Greetings Ward 1

Welcome to my E-newsletter. Information about decisions, current issues and information of interest to residents of Ward 1 will be posted.

The City is a vibrant organization with news unfolding daily. This E-newsletter is a more sustainable way to inform you about that unfolding news. At times it may be necessary to send paper communications to residents but I hope this E-newsletter becomes the preferred way to share information.

I’ve had a great experience representing the residents of Ward 1 for the last eight years. During that time, City boundaries have grown, and new developments and significant infrastructure rehabilitation have taken place. I have enjoyed getting to know Community Associations in Ward 1: Whitmore Park, Hillsdale, Boot Hill and Al Ritchie. They spend hours providing recreation for children and adults and bringing your issues forward to Council.

Maintain the Character of Your Neighbourhood

The City is embarking on a multi-year project to develop neighbourhood plans for 31 mature neighbourhoods in Regina. Some have no neighbourhood plans while others will update older plans based on Design Regina: the Official Community Plan (OCP), a blue print of what we want growth and development in Regina to look like in 25 years. To help inform the project, there is an opportunity for community associations, the City of Regina and ward councillors to hear your ideas about the important characteristics of
your neighbourhood that could affect its current and future development. Open houses are underway in two areas of Ward 1.

**Al Ritchie Neighbourhood Plan** engagement is underway and a second engagement session with the Al Ritchie Neighbourhood will take place this spring. Watch Regina.ca for further details. **Hillsdale Neighbourhood** planning will also take place at a Come and Go open house from 5 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31 at Hillsdale Baptist Church (101 Munroe Place). This is an interactive evening, families welcome. See maps of your neighbourhood and share your ideas for future growth and development.

**Sustainable City Council Motions**

Council approved three motions moving the City toward a sustainable environment in 2050:

- Imagine Regina, an Energy and Sustainability conference, will be held in Regina in May 2020. Information about sessions will be posted on the Conference site.
- A grey water strategy motion was sent to administration for a report in 2020.
- Reducing single-use plastics in Regina is being considered. Research and results of a citizen survey will come back to Council in mid-March. The goal of this motion is to prolong the use of the landfill and limit the City’s contribution to the impact of single-use plastics on the planet.

**Recreation Master Plan**

The [Recreation Master Plan](#) guides the City’s decisions on delivering recreation programs and services and building infrastructure to accommodate recreation programs in Regina.

A five-year fund for Recreation capital projects, similar to the Residential Road Renewal Program (RRRP) Fund, is in the 2020 budget. This fund makes possible a dedicated .5 per cent funding of yearly mill rate increases (about $1.25 million in 2020) to go directly into funding the Recreation Master Plan Capital Projects.

The Residential Road Renewal Program Fund had one per cent of yearly mill rate increases, each year for five years, go into residential road renewal. Now $47.3 million is allocated annually to improving residential roads.

This new funding program for recreation infrastructure will support enhanced quality of life for residents.

**Short-Term Residential Rentals**
The short-term (less than 30 days) rental bylaw was approved in 2014, making short-term rentals a discretionary use requiring Council approval. Since 2014 only two owners have come forward to Council to comply with the bylaw.

With the rise in popularity of short-term rental online services such as AirBnB and VRBO operating in Regina, the City is exploring options for regulating short-term residential rentals.

Residents were invited to complete an online survey in October. City Administration is reviewing the regulatory frameworks of similar cities across Canada. A report is coming to Council recommending next steps.

Wascana Park and Provincial Capital Commission Transparency

Information about land development, the checklist that must be followed by proposed development and current information about the events and goals of the Provincial Capital Commission can be found here. Information about decisions will be posted on that site and regularly in this E-newsletter.

New ward boundaries for November 9 civic election

Population is distributed evenly amongst each of Regina’s 10 city wards. That way every resident’s vote has the same value as the next person and each resident has equitable representation from ward councillors. The area shown in red is the current Ward 1 I’ve represented. The area shown in orange and gold will be the new Ward 1 for the fall election. Ward 1 will include Lakeview, Hillsdale and Whitmore Park.

What's Coming to Council in 2020?

- Independent review of the building permit process is under way. The result will simplify, streamline and shorten wait times for permits and inspections.
- Regulations for body rub parlours are scheduled for spring.

Front row (centre): Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan Russ Mirasty and his wife Donna Mirasty who along with me and Regina Police Chief Evan Bray are seated with the 11 officers who received their 20+ years Police Exemplary Medal of Canada at Government House. Thank you for your service!
Culture certainly does build Community
Serving residents burgers at
I Love Regina Day

Debbie Brotheridge (Chair, Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Committee/past Chair, Aboriginal City Employees) and me at the unveiling of the Truth and Reconciliation wall project at City Hall. This 43-ft long installment, centred by a medicine wheel and star, reminds us of the importance of reconciliations. It also shares historical information on treaties, residential school and written commitments by City staff on reconciliation.
Your Ward 1 Councillor

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