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August 6, 2010

City of Winnipeg
Office of the Mayor
510 Main Street
Winnipeg MB R3B 1B9

Re: Funding for the BIZ Outreach Program, 2011, Thereafter

Dear Mayor Sam Katz:

The Downtown BIZ has been appreciative of the City's support for the continuation of the Outreach Program for 2010.

Helping over 3200 intoxicated people off the downtown streets and into safer environments has been beneficial to our BIZ members, the general public, many downtown social service providers and organizations, as well as all levels of government.

Lives have been saved, scarce police and emergency resources re-allocated to more serious issues, and a community based tool to better manage this social issue has been provided and proven to be effective. In addition experience being provided to our staff through this initiative we believe has led to superior candidates for careers in the Winnipeg Police Services.

Attached is an updated summary of the initiative, as well as a three year budget for maintaining the program.

While the Downtown BIZ will continue to invest in this program, without the continued and increased support of the City and Province, this program will unfortunately come to an end as of December 31, 2010.

Please advise the BIZ of the City's intent in continuing this important downtown safety initiative, and to what level of resource assistance as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Stefano Grande

c.c. Alex Robinson, Deputy CAO City of Winnipeg
Chief McCaskill, Winnipeg Police Services
Chief Brennan, Winnipeg Fire & Paramedic Services
BIZ Chair Kevin Donnelly, True North Sports & Entertainment

Enclosure