

Foreplay is over

Thursday, 26 October 2006

Some will say that the CCFR's campaign was a rousing success. (See here) The CCFR supporters claim they succeeded in bringing transparency to the forefront of the public agenda, Urban sprawl slowed, increased voter awareness, and many issues are suddenly on the table because of their heroic and Hurclean effort. The City of Regina will be given a new direction because the CCFR rose up, 'challenged the man', made a ripple, and finished last or nearly last in almost every ward they fielded candidates within.

Great Spin Folks!

You could have much of the same 'accomplishments' with a few sheets of paper and a few stamps. Schedule a few meetings....GET INVOLVED more than just at election time. The claim is that the movement organized a year ago and began to build a strategy for change. Yeah, right.

Why was Pat (and others) targeted?

Darn good question! The CCFR campaign wasn't about issues. It was all about payback. Thankfully the Citizens of Regina saw through the smokescreen, and read between the lines that 'the movement' was simply going to make life difficult for the powers that be. The fine Citizens of Regina know that their system of government has checks and balances built in.

The former City Manager, Bob Linner, is the one who was ultimately responsible for the last contract negotiations. Bob did a fine job of negotiating with the resources he had at hand, and he had to make some very difficult decisions. Bob made the best offers he could with what we gave him. It was the employee's decision to withhold labour and strike. Bob did a difficult job, unfortunately, there isn't much Unions can do to hurt or damage a City Manager (out of scope, and unelected). The Mayor and City Council were the only ones who could be targeted, hurt, and made to pay by making some noise.

Thankfully, the fine Citizens of Regina called 'bullshit' on Jim and his Crew, and made their mark on ballots accordingly.

Talk, talk, talk. Lips a flappin' and fingers pointing blame. When push comes to shove....there comes a time when you have to say foreplay is over, it's time to f@ck. That's the point when you find out who's got the goods, and who cuts and runs. While it took a year for 'an alternate voice' for Regina to get organized, the proof was in the actions....whining and playing politics rather than moving to action and problem solving. (See how one candidate decried 'others are to blame and need to do something' while others jumped to problem solving.)

During a year, one can get involved, get in touch, and get action happening; if one really wants to. Yes, City Hall can be moved. The fine Citizens of Regina are not easily fooled. They have chosen to reward encumbants who have BEEN DOING something, making/taking tough decisions, rather than take a chance on electing a bunch with an axe to grind and an agenda that would deplete scarce resources .

The Citizens have made their choice, and it's time to move on. It's time to move beyond ideology and get to work with the people we've chosen to represent us. It's time to put words into action.

In the Words of Teddy Roosevelt:

'It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.'