

Schedule 17 to the Minutes of the Public Hearing meeting of Richmond City Council held on Monday, June 18, 2018.

MayorandCouncillors

From: Olive Gonzalez <Olive@UFGCA.COM>
Sent: Monday, 18 June 2018 14:54
To: MayorandCouncillors; CityClerk
Cc: Bob Pringle
Subject: The City of Richmond Proposed City Bylaw Amendments
Attachments: City of Richmond.pdf

Categories: - TO: MAYOR & EACH COUNCILLOR / FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

On behalf of Robert S. Pringle, Chief Executive Officer, UFG Co-operative Association I attach a letter in opposition relating to the proposed bylaw amendments 9861 and 9890.

Thank you,
Olive Gonzalez
Executive Assistant





June 18, 2018

Mayor and Council
City of Richmond
6911 No. 3 Road
Richmond BC V6Y 2C1

**Re: Proposed Amendment Bylaws 9861 and 9890 in respect of
Agricultural Buildings and Greenhouses**

Dear Mayor and Council,

We represent the BC Floriculture Industry. BC farm gate revenues from mainly greenhouse grown flowering plants and cut flowers approach \$300 million annually. BC has a long tradition of growing quality floral products and with North America's largest Dutch auction, our products are well known throughout Canada and the US.

BC plants and flowers are mostly grown in a greenhouse environment. This allows growers to optimize use of land and employ technologies that allow them to compete on a world stage. Most global flower production comes from greenhouses – and technology is more important than ever. An example of technology used in flower greenhouses is ebb and flow watering systems where slabs are engineered to efficiently manage plant hydration and irrigation discharge. This is just one example of where growers need flexibility in the design and construction of systems that allow them to compete.

We believe the proposed amended bylaws will limit common sense adaptation of technology. Growers need to use systems that allow them to compete and are good for the environment.

More consultation is required with established agriculture before significant changes are made in this area. We cannot accept that concerns regarding cannabis production will restrict the normal evolution in our industry of production systems that are good for all.

Respectfully yours,

Robert S. Pringle
Chief Executive Officer

Cc. Premier John Horgan
Honourable Lana Popham, BC Minister of Agriculture
Honourable Carole James, Minister of Finance
Jennifer Dyson, Chair, Agricultural Land Commission
Dr. Andrew Weaver, BC Green Party Leader
Andrew Wilkinson, Leader of the BC Legislative Official Opposition