

From: John Pennie
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2016 7:39 PM
To: Lysynski, Heather <hlysynsk@London.ca>
Subject: taxi By-law changes

John Pennie - 1539 Perth Ave.

Madam chair, members of council and city staff,
Thank you for your time this evening.

I have been a taxi driver since October 26, 1996 (officially 20 years today).

I JUST HAVE TO MAKE A POINT OF THIS!

We keep hearing about high rates and yet we the taxi industry hear in London hasn't had an increase in the meter rate since 2008. Even minimum wage has gone up 5 times in that period.

OK, now....

"LEVEL PLAYING FIELD"

This is the message....

Driver equality
Vehicle equality
These are the issues

This HAS to be referred back for reconsidering.....

Uber drivers are doing the same job as Taxi drivers the difference is they don't have to follow any of the same rules.

Their vehicles are not marked or monitored by the city - THIS INCLUDES PROOF OF INSURANCE (currently they are ILLEGAL according to the bylaw)

Their drivers are not licensed or even registered by the city or the police. (Again ILLEGALLY)

As for the Accessible Taxis you want to allow anyone to have the plates and yet 2 months ago we had to fight with the city to put accessible taxis on the road.

BUT.....don't worry If the bylaw passes AS IS you won't have to worry.....you will lose the taxi industry when we can no longer sustain our families!!!

The fight then will be how do we get Uber to provide this service and make it reliable for LONDONERS.

Also under the "vehicle for hire" category could you please also add the "rickshaw" into the bylaw so that they can be regulated as well and to STOP them from running into traffic off the sidewalks and vice-versa. (Again this is for everyone's safety.)

So again "LEVEL PLAYING FIELD" for all, safety for customers and drivers!

Thank you for your time!