

City of Victoria's Response Disregards Cruelty, Safety Concerns

VICTORIA, March 31, 2016: The City of Victoria has responded to citizens who wrote to them with concerns for the horses used to pull carriages through city streets. The letter states, "We have not received any complaints or witnessed any behaviours that could lead to revoking a business license."

"We are deeply concerned that the City of Victoria would make such claims, given that we have provided documentation to the contrary and will continue to do so," said Jordan Reichert, spokesperson, Victoria Horse Alliance.

"The letter cites the City's Vehicle For Hire Bylaw to show how the City monitors the carriages," continued Reichert. "However, the by-law does not address any animal welfare matters at all. We again ask Council to address our concerns."

"We will continue to raise these issues with Council. We will continue to document public safety and animal welfare matters. We encourage Council to take the opportunity to phase out horse-drawn carriages in favour of such activities as bicycle tours – activities that generate municipal revenue without complaints about animal welfare and safety."

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For more information, visit banhorsecarriagesvictoria.org/about/