

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

**PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY APRIL 21, 2008**

PRESENT: MAYOR NEIL KROG  
COUNCILLOR ANN GORDON  
COUNCILLOR TOM HINTER  
COUNCILLOR CHRIS MOSLIN  
COUNCILLOR PATRICK O'DOHERTY  
COUNCILLOR GENE ROBERT  
COUNCILLOR TOM SHKRABUIK

CITY MANAGER V. Kumar  
CITY CLERK L. Burch  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER L. Engels

GALLERY

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The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

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**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

➤ none

MOTION: GORDON / O'DOHERTY

**RESOLVED THAT** THE AGENDA OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2008, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

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**REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:**

**a) City Clerk's Report – Delegation of the Community Youth Table**

Corporal Andy Burpee, Trevor Murdoch, Selena Demenoff, and Allannah Kenora-Schwandt of the Community Youth Table made a presentation to Council outlining the information received from the recently conducted Youth Survey at Grand Forks Secondary School and to explain their proposal for graffiti art at the Skateboard Park. Allannah began by explaining that the Graffiti Art Wall Committee resolved to establish an art wall at the Skateboard Park, advising that it is intended that youth across the boundary may submit designs to the Graffiti Art Wall Committee. She stated that the project is designed to challenge youth in the Community to establish inclusive ownership and share creatively with the Community. Trevor Murdoch advised

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that the Community Youth Table was established by Members of Council to address the needs of youth and to further solicit youth input into the ICSP process. He went on to add that the group is working on a sustainable plan for a youth centre and are hoping to present this to Council by February 2009. Mr. Murdoch advised that a survey was created to find out what was important to youth aged 13 – 18, which was administered at GFSS. Selena Demenoff outlined the survey results.

On a question from Council, it was clarified that the group was requesting permission from Council for the development of a graffiti art wall as opposed to random graffiti at the skateboard park. They further clarified that it is intended that Artists throughout the boundary would make submissions to the Committee and upon approval; they would be granted permission to use a portion of the skateboard park for their art.

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MOTION:       ROBERT / MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO CITY COUNCIL THAT THE COMMUNITY YOUTH TABLE BE GRANTED PERMISSION TO CREATE A GRAFFITI ART WALL AT THE SKATEBOARD PARK.

CARRIED.

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MOTION:       O'DOHERTY / GORDON

**RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY CORPORAL ANDY BURPEE, TREVOR MURDOCH, SELENA DEMENOFF AND ALLANAH KENORA-SCHWANDT, ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY YOUTH TABLE, BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED.

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**QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Mayor Krog stated that City Council is interested in hearing from the public on the issues it is dealing with or on any other issue that is of interest to the general public. To ensure that this process is open and does not feel uncomfortable to anyone, he advised that Council has set up some parameters to follow. He requested that prior to speaking about their issue that persons in the gallery would advise Council of the following:

1. Identify yourself, stating your name and place of residence and the issue you are bringing forward.
2. The subject of your participation should be limited to items of broad public interest, not personal to your property. This is not a forum for complaints. Any complaints will be dealt with by Staff and can be made by calling or attending City Hall or other City department during business hours.

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3. Presentations: You must limit your questions and or comments to a maximum of five (5) minutes including questions from Council. This will permit time for all that are present to participate.
4. Council may not make any decisions at this meeting and if Council wishes, the item would be referred to Staff for follow-up and recommendation for Council to consider at a regular meeting of Council.

**Bill Chernoff of 6287 Como Street and Natasha Soroka of 2420 66<sup>th</sup> Avenue:**

Inquired as to being charged for city water that they do not use. Ms Soroka inquired as to why she should pay for services she does not use. The Mayor responded that there is certain infrastructure in the City that benefits the residents and whether a person chooses to hook up or not they are still charged for the infrastructure. The City Manager stated that every resident needs water supply for fire insurance, and the use of fire hydrants, and in this regard certain basic charges are charged to all property owners for this part of operating the system. He went on to add that the consumption water charge is not being charged to those customers that are not connected to the City's water utility. The Committee recommended that Mr. Chernoff and Ms. Soroka come into City Hall and discuss the matter with Staff. The Committee further requested that Staff bring back information on Mr. Chernoff's particular example of a water bill.

**Marian Robbins: Van Ness Way:**

Stated that the last time the sewer and water rates were increased she was advised it was for infrastructure. The Mayor advised that the water rates collected go directly into the water utility. She was advised that the reservoir was upgraded as well as the chlorination system. Upon inquiry she was advised why the City went to the chlorination of the city's water system.

**Erna Gobbett: on Boundary District Arts Council:**

Ms. Gobbett began by reading a letter from Grand Forks & District Arts Council President Ray Lafluer bringing to the Committee's attention the need for Boundary Art Council office space once the Art Gallery moves to the Historic Court House. She stated that office space is required for the coordination of performing arts, etc. Ms. Gobbett stated that currently the Arts Council have desk space at the art gallery but they have been advised that space in the new Historic Arts and Culture building in the former courthouse will not be available. It was suggested to Ms. Gobbett that the Arts Council forward a letter to the Chair of the new Society for the Preservation of Arts and Culture.

Councillor Robert advised at this time that Grand Forks will host the 29<sup>th</sup> Kootenay Regional Juried Arts Show, beginning today.

**Marian Robbins:**

Expressed her concern as to tree removal in the Cemetery. She was advised that trees will be replanted in the Cemetery over time.

**OPERATIONAL DISCUSSION & PRESENTATIONS BY STAFF:**

**a) Roads & Equipment Department Activities – Presentation by David Reid, Roads & Equipment Coordinator**

By way of power-point presentation, David Reid, Roads & Equipment Coordinator for the City of Grand Forks outlined paving, sidewalk, and line painting projects done in the City during 2007. He advised that potholes will receive a more permanent repair, weather permitting, as the freeze-thaw during the winter impacts the paved roads.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY DAVID REID, ROADS & EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR FOR THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS, OUTLINING THE ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHED IN 2007 AND PLANNED FOR IN 2008 IN THE ROADS & EQUIPMENT DEPARTMENT, BE RECEIVED. CARRIED.

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**b) Facilities Department Activities – Presentation by Wayne Kopan, Works & Services Manager**

By way of power-point presentation, Wayne Kopan, Manager of Works & Services for the City of Grand Forks outlined the number of facilities maintained by the Facilities department of the City.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / GORDON

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY WAYNE KOPAN, MANAGER OF WORKS & SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS, OUTLINING THE ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHED IN 2007 AND ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR IN 2008, IN THE FACILITIES DEPARTMENT, BE RECEIVED. CARRIED.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

None

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**REQUESTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

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**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

None

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**LATE ITEMS:**

None

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**REPORTS, QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL (VERBAL)**

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**ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: ROBERT

**RESOLVED THAT THIS PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING BE ADJOURNED 8:23P.M.  
CARRIED.**

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**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

  
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MAYOR NEIL KROEG

  
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CITY CLERK - LYNNE BURCH