

August 31, 2018

Re: Municipal Red Tape Challenge

Dear Mayor and Council,

On behalf of the 10,000 business owners who are members of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) in British Columbia, we are writing to you today about our upcoming Red Tape Awareness Week, January 21st to 25th, 2019.

Next year marks the 10th Anniversary of CFIB's annual Red Tape Awareness Week campaign and to mark this milestone CFIB is issuing a **Municipal Red Tape Challenge**. We're asking your municipality to champion red tape reduction and service improvement by committing to enact a red tape reduction charter with a checklist to ensure new regulations are properly challenged and a one-in-one out rule to keep the regulatory burden from growing. Our other recommendations include:

- ▶ Measure municipal service standards and regulatory loads,
- ▶ Create opportunities where citizens can give feedback on ideas for red tape reduction and customer service improvement (e.g., online feedback mechanisms and "suggestion boxes"; a business advisory panel, a Business Navigator program),
- ▶ Ensure transparency through public reporting,
- ▶ Create a director of service excellence and red tape control who has responsibility for implementing the recommendations above.

Reducing "red tape" can lift constraints on private sector development and foster economic growth and these simple measures can help grow small business in your community and attract new entrepreneurs. Should your municipality accept this challenge in writing by December 14, 2018, CFIB will highlight the leadership your municipality is showing during our 2019 Red Tape Awareness Week in helping small business succeed.

The Golden Scissors Award

CFIB also wants to provide you an opportunity to highlight the red tape reduction efforts in your municipality in 2018. The Golden Scissors Award is a prestigious national CFIB award recognizing

individuals or teams who have successfully motivated others to take action or produced meaningful, positive results in cutting red tape for small business.

We are inviting you to submit a nomination for the Golden Scissors Award. Nominations are open until September 28, 2018 at cfib.ca/goldenscissors. The winner and honourable mentions will be announced during Red Tape Awareness Week.

On behalf of our members, please accept our sincere thanks for your commitment to increase business owners' chances of success. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Laura Jones
Executive Vice-President



Samantha Howard
Director, British Columbia, Yukon and NWT