

July 16, 2013

Chair and Members,
Community and Protective Services Committee

As Co-Chairs of the Rockin' New Year's Eve Committee for 2013 we are requesting an exemption from the City's Noise By-law PW-12 and the City of London's Special Events Policies and Procedures Manual Section (section 13.2) during the hours of 9:00pm – 12:05am on December 31, 2013.


13.2 All amplified concerts shall not exceed a sound pressure 90 decibels beyond 30m (100 feet) from the front edge of the stage, with the allowance for a maximum of 5 crescendos, per performance. The decibel level within the 30m zone, shall be at the discretion of the event operator, however sound equipment and speaker placement should be designed such that the 90 decibel level is not exceeded at the 30m limit, with the allowance for a maximum of 5 crescendos, per performance.

Our Committee has representation from the City of London, Rogers TV, Bob FM, Western Fair, as well as other committed individuals who volunteer their time to ensure this event takes place. Funding is raised through begging requests to local and area businesses. As well we apply each year for funding from the City's Special Event Core Funding to partially fund the main act.

The event takes place at Victoria Park and is **family, fun and free**. This free evening includes: family skating, two children's entertainment shows on the stage; balloon creations, hats, noise makers, hot chocolate, coffee and a countdown with fireworks at 9:00 p.m. for the children. Then the middle act takes the stage prior to the main act which leads to the midnight countdown and a longer fireworks display. This past year was an amazing success, with a record number of London families and visitors from surrounding areas taking part, around 25,000.

We understand and respect the reasons behind the by-law however New Year's Eve is a unique annual event where the majority of Londoners are awake until midnight. It is a universally-recognized celebration that is hosted in the off season and outdoors in a City park. Decibel readings beneath the 90 db threshold are met for the majority of the event which demonstrates a commitment to being responsive and respectful of the neighbourhood. While the noise by-law is valuable in helping to control excessive noise in neighbourhoods, it is our hope that you feel it reasonable to grant an exemption where circumstances warrant. In the previous two years we have lost our noise deposit due to exceeding the 90 decibel threshold. We are requesting this exemption because: the City is a major sponsor; and it is just the right thing to do.

With respect,



Ed Holder, Co-Chair, Rockin' New Year's Eve Committee
Bruce McGuffin, Rockin' New Year's Eve Committee



Cc:

Amanda Young, BOB FM
Dave Pitre, Sterling Marking Products;
Beth Sayler, Western Fair
Randy Warden, London Celebrates Canada
Russell Archer, Rogers TV