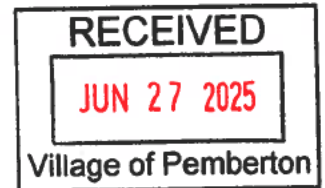




June 27th, 2025

Attention: Scott McRae & VOP Council Members



This letter is in response to your email regarding Zoning Bylaw No.832, 2018
Re: Shipping container at 1356 Aster St.

At your request, I am informing you in writing, as to why I am disputing the recently issued ticket (BNE No. 00114), regarding the above-mentioned bylaw infraction.

As much as I acknowledge that this zoning bylaw exists, I have significant concerns and objections to the fact that said bylaw is only being enforced as the result of a complaint filed against me, by a fellow community member. There are three other businesses, located in the downtown core, who also have one or more shipping container(s) onsite. The selective application and enforcement of this bylaw, to me alone, is a violation of the rule of law and is unconstitutional. The rule of law states that no one is above the law and that bylaws must be applied equally to everyone regardless of their status or background. The rule of law is in place to protect individuals from arbitrary enforcement, as such the VOP has a responsibility to uphold and enforce the above said bylaw consistently and uniformly, or not at all.

Additionally, I would like to bring to your attention the physical location of my business and the shipping container in question, and its proximity to the BC Hydro building located directly across the street at 1363 Aster St. I appreciate that the zoning on the other side of the street allows for shipping containers, of which they have multiple. Some of these are open and, at times, overflowing with metal debris. From a visual and aesthetic standpoint, I do not see how the two situations are different. In fact, I would argue that the design guidelines for the building itself are comparable to that of a shipyard with multiple shipping containers of various colours, stacked on top of each other.

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Finally, the shipping container has been on my property for nearly seven years. It is classified as a movable structure, and it serves as overflow storage for my business. My business has been a pillar of this community since 1984; I pay my taxes on time, I ensure that my property is well maintained and cared for, I support local community events, scholarships and fundraisers.

I have been extraordinarily patient with VOP staff regarding a number of issues, including but not limited to the water main break on October 15th, 2022. This issue caused considerable damage to my building resulting in an insurance claim, along with notable damage to the asphalt on the easement in front of my property, a matter that remains unresolved nearly three years later. Multiple times per year, for the last 20 years, I have also brought the issue of waterflow from neighboring properties, predominantly overflow from the firehall and the SLRD/VOP parking lot, which continues to flood my building and erode our property.

I look forward to bringing this matter before council and coming to a logical and reasonable resolution for all parties involved.

Sincerely,



Shayne May