many complaints about many things and has even approached her other neighbours trying to get a petition to have us evicted. I have been approached by many of the neighbours who have said they refused and want us to come back permanently.

While I personally suspect I know who the complainant is, facility rentals have refused to tell me who, citing "privacy" concerns. If it IS who I believe it to be, the harassment I am experiencing has nothing to do with my business and is a personal attack. Its' possible this is simply a vendetta from a person who for whatever reason, simply does not like motorcycles.

I have asked that the facilities rentals visit us personally to see what this lady is complaining about, or simply to ask her to complain to noise bylaws and allow city bylaw officers to investigate. Instead, we have been subjected to "cancel culture" and evicted over the anonymous complaints of one person.

We only operate on weekends from 9-5pm. Motorcycles aren't even STARTED until approximately 11AM on Saturday, and students aren't even permitted to use the throttle until after lunch when they've been taught proper operation. Motorcycles are then operated at normal rpm for slow speed maneuvers.

I am writing to ask that the school board review this decision, as it has greatly increased our costs for fuel having to move to parking lots much further away. We here moved to Georgia Elementary school for a couple of years before once again we have had one person complain about our activities and we were offered Dover High School or nothing at all. Dover High school is too small for new riders to make mistakes without causing a potential crash, and I do not feel safe using that particular parking lot. I do appreciate that facilities have tried to work it out with us, but this is a problem that should not be a problem in the first place.

Randy Leonard

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