

Attn: Mr Kenneth Leung Sea Dragon Marine to: bc 06 16

06/09/2017 10:30

Dear Mr Leung,

My name is Helen Norton and I and my family have been Hong Kong residents since I was a baby when we arrived in early 1982. Hong Kong is and always will be my home and one that I am very proud to be a part of.

However, I feel that as 'Asia's World City', we lag behind so many other great cities with our stance on the environment and lack of proactivity when it comes to implementing laws and strategies to prevent disastrous world issues.

Banning ivory is one such issue. The industry is horrific- a money making cartel with no regard or care for beautiful endangered animals who are brutally murdered for their tusks. Ivory should have no value apart from to an elephant. Not only are elephants heading for extinction, but the rangers who devote their days are risking their lives and families by trying to protect these creatures for our benefit. I would like my future children to grow up with elephants on this planet. I am sure you wish the same for your grandchildren.

I FULLY support the government banning the sale and trade of ivory in Hong Kong, however I DO NOT wish the hard earned tax dollars of myself and my family and friends to be paying compensation to the traders for their cruel industry. What message does that send? They have had over two decades since the international ban to change trades and compensation will further imply to poachers that Hong Kong still has a market value for ivory. More elephants deaths will result. We would be rewarding criminals.

I absolutely agree that proposals to increase maximum penalties under the Protection of Endangered Species Ordinance, need rapidly implementing.

It is not enough to use heritage and culture as a reason to continue an activity that causes monumental suffering to a species and lead to its extinction. Hong Kong is a global leader in business and infrastructure- we MUST show how serious we are about being part of the global environmental solution, not the problem.

Thank you for your time, Helen Norton

H Norton Sea Dragon Marine

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