

Councillor's Report for March 12, 2018  
Beverley Tripp

Zoning and Sustainable Community Plan Bylaws

These bylaws did not make it onto the last Regular Meeting agenda as was previously scheduled. In my last report, I expressed a few concerns with the zoning bylaw as it stands. Fire suppression access, laneway accessibility, land values, changing neighborhoods – these are some of the questions I still have concerning garden suites and tiny homes on wheels, and while I am absolutely in favour of affordable and alternative housing options, and appreciate all the work that staff have done in bringing these new bylaws forward, I would personally prefer to first identify a pilot area within R1 zones to see what impacts these zoning bylaw changes will have on the community.

I had also hoped to engage with the statistical information from the 2016 Census before voting on these bylaws. I believe that the stats from that meeting will provide very pertinent information for addressing the housing needs and challenges we are experiencing in Grand Forks. These stats may also reveal other emerging issues that alternate housing options might meet, such as apartments.

This information will now be presented tomorrow at a Boundary Housing Needs Workshop and I will provide a report for the next Regular meeting.

World Day of Prayer

I attended this annual event, hosted this year by the Gospel Chapel on Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The service was well attended by representatives from most of the churches in the Grand Forks area, who came together to unite in prayer for the country of Suriname (formerly Dutch Guiana), and for the world. The World Day of Prayer Committee of Suriname wrote the program for this year, focussing on the theme, “All God’s Creation is Very Good,” drawing attention to Surinamese ecological and environmental issues, and pointing to actions we might take to nurture and preserve our local environment for the next generations.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverley Tripp