

COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor & Council

Date: October 6, 2009

From: Jennifer Findlay, Economic Development Officer

Re: Proposed Temporary Street Closure - Thursday November 12 4-9 p.m.

Background

Last year, Main Street retailers held a Christmas shopping evening, just before the reopening of Main Street. According to businesses that stayed open that night, the event was a big success. People were out shopping and spending money and restaurants were busy.

One of the features that shoppers and business owners enjoyed about the evening was that the street was closed. This enabled shoppers to criss-cross the street without worrying about traffic. An outdoor shopping mall atmosphere was created.

This year, retailers are interested in re-creating that experience on Thursday November 12.

Communication:

Operations is currently circulating this request for input from roads, engineering, planning and emergency services.

Notice:

Newspaper, Harbourtown Centre, Property & Planning, Business Attraction, Tourism, BIZ, and Chamber agendas + event promotion

Recommendation:

THAT the Council of the City of Kenora supports the efforts of the downtown merchants, to encourage residents to “shop locally”, by endorsing the merchants’ request to close Main Street to traffic between 1st and 2nd Streets from 4-9 p.m. on Thursday, November 12, 2009.