



210 Gloucester Street,  
Suite 101,  
Ottawa, Ontario,  
K2P 2K4.

May 15, 2023

Councillor Ariel Troster,  
City of Ottawa,  
110 Laurier Avenue West,  
Ottawa, ON, K1P 1J1.

Dear Councillor,

As you are aware, the Ottawa People's Commission released Part II of their report on April 4, 2023. While some recommendations will take time, we believe the health and safety of people in our community is a priority that cannot be delayed.

Specifically, we are addressing the long-time negative effects of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) that many residents in Centretown and other areas experience when they hear truck-horn noise coming from construction sites. It is truck horns that tormented residents during the convoy occupation.

Developers undertaking major building projects in the downtown area, with City approval, often encounter the challenge of building atop granite. Blasting is required and construction crews must ensure the safety of their workers when blasting happens. The practice is to mark the blasting area with red flags and then have warning signals to inform workers to leave the blast area.

Last summer, at the Main and Main development on Albert and Lyon, the developer used a truck-horn signal to alert workers. The negative impact of this was huge. We received numerous reports of residents having panic attacks, their young children crying all day, and even of pets disappearing for days.

This use of a truck horn was unique. We've had many new condos and apartments in the downtown core and previously developers always used a whistle to alert their crews.

We request the City of Ottawa protect the health and safety of residents of the red-zone areas, or those affected by the convoy, by implementing the following recommendation from the Ottawa People's Commission report:

Recommendation 4: Build credibility and collaboration .

As a confidence-building measure, and to demonstrate goodwill and begin to address issues that arose during the convoy occupation, the City of Ottawa should work with construction site managers in the red zone to replace horn

sounds that alert local residents and workers of imminent blasting with whistles or other sounds that do not trigger residents, workers or pets.

This action won't cost the taxpayers anything and will demonstrate the City cares about the safety and mental health of its constituents.

Thank you for considering our submission.

Sincerely,

Mary Huang

President,

Centretown Community Association

c.c. Mark Sutcliffe, Mayor

Stephanie Plante, Councillor, Rideau-Vanier Ward

Rawlson King, Councillor, Rideau-Rockcliffe Ward

Shawn Menard, Capital Ward

Jeff Leiper, Kitchissippi Ward

Don Herweyer, General Manager, Planning, Real Estate and Economic Development, City of  
Otta