

The Grand Forks Social Services Advisory Group

On July 9th the Mayor and I attended the new Community Advisory Group on Social Services. This is not a moment too soon as I have been requesting such a forum since election day. This group will provide the following deliverables

- It will provide direction in policy direction and advocacy at a Provincial level for local governments
- Provide opportunities for collaboration between agencies
- Provide feedback on the delivery of social services in the community

This group will include representatives from Interior Health, the RCMP, D 51, who, the DBA, Habitat for Humanity, BFSS, Service BC, Ministry of Children and Family Development, Citizens for a Better Grand Forks. It is open to additional members and guests.

There are two immediate issues before Council that we need to set a clear direction. I will be seeking advice from this group on two very basic questions:

- Does the community need an emergency shelters and / or an all year round "Warming Center"?
- Does the Community need Supportive housing?

Notice of Motion: that \$ xxxxx be budgeted to support the work of the GFSSAG

Roger Brooks To-Do List

I was a bit surprised and a bit flattered when Mr. Brooks challenged our city to be the best family-friendly biking town in BC. I have been pursuing that goal on and off council for decades. Mr. Brooks very clearly outlined what the city should try to accomplish in the next 2 years for Downtown Revitalization. This included assisting with façade improvement

Notice of Motion: that the City contribute \$1000 towards the mural painting of the "Copy Cat" wall

He also had some goals for the trails proponent on council - me. I have taken up his challenge and begun to upload my GPS trails collection to the well know internet source on biking trails: Trailforks. If you are a trail hound and have photos or gps kml files of our beautiful trails please go take a look and contribute to bringing our amazing collection of trails closer to visitors.

DMAF Announcement

On June 26th I watched the grant announcement from the shores of the new South Ruckle revetment. This announcement was way too long in coming and it was bittersweet. The previous council set a course to win this award and now this council must work hard to implement it. As Council knows I have been critical of options set forward in the Dobson report. The underlying assumption is that the only way to adapt to climate change was for the city to abandon some of its flood plains. I can't agree as these lands represent a significant capital and human investment. As more detailed engineering becomes available, I would like to Council to reconsider the wholesale expropriation of North Ruckle. I believe Dobson's other option of creating industrial and utility lands would be more beneficial to the city. I am hoping that future engineering will also take advantage of the new flood modelling so that more of the west shore of the Granby can be retained for future high-density development.

GFI

And I huge shout out to the organizers, volunteers, participants and spectators of the GFI. Once again it was wonderful family experience in our town. I am in awe of what our town can accomplish!

Thank- you !!!!