

Mr. Mayor, members of Council, my name is Jim Elliott.

- 1) Why is the City of Regina subsidizing the Province of Saskatchewan in Regina? The City of Regina is being asked by the province of Saskatchewan to make the school site in the Skywood development a municipal reserve so that the province of Saskatchewan doesn't have to pay for the school site as it has done for many years. That to me sounds like a subsidy to the provincial government.
- 2) Why is the City of Regina bankrolling the Skywood developer by paying for the infrastructure to the Skywood school? Your administration has said that the amount provided for infrastructure isn't enough to cover the cost of the infrastructure and therefore the City of Regina is being told by the province of Saskatchewan that they must upfront the entire grant from the province and spend it all on the infrastructure to service the Skywood school. The City of Regina is then asked to sit and wait for the developer of the land around the school to pay the City of Regina back at some later date. That sounds like a subsidy to the developer.
- 3) Why is the City of Regina considering exempting another property from its Interim Phasing and Financing Policy? A policy only adopted recently is intent to direct the actions of the City of Regina and the development of this city, now and into the future. Why is the province of Saskatchewan asking the City of Regina to break their own rules? The province appears to not want to deal with the developer and deal with the City.
- 4) Why is the City of Regina developing a school without a neighbourhood? The City of Regina is not planning to have a neighbourhood around Skywood until it begins its 300K neighbourhood planning. As stated in the report, the planning for this area is only at the preliminary stages. I suspect that they don't even know where the school is to be located. Would you want to send your children to a school in the middle of nowhere, hit by strong northwesterly winter winds and no playground?
- 5) Why is the City of Regina reducing the amount of land dedicated to sport, culture, recreation and parks? Under this scenario, the City will be limiting its ability to provide the required 10% of land to its municipal reserve. If this school was purchased outright by the

province of Saskatchewan, the City of Regina would get another 10% of the land put into the municipal reserve for use by the City. So unless, we want to spend more money, this neighbourhood will have less municipal lands.

6) Lastly, the Mayor does not want this to be seen as a precedent.

**Minister Morgan says, If the city had opted out of a school in Skywood because of developer timeline issues, that would have been fine.**<sup>1</sup> This is precedent setting and is a willingness to be acquiescent to the whims of the provincial government. When the province says how high to jump, the City of Regina jumps. The other schools proposed for Regina can go ahead and should go ahead. We don't need Skywood now.

My recommendation to you, our Mayor and Council, is to reject the request of the government of Saskatchewan to develop the Skywood school site now.

Jim Elliott

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<sup>1</sup> Graney, Emma, "City hopes 'subsidization' of P3 school infrastructure won't set precedent", *Leader-Post*, A1-2, November 18, 2014.