

To the Members of Council,

I, Krista Harris, am interested in purchasing a mobile Bakery Café business that is currently for sale. But before making a final decision, I am requesting more information in securing a commercial space from which to operate, as well as the permits and licensing requirements and regulations for running such a business in West Lorne.

For the last five years, I have homeschooled my two children and now run a small homeschool, named Harris Academy. My children are currently 11 and 12 years old. They are mature, responsible, and friendly children, whom I have helped facilitate jobs for in the community such as tutoring other children, lawn mowing, raking and snow shoveling and yard work. The kids are also involved in Sea Cadets and Navy League.

One of the benefits of homeschooling is the flexibility it allows us to pursue opportunities to work together as a family. Recently, we have started baking and participating in local shows as “The Harris Kids’ Bakery”. This has been an enjoyable experience for us as a family and has introduced my children to the entrepreneurial world. And now, coincidentally, a mobile Bakery Café is for sale. As a family, we have discussed what running such a business would look like for our family, and how we could incorporate such a versatile business into our daily lives.

On October 31, 2023, we viewed the mobile trailer. The owner has done quite well for herself and it will be a fairly turnkey operation to take over. Currently, the Bakery is set up at a convenient location in her town throughout the week, and the rest of the time she is able to tow it to shows and other venues of her choice.

My plan would be similar. Firstly, I would like to establish a presence throughout the week near the West Lorne arena or in that parking lot. It is an excellent location, situated between the 401 and HWY 3 as well as at the arena, soccer fields and parks. The Bakery Café would service a wide range of customers, from commuters to high school students, parents dropping their kids off at school, Rockland Flooring employees, to parents and all those participating in local sports and events at the arena and soccer fields. Secondly, I would like the versatility to travel and participate in many different Markets and shows. And finally, I would like the flexibility to set business hours that work with my homeschooling in order to include my children in this business venture.

I am considering running the Bakery Tuesdays – Thursdays, 8:00-9:30, and 11:30-1:00. Additionally, I’d like to set up the mobile Bakery during some (pre-determined) sports practices and games, tournaments and special events. In addition, we would participate in local shows, events and Markets. And, as my children enter High School and become more independent in their learning, there will be the possibility for extending days and hours of operation. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your input.

Sincerely,
Krista Harris