From:

Elaine Gunnell

Sent:

Thursday, March 15, 2018 10:55 PM

To:

Roxanne St. Germain

Subject:

FW: Letter to Mayor and Council from Steve Simpson UDT Diving Inc.

**Attachments:** 

Letter from Steve Simpson UDT Diving Inc.pdf; Northland Paradise Letter of Support UDT Diving

Inc.jpg; Wilson Lake Cottages Business Support Letter for UDT Diving Inc.pdf

For incoming

Elaine Gunnell, Dipl.M.A., AOMC

Municipal Clerk

The Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

7 Lakeshore Drive, P.O. Box 220

Temagami, ON P0H 2H0 Phone: 705-569-3421 ext 208 Email: clerk@temagami.ca



File Aincoming Other Mayor Council A CAO COU

From: Steve Simpson [mailto:udt@udtdiving.com]

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2018 6:18 PM

To: Lorie Hunter <mayor@temagami.ca>; debbyburrowsinfo@yahoo.ca; harding.john210@gmail.com;

carol.lowery234@gmail.com; danomar@ontera.net; bhkoski62@gmail.com; ron.yourvoicematters@gmail.com

Cc: Elaine Gunnell <clerk@temagami.ca>; Monty Cummings <building@temagami.ca>; Tammy Lepage

<planning@temagami.ca>

Subject: Letter to Mayor and Council from Steve Simpson UDT Diving Inc.

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see attached Letter from myself to the Mayor and Council and Correspondence in Support of UDT Diving from Wilson Lake Cottages and Northland Paradise. I would appreciate these letters to be added to the next meeting agenda. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Steve Simpson

UDT Diving Inc.

The Municipality of Temagami By email: Mayor and Council

- cc. Chair and Committee of Adjustment
- cc. Chair and Planning Advisory Committee
- cc. Chair and Economic Development Advisory Committee
- cc. Clerk, Bylaw Enforcement, Planning

Dear Mayor, Council, Chair's and Committee Members, Clerk, By-Law Enforcement, and Planning

Without prejudice and with no disrespect intended, the Municipality of Temagami's definitions of what businesses are acceptable in their zoning bylaws are far too restrictive to fit and no longer relative to the times we live in. I would suggest that Council examine ways in which it can develop and grow business opportunities by broadening the scope of home occupation and home industry currently being used. The present "such as" listing of business acceptable in our Community is interpretive, exclusionary, biased, and detrimental to the town's growth and very survival. Our town professes to be working to attract and develop new sources of tax base and employment opportunities while fostering bylaws and policies that are working to do exactly the opposite. Our economic development history shows a record of disallowing and discouraging more businesses then it welcomes. Many of the disallowed opportunities were visionary and ahead of their time and now the same ideas are thriving businesses all over Ontario. It is time to make some serious changes. We need to be market friendly and market ready if we are to be ready for economic development opportunities. The very length of time it took to sell an industrial lot to a business bringing industry and employment to the town shows we are far from ready.

Employment trends are indicating that home occupations are increasing significantly, and that home entrepreneurial activity is emerging as a key sector in today's work environment. The growth of home occupations is likely responsive to many factors including the downsizing of larger businesses, decreasing overhead costs to remain viable, the growth of multiple income families, the desire of a better work-life balance. As such, other Municipalities are recognizing that home occupations are a valid way of combining home and work lives, while encouraging the economic stability of local economies. In the situation of my business, more importantly, I have brought in customers who have spent money at every retail business in the Town of Temagami, they have stayed at 3 lodge operations and returned for family vacations, they have attended several events and festivals. I have supplied letters from 2 of the lodges, the 3<sup>rd</sup> has changed ownership. If bringing money into the local economy is not an important factor in the official plan for this Municipality I would suggest it well should be. Every business that fails or is walked away from removes a tax base that is seriously needed to financially contribute to providing the infrastructure required to those who live here and brings money into the town economy. This Community will either evolve or it will continue on its decline, we need to work together to stop the later from happening.

If this Community is to evolve we need a common and common sense vision for the next twenty years that will guide how our community grows and develops. Our future vision should aim to create a vibrant living environment within the Town by taking into consideration all aspects of planning for Temagami's Future social, economic, physical, cultural, esthetic, and environmental factors. Presently there is nothing in the Official Plan addressing economic development and this is a serious issue that needs to be address in the revisions presently being done. The community's vision should be central to the development of the new Official Plan. The plan needs to remove barriers to economic development, survival depends on it.

There is deep diving available for specific training in this area. I am well connected in the diving world and had begun to reach out to Diving Instructors and facilities across North America and they are extremely interested in coming here. This could be a great opportunity for local businesses in our community as one facility alone certifies 250 technical divers a year and that is just the tip of the iceberg. All of these divers will require accommodation, meals, will spend money at retail establishments, will attend local events and many will return to the area again, maybe even move here. This level of diving requires a diving facility to be close by. Unfortunately for the community, I have put the development of this important economic opportunity on hold until the issues I am facing with my diving business have been decided.

I am requesting that Council, the Planning Advisory Committee, and the Committee of Adjustment immediately make the necessary changes to allow businesses that are not on the "such as" list be allowed to be factored in to operate if they are located in an R1 or R2 zoning or any other appropriate zoned area for business. The SCUBA Diving Industry is not a common business and as such has not been included on the "such as" list of example businesses allowed in R1R2 zoning. The very wording itself "such as" denotes a listing of some examples not a definitive list yet it is interpreted as exclusionary. It should not be necessary to fill out an application, pay a fee, go through hearings, and create an unnecessary administrative burden to an already overburdened staff in order to be added to a list so you can contribute to a community and try to make a living. I am asking for Council and/ or the Committees to use their ability to remedy this situation and have SCUBA Diving Operations added to the acceptable businesses of R1R2 and other applicable zoning so this businesses can operate and the community can continue to benefit financially from the students and their families being brought to the area.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Steve Simpson UDT Diving Inc.

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

UDT Diving Inc. Temagami, Ontario

To Whom it may concern,

Northland Paradise has financially benefited from the students of UDT Diving staying at our lodge and we are looking forward to future bookings. The town needs as much of an economic base as possible and we should be encouraging every business we can to choose our community to be in.

Thank you,

**Doug Adams** 

**Northland Paradise** 

From: Wilson Lake Cottages [mailto:mjkmacleod@ontera.net]

**Sent:** Saturday, February 17, 2018 6:20 PM **To:** UDT@udtdiving.ca; udt@udtdiving.com

**Subject:** Letter of Support

## To whom it may concern:

This is a letter of support confirming that Wilson Lake Cottages has had customers from UDT Diving and they did repeat coming back to Wilson Lake Cottages.

Thank-you for sending business our way.

Marilyn MacLeod

Wilson Lake Cottages

705-569-3710