

RESPONSE TO COUNCILLOR INQUIRY

COUNCILLOR CHRISTOPHERS

Councillor Christophers inquired as to the number of business development permit applications that have been turned down over the past 3 to 5 year period and the reasons why.

RESPONSE

The Town of Okotoks does not require a business development permit, but do require Development Permits and Business Licenses. Administration assists all applicants towards successfully submitting applications, and has a good record achieving approvals for our customers. The Town encourages and welcomes businesses and strives to ensure proposals meet the regulatory framework of the Town, Provincial Safety Codes, and any external agencies who are interested in the health and wellbeing of the general public.

Statistics for Development Permit applications for business use from 2013 to 2017 are provided in Attachment 1. These statistics do not include:

- situations where an applicant has withdrawn an application.
- instances where an applicant has not submitted a complete application, where Administration has not been able to process the request.
- instances where an applicant has not '*liked*' additional information requested by administration, or the direction provided and have decided not to submit an application.
- instances where an applicant has encountered challenges with external agencies and have not been able to satisfy conditions, e.g. Alberta Health Inspection.

Attachment(s)

- 1. 2013 2017 DP Applications for Business Use
- 2. 2013 2017 Business License Applications New Storefront and Home Occupations

Prepared by: Quincy Brown Economic Development Manager January 02, 2018