

Subject: Halloween Fireworks

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To: NVD Council <dnvcouncil@dnv.org>

CC: Gary Calder <Gary_Calder@dnv.org>, FONVCA <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Mayor & Council:

With Halloween having come and gone, I thought I should acknowledge that the new Fireworks Bylaw, with the provision for having to acquire a permit, worked extremely well. I was very critical of the bylaw when it was first proposed but it seems that common sense prevailed. Being able to obtain permits from authorized fireworks vendors was not only convenient for customers, it also made certain that only adults were able to purchase fireworks.

The new bylaw was also very effective in reducing the problem of cheap roman candles being purchased individually and finding their way into the hands of minors. Those items could be obtained in family packs, yet the large, expensive display roman candles could still be bought separately providing choice for customers.

While I thought the new bylaw worked out well, it is not a panacea, nor should any regulation or outright ban expect to be. Halloween vandalism, arson, and general mayhem is not unique to B.C. nor is the root cause of this behavior the sale of safe, Canadian approved fireworks. Indeed, safe Halloween fireworks purchased by responsible adults with a permit might well reduce the demand of the dangerous illegal items that find their way over the border and into the hands of children.

Sincerely,
Brian Platts