

Corporation of the City of Cambridge
50 Dickson Street, Box 669,
Cambridge, Ontario N1R 5W8

February 2022

Dear: Mayor and Council

We are writing to you today in support of the application by Flag Raiders Paint Ball, to operate on their property on Kossuth Road. As outlined in our letter of support in June 2021, we believe that businesses like Flag Raiders will make a big impact on our ability as a Region to build back our economy post-pandemic and for some, be that organization that softens the mental anguish many have experienced over the last two years.

As you are well aware, Flag Raiders has a long, long history in the Region of Waterloo and has contributed in many ways to the success of our community's tourism and hospitality initiatives. Their professional reputation in the industry is second to none.

I'm sure we don't have to get into the devastation businesses like Flag Raiders has had to endure through the pandemic. While we know they aren't the only ones, they have certainly experienced an incredible setback. Which is really why this application and the approval of said, is so very important. This gives them a big window of hope, to move forward, build the business that they have long wanted and ensure that Flag Raiders is once again a pinnacle attraction in our Region.

The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce has long supported the locating of Flag Raiders on this property, we know the once great levels of employment will return, we know their clientele will return in droves and we also know this will enable Corey and Joe to also give back to our communities like they always have. This is a remarkable team, a fantastic business, not to mention how much fun and enjoyment participants have.

We are urging positive consideration, their support is very strong right across the Region, their suppliers are local, their staff is local and they do an amazing job of drawing in outside dollars. This should not be considered anything other than a very serious business, that can return some very serious tourism dollars we are going to need.

Sincerely,



Greg Durocher
President/CEO
Cambridge Chamber of Commerce



February 14, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

Please accept this letter as support from Explore Waterloo Region for Flag Raiders Adventure Park. This attraction has been trying to reopen after having moved from their previous location in Kitchener and have been running in to roadblocks for the past couple of years. That coupled with the restrictions imposed on travel and operation during Covid, has meant that the operators have faced a loss of revenue and have had to lay off employees. Flag Raiders adds to the attraction of our community to visitors as well as providing a fun and healthy activity for residents. They are a true asset.

Explore Waterloo Region is the Destination Marketing Organization for the Region of Waterloo. We are a non-profit organization responsible for marketing our destination. We have been supporters of Flag Raiders as a way to encourage active, healthy living in our Region and we have actively promoted the attraction to visitors from across Ontario before the pandemic and the move to the new location.

This attraction not only brings visitors to Waterloo Region from more than 40 kms away (technically that is what is defined as a visitor), but they also host events that attract competitors from further afield to take part in tournaments on their site. Explore Waterloo Region has utilized the Event Impact Calculator model created by Tourism Economics to determine that the economic impact of three events held in 2019 was in excess of \$500,000. These events attract overnight visitors and generate business for restaurants and other attractions in the Region.

Flag Raiders Adventure Park is owned and operated by local residents of Waterloo Region and provides employment for 5 - 6 full time and up to 20 part time employees – mostly students. The attraction brings visitors who travel to play and stay to enjoy many other aspects of our community like restaurants, other attractions and hotels.



151 Charles Street West, Suite 100, Kitchener, ON N2G 1H6

t. 519.585.7517 tf. 1.877.585.7517

www.explorewaterlooregion.com



Government support programs for businesses are coming to an end and if we want to have an attraction operating on this site in 2022, we need to act as soon as possible.

I would like to reiterate Explore Waterloo Region's support for Flag Raiders Adventure Park and encourage you to do whatever is needed to allow this valuable attraction to reopen. This development represents an opportunity to create a positive, healthy space for our community and a valuable attraction for visitors to Waterloo Region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Schneider". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Minto" and last name "Schneider" clearly visible.

Minto Schneider
Chief Executive Officer



151 Charles Street West, Suite 100, Kitchener, ON N2G 1H6

t. 519.585.7517 tf. 1.877.585.7517

www.explorewaterlooregion.com



GREATER KITCHENER WATERLOO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BUSINESS BUILDING COMMUNITY

February 16, 2022

City of Cambridge
50 Dickson Street
Cambridge, ON N1R 8S1

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Flag Raiders and Local Planning

As a follow up to our June 2021 letter, our Chamber is writing in support of Flag Raiders, to operate on the land they own in the City of Cambridge located at 1500 Kossuth Road.

Flag Raiders is a long-established local institution that has and will continue to greatly contribute to our local economy, providing, employment, opportunities for student learning, teambuilding, and recreation and tourism.

As you are aware, these past two years have been extremely challenging for businesses, especially those within the tourism and recreation space. Flag Raiders has the ability to contribute to the recovery of the local hospitality and tourism sectors, benefiting the overall economic recovery of Waterloo Region. They are a host of a many large events, bringing hundreds of thousands of dollars into the Region – something that is very much needed in this period of recovery.

They are also a large supporter of local businesses and charities, contributing to the spirit of Waterloo Region.

We strongly urge the Region to consider supporting this local business, encourage their growth and permit them to occupy the land they own.

We appreciate your support in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ian McLean
President & CEO
Greater KW Chamber of Commerce
imclean@greaterkwchamber.com



Dear Councillor Donna Reid,

I am writing this letter in support of Flag Raiders reopening their business on the Kossuth Road property. My family and I reside at 1383 Kossuth Rd, right across from where Flag Raiders has operated in the past. On behalf of my entire household, who have lived here for about 20 years, we support Corey Kimpson, Joe Kimpson, and Todd Ancich moving forward with reopening Flag Raiders' paintball program and projects on the property that allow our community to come together.

The family that owns the Flag Raiders property is one of the most genuine families I have ever met. Their determination to bring our community together through all-age recreational activities, dog training, and acceptance is something I have a great appreciation for. I have learned that they want to be as accommodating as possible to the people who use their land and to their neighbors. Something that stuck with me from my meeting with the owner of Flag Raiders is how they want to learn from any previous mistakes they made that will better their business and build a stronger bond with their community. In addition, I would like to let it be known that my property reaches directly across from Flag Raiders and noise has never been an issue for us when their business was operating in the past.

I appreciate you reading this letter. If you would like to chat about anything or where I stand with supporting Flag Raiders, I am open to discussion. My email is hafuths@gmail.com and my phone number is 226-600-8632.

Regards,

Sowsan Hafuth