

SF-25-52

Dear Mayor Carter and Members of Council,

I am writing as a resident of Oshawa to express concern about **Fireworks By-law 59-2014**, which currently allows consumer fireworks to be discharged on *Victoria Day*, *Canada Day*, and *Diwali*.

While I fully respect the inclusion of Diwali as a recognized cultural celebration, the by-law as written unintentionally excludes other significant cultural holidays such as **Chinese New Year** and **St. Patrick's Day**, both of which have deep roots in our city's diverse communities.

I respectfully request that Council **review and amend By-law 59-2014** to ensure equitable treatment of all residents. Specifically, I ask that Council consider:

1. **Adding Chinese New Year and St. Patrick's Day** as permitted days for consumer fireworks; **or**
2. **Removing all cultural-specific exemptions** so that all residents are subject to the same uniform rules.

This adjustment would promote fairness and inclusivity, aligning Oshawa's policy with the principle that all cultural traditions should be treated equally under municipal regulation.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I would appreciate confirmation that my correspondence will be added to the next **Community and Operations Services Committee** agenda.

Sincerely,

Fang Ming Zhao

M.F.I.P.P.A. Sec.14(1)

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Date: October 24, 2025