



Councillor Sandy Donald

14 Maple St, Box 62.

Tiverton, Ont.

N0G 2T0

(519) 396 3468

Home: (519) 368 7285

Email: sdonald@laser-imprints.com

Website: <http://www.laser-imprints.com>

Lord Provost of Dundee

Letter of appreciation.

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Dear Lord Provost,

I wish to take the time to formally thank you and your Council for allowing me to visit with your Council and for the extensive and extremely interesting tour of the Council Chambers. As you know, my visit to Dundee was not so much of a holiday, as a family emergency and I hope to return one day when I can spend more time visiting in the city. The time I did spend however, had mixed emotions, some of them, wishing for the old memories I had as a child and young man, and then realizing that the city must progress forward, if it is to sustain the necessary economic development for welfare of the city. It is wonderful to see you and your colleagues taking a bold step forward and moving into the new millennium with purpose. The policy of openness you yourself are championing is difficult, yet I believe, will bear great fruit. Yes, there will always be nay Sayers, but they are the ones that will criticize any new decision, based on either not having thought of it themselves, or being comfortable in the past. Stay the course. The future is not easy to see, but regardless, we must move to that horizon, for not to, will only cause us to stagnate, wither and die.

I thoroughly enjoyed the Council session that I attended, your Council business being much more efficiently handled than we do in Kincardine. I showed the amount of business your Council does in ten minutes and I think it opened everyone in our Council's eyes. I found the debates within the Council's committee session to be really interesting and unusual to our Canadian local political structure. As Councillors in Kincardine, we do not always see eye to eye on everything, however, we still try to work as a team, always keeping in mind the issues at hand and the greater good that is required of all of us to reach a mediated decision, that serves the best interests of the community.

I have also been very impressed by the website that the City of Dundee has. This is a truly excellent showpiece for the world to see. I am particularly taken by the Photopolis section and have asked that we, the Municipality of Kincardine look into doing the same. It is a wonderful way to keep alive our heritage and history. It allows all to see these records of where we came from (*I think, I actually see my Auntie Jessie in one of them!*). Please tell the people involved they are doing a wonderful job of preserving our history for everyone to see.

John, could you please inform your Council that, if the Municipality of Kincardine can be of any assistance, no matter how small, regarding protocols, committees etc, we would be only to glad to assist the City of Dundee in any way we can. If you or any of your Council are coming over for a visit, we would be only to happy to return the courtesy you so kindly extended myself.

On behalf of the Municipality of Kincardine; The Mayor and myself, we are sending over various mementos of the Kincardine area. We, as Council hope that they are enjoyed by you all and wish you and your Council prosperity and good luck in all your future ventures.

Yours Faithfully,

Councillor Sandy Donald.