

216-TAXI

Dear Mayor Don Darling and Saint John city council,

My name is Josh stephenson, I am the owner and operator of 216-Taxi. I am writing you a letter to discuss the 7 year rule of the Taxi coming into effect on June 1st, 2019 and the issues its going to bring for some drivers and customers. I ask that you read this letter throughfully and reconsider the change in age of the vehicle this year.

The first issue is that some drivers are not ready for the year in change and they are being put of work because of it. With the 7 year rule coming into effect this year you not only elimatte 2010 but also 2011, due to this there is some cofusion for drivers what year is appropriate for this year.

The Second issue is the age of the vehicle, I Just went out and bought a brand new vehicle in november and learned painfully how much cars depreciate when you drive them off the lot. I find that the 7 year rule is alot to deal with due to inflation in the cab industry, commerical Insurance is spiking higher then ever and Collision is very costly on a Vehicle with a lean on it. I asking you to consider hitting the brakes and leaving the bylaw at 8 years in Saint John as I believe an 8 year rule would be more reasonable to deal with. Moncton NB has a 8 year rule as well.

The Third Issue is the shortage this may bring to Saint John on June 1st for Taxis with the summer Bar nights and tourism Season around the corner. Due to the 8 year rule now we are already dealing with a shortage of cabs in the city so when it gets put down to 7 years I predict wait times for customers around the city will be longer.

My conclusion on this letter is that if you guys consider keeping the year rule at 8 years it will not hurt anyone. It would make 2011 age worthy and to make it fair to

everyone for keeping one year on the road, you could grandfather anyone who currently has a 2010 in for one more year. Anyone who has 2012 and up will be rewarded with an extra year in service for being ready this year. This will also help with any Taxi shortages this year and less customers will be impacted by this. Keep the age at 8 years this year and everybody will be ready for the year change going forward ,and only 1 year will be eliminated off the road.

In addition I did not write this letter for myself as I operate a 2018. I am writing this letter for the livelihood of drivers in the business and keeping prompt service for customers/tourist in this city. I am not only asking you guys to reconsider the year for the Taxi industry but also for the people of Saint John because I love this city and I care about the future of it.

Thank you for taking your time to read this letter,

Josh Stephenson