

Brief to Planning Committee, October 6, 2015

Sheila and Denis Corr

We are here to support the Corktown Pub's application for a patio. It is our understanding that the patio would close at 11PM and that live entertainment would take place indoors.

Many establishments throughout the downtown area have been granted this permission for a patio and Mr. Jim Perdikoulis is asking for a level playing field in this regard. Jim is there every night – he knows his neighbours. He has renovated inside – he cares, he's particular and he's present!

As we are sure you are aware, it is extremely difficult for a pub to keep going without a patio in the summer months. We are very concerned that the drastic decline in patronage during "patio season" will force Mr. Jim Perdikoulis, the pub owner, to close as a result of financial losses.

We understand that, although originally approved by the Committee of Adjustment, the approval of a patio is being appealed. We most strongly disagree with this decision to let the appeal proceed with City support.

As regular guests over a number of years, we can assure you that Mr. Perdikoulis, the owner of the Corktown, has been a very responsible member of the community, upgrading the facility both inside and outside and addressing any neighbourhood concerns brought to him.

The Corktown Pub is an established neighbourhood gathering place and is a cultural institution in Hamilton. We have witnessed over the years an explosion of interest in Irish traditional music, dancing, and singing. The Corktown generously hosts our classes in Irish dancing, whistle, fiddle and piping. The centrepiece of all this is the Tuesday evening traditional music session which has become renowned far and wide, bringing in visitors and participants from Oakville, Toronto, Guelph, Paris and Mississauga as well as local residents. We even have had occasional visitors from as far away as North Carolina, Ireland and England. The visitors are always surprised and pleased by the warmth of their reception in Hamilton and the beauty of the area. We feel we are part of Hamilton's downtown resurgence.

Thank you for your consideration of our request to approve a patio for the Corktown Pub.

Denis and Sheila Corr

Hamilton Irish Persons of the Year 2010,

Members, Hamilton Irish Arts

Long Time Residents of Downtown Hamilton