

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Rate Review Panel, good evening. My name is Dale Peasley and I have been riding motorcycles in the Province of Saskatchewan for over 40 years.

And for 40 years I have paid my insurance premiums to SGI without complaint, believing that our publicly owned crown corporation was providing Saskatchewan residents with fair and equitable insurance at reasonable rates.

Since 2007, however, those rates have climbed at an alarming rate. Double digit increases on top of each other have had the cumulative effect of rate increases of over 100% in just six years. I know motorcycle accidents have not increased by that same rate, so how can it be that there is justification for yet another increase?

The real kicker, however, was SGI's request for increases to take place this fall which, for me and my motorcycle would have seen an additional 115% increase.

For the first time in forty years, I feel compelled to stand up and say 'enough is enough'.

The actions of the past few weeks have raised some serious questions about this entire process. It is clear that SGI wants to initiate massive increases to motorcycle premiums. The public outrage has prompted the Premier of the province to limit the increases to 15%, which in itself smacks of government interference in the process and, in my mind calls into question the relevance of the Rate Review process which we are participating in tonight.

If the premier's office can pre-determine the limit of the rate increase, then what is the point of this exercise and what actual influence does the rate review panel have on the outcome?

Even with the premier's intervention, we are still looking at yet another double digit rate increase this year and I suspect for each successive year until SGI's initial goal has been achieved. ~~If you accept his intervention, you run the risk of being viewed as his rubber stamp.~~

Demanding more and more money does not make our roads any safer. Shouldn't SGI concentrate on reducing accidents and claims by making safety a higher priority than premiums?

Ladies and gentlemen of the Rate Review Panel, this whole process has placed you in a difficult position. We, the motorcycle community are counting on you to protect us from the outrageous rate increases demanded by a crown corporation which is clearly out of control.

It is my suggestion that you exercise your voice in this matter and reject SGI's proposal in its entirety. Along with your rejection of their proposal, I recommend you instruct SGI to focus more on preventing accidents, improving rider qualifications, increasing public awareness of the need to share the road with motorcycles and help reduce claims into the future.

Thank you.