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Generating Revenues on the Backs of Trucking is a Bad Idea

The idea was proposed this week through a report to Saint John Common Council. The City wants to generate \$1M in Revenues on the backs of trucks by imposing a tax or permit to haul goods in the city.

Trucks are an essential service, the lifeblood of local economies, and the cornerstone to Atlantic Canada's Covid-19 response and recovery, which makes the City of Saint John's consideration to impose this on trucking a monumentally bad idea.

"Our industry pays more than its fair share to start," explains Atlantic Provinces Trucking Association executive director Jean-Marc Picard. "Fuel taxes, excise taxes, small business taxes, licensing fees, property taxes, and the list goes on."

Trucks move freight to and from the Saint John region and are key to helping businesses get their goods in and out of the city. This will only make Saint John's businesses less competitive and have a negative impact on economic growth for the city. With respect, this is not a solution to challenges faced by the city or any level of government anywhere in Canada.

"More tax is the last thing our industry needs, especially at this time when businesses are suffering. This new proposal will hurt trucking and costs will be passed on to customers."

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