

October 13, 2009

To: The Board of Park 96

From: Kelly Morstad
Executive Director,
Parkland Solstice Festival Society



Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with a deep sense of sadness that on behalf of The Parkland Solstice Festival Society I wish to inform the Board of Park 96 that our organization will not operate the annual Parkland Solstice Festival in 2010.

While the need to separate Solstice operations from Park operations was fully discussed and unanimously approved by the Park Board just two years ago, it is clear that small factions of the current Board, and a small number of people within the community, refuse to accept the merits of that decision and will not let it rest. As a Society we have no wish to perpetually expend so much of our energies in matters not directed to organizing a great community festival.

People have told me their fixation with the Solstice organization is “not personal - just business”. I believe that sentiment is core to the philosophical gap that has brought us to this disappointing outcome. If The Solstice was business it is clearly not worth doing. Those of us in the Society believe it is about heart, camaraderie, and a very “personal” source of pride in the uniqueness of our community. There is no desire to impose our value judgment on the community.

Attached find a cheque cut from the Society operating reserve fund for the sum of \$20,500.00 to be directed to the purchase of a new tractor for Park 96. The Society will keep a small operating fund to cover current and future liabilities and to support our ongoing operations. To be clear we have no plan to be engaged in any other activities or events. We just wish to keep the organization intact for future possibilities. Also find attached the Society financials for our two years of operations.

We would like to thank Heather Traub, and the core executive team on the Park 96 Board for investing so much personal energy and commitment into trying to work through the challenges that a community faces when it dares to try something unusual. Our neighbourhood and the PSFS is in your debt for the efforts you have expended toward finding a workable solution..

On behalf of all the Solstice Festival organizers thank you for letting us share a remarkable ride for the past eight years.

Sincerely

Kelly Morstad
Executive Director
Parkland Solstice Festival Society