
From: Bill Johnson [mailto:billvjohnson@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, July 28, 2023 4:55 PM

To: Allison MacEwen <AMacEwen@irac.pe.ca>

Subject: Island Regulatory Appeals Commission Opposal of 4th Gas Station/Convenience Store in Borden-Carleton

IRAC,

I'm writing today as a concerned homeowner and part-time resident of Borden-Carleton. I am in opposition of D.P. Murphy's proposed 4th gas station/convenience store in the town of Borden-Carleton. Not only is a 4th gas station/convenience store not needed, it is not wanted by the community at large.

The Island and most importantly, the community of Borden-Carleton has been a part of my life for well over 50 years; from the time the ferries operated to the opening of the Confederation Bridge and today. There have been many beneficial changes during this time and there have been many missed opportunities; however, the D.P. Murphy proposal represents neither of these. With the three gas stations/convenience stores already there, the town of Borden-Carleton, along with the tourism entering and leaving the island, they are more than adequately served.

It's my opinion, and that of many others, that this is simply a way for corporate entities to continue to fill their pockets. But more importantly, what they're doing is chipping away the charm of PEI, which all the local businesses have created. They're forcing small local businesses to close their doors forever. I've witnessed this first hand over the 50+ years I've been visiting and living on PEI.

We've all heard the messaging on the radio and TV that asks everyone to shop PEI's locally owned independent businesses. IRAC's approval of D.P. Murphy's proposal will be a slap in the face to those business owners that have the best interest of their customers and communities at heart.

The three current businesses in Borden-Carleton have been a part of the community for 100+ years combined. They have supported the surrounding area when times were tough and no one else would.

We must keep their livelihoods at the forefront of our minds when making such critical decisions. With a 4th station taking away the business they have earned, it is obvious that some will have to close their doors. I'm all for competition, but this is not competition. This is merely big corporations with big bank accounts destroying the heart and soul of our small communities. We already have three gas stations, we have three convenience stores and we have a Tim Horton's. This community of only 800+ and the visitors that come and go from this great island are more than adequately served with the existing businesses. A 4th is simply not needed nor wanted.

If this is approved, you will be responsible for crippling the community of Borden-Carleton. Take Ceretti's Grocery and Hardware for instance. This store has served this community faithfully for almost 100 years. Four generations have kept this store evolving for the better of the community. If their pumps are taken away and business pushed elsewhere, this town loses more than gas and convenience. They will have no hardware, butcher, groceries, etc. Their only option is traveling to the larger towns to fulfill their needs. These stores were here for this community during the height of Covid-19. They were here to provide critical supplies during and after Fiona. Do you really want to take the chance of these businesses closing and leaving this community with a 4th station that just wants to make money pushing gas, pop and snacks. If so, shame on you!

It's your job to make sound decisions for the betterment of communities not the detriment of communities. For this reason and those mentioned above, I ask that you decline any request from D.P. Murphy to build a proposed 4th gas station/convenience store in Borden-Carleton.

Sincerely,

Bill Johnson
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Borden-Carleton, PE