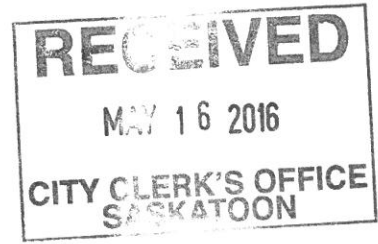


From: Mark Zielke <zielke.mark@gmail.com>
Sent: May 14, 2016 7:29 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council



Submitted on Saturday, May 14, 2016 - 19:29
Submitted by anonymous user: 204.83.82.237
Submitted values are:

Date: Saturday, May 14, 2016
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name: Mark
Last Name: Zielke
Address: 1301 McLorg St
City: Saskatoon
Province: Saskatchewan
Postal Code: S7J 0N3
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Comments:
For consideration by City Council:

In my conversations with those who are "on the margins" living in the core neighbourhood (Riversdale), I've become aware of a voting gap that has a possible solution.

The challenge:

There is an extremely low turnout of First Nations, Metis, and others who are eligible, but who exist close to the margins in Riversdale, Ward 2.

In my conversations with people in Riversdale, it has become clear that many are not comfortable, or feel unaccepted / judged when they are in areas that are "not reflective of their social circles". This includes polling stations.

Proposed solution:

When consulted on how the City can be a model of inclusiveness and acceptance, the overwhelming response has been to suggest a polling station at White Buffalo Youth Lodge. This is an area that is not only convenient, but would accomplish the goal of being inclusive, as well as providing the opportunity of dignity and respect for all people – leading to a higher voter turnout. This also aligns with the City's goal of increasing the rate of engaged citizens.

Acknowledgement of facts:

I recognize that Riversdale has around 2,100 registered voters at this time. With a 14.9% civic voter turnout in 2012, I believe having a second polling station for Riversdale at White Buffalo Youth Lodge would only help to increase this percentage in a positive way for people from every social and economic background.

I would ask Council to strongly consider this additional polling station in Ward 2 – looking forward to a positive response.

Mark Zielke
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The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/94151>