

Paula Kusack

Subject: FW: Inhumane rodeo events

From: Ocean Shewchuk <22 (1)>
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2022 6:23:44 PM
To: Mayor Nathan Pachal <npachal@langleycity.ca>
Subject: Re: Inhumane rodeo events

Hello,

Please allow me to clarify that this concerns Langley City's bylaws. Specifically, I am asking that you pass a municipal bylaw that prohibits both inhumane rodeo events, as well as rodeo practices (including bucking, roping, wrestling, and mutton busting), as other communities like the City of Vancouver and the District of North Vancouver have done.

Such an important bylaw would have a positive impact within Langley City, but also as a demonstration of leadership and foresight beyond our boundaries. This bylaw would prohibit these inhumane "rodeo-style" uses of animals outside of rodeo events, such as private events, or practice/training, whether current or in the future. Also, while we may not currently foresee such facilities or spaces existing within Langley City, if that changes in the future, this bylaw would prevent these inhumane practices.

Thank you!
Ocean

From: Ocean Shewchuk <22 (1)>
Sent: Saturday, November 26, 2022 2:50:05 PM
To: Mayor Nathan Pachal <npachal@langleycity.ca>
Subject: Inhumane rodeo events

Dear Nathan Pachal,

I'm writing to you as a resident who values the protection of animals in our community. As our society's understanding of animal welfare has expanded, I find it concerning that the use of animals in inhumane rodeo events continues to occur.

I am especially concerned after a new professional rodeo was held this past summer in the Township of Langley, B.C., despite polling showing that the majority of British Columbians and Canadians are opposed to the use of animals in rodeo events. This introduction of a new pro rodeo comes at a time when more communities have moved away from rodeo events and toward other types of community events. Public polling shows that the majority of Canadians are opposed to the use of animals in rodeo events.

Photos and videos taken at rodeos, including from two rodeos held in B.C. this past summer (Chilliwack Rodeo and Langley Rodeo), highlight the inherent issues with bucking, roping, wrestling and mutton busting events. These events rely on the use of fear, pain, discomfort and stress through rough handling practices and aversive tools to make the animals buck or flee. This is backed up by research, which shows that calves experience elevated stress hormones when being chased and roped in rodeo events.

The rough handling of animals in these rodeo events also contradicts industry requirements and best practices for the handling of farmed animals, which call for quiet and calm handling approaches.

It would be problematic to allow inhumane rodeo events and practices to continue and expand throughout our communities. Therefore, I am respectfully asking that you follow the lead of other communities, like the City of Vancouver and the District of North Vancouver, by passing a municipal bylaw that prohibits inhumane rodeo events and practices, including bucking, roping, wrestling and mutton busting.

Thank you for your attention to this important animal welfare issue.

Sincerely,

Ocean Shewchuk

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