

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
"Adcock, Jessie" <Jessie.Adcock@vancouver.ca>
Date: 8/25/2020 12:02:29 PM
Subject: West End Preaching and Altercation

Dear Mayor and Council,

Staff from the Licensing and Community Standards team in DBL, Legal Services and Civic Engagement and Communications have been working together to review the volumes of incoming correspondence related to this unfortunate altercation in the West End. The City team is also coordinating with their colleagues in VPD on this matter to determine the best course of action. In instances where groups or individuals are disturbing the peace or involved in a possible hate crime the VPD is the lead organization.

While the City of Vancouver Charter recognizes freedom of speech and the right to assembly for all groups, it also balances this right to political or religious expression with public safety. In finding this balance the City does allow religious groups to pass on their message on City streets, however, given that this became an unacceptable physical altercation, it is with the VPD to determine the violations. A Noise Bylaw infraction will be determined in conjunction with the VPD investigation. Our staff and VPD teams are working very closely together on this serious matter.

We will keep you apprised of the matter as it evolves.

Best,
Sadhu

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Pronouns: he, him, his



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.