EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

QUESTION PERIOD

Minute No. 130
Councillor Lubosch requested an update on the smoking by-law review and questioned if a report would be available in February, to which His Worship Mayor Murray replied that he believed that the report would come forward in the February/March timeframe.

Councillor Steek questioned if the Mayor had had discussions with Mr. August, the Forks Board or with Bob Sparrow, indicating that the Phase II parking project at the Forks should not proceed.

Mayor Murray advised that there had been numerous concerns espoused pertaining to the parking and traffic study being undertaken by the Forks, and that there was no indication that the second phase of the parking structure was committed to, and that related discussions were still occurring.

Councillor Steek questioned when the Mayor spoke with Mr. Sparrow in February 2001, did Mr. Sparrow express his concern that the venture was not viable without the Phase II parking project, to which Mayor Murray responded that Mr. Sparrow did not.

Councillor Steek questioned if the Mayor was aware that Mr. Sparrow did not want to proceed with the project if there was not a firm commitment to the Phase II parking project, to which Mayor Murray advised that Mr. Sparrow had not communicated this concern.

Councillor Lazarenko made reference to the City's Sex Trade Committee report and its referral to the Provincial Government for input, and questioned why the Province had not yet reported back, to which His Worship responded that had raised the issue with the Province, but to-date had not received a reply.

Councillor Lazarenko questioned if he, himself, could go before the Minister and the Premier and ask why the Province has not responded, to which Mayor Murray responded in the affirmative.

Councillor De Smedt cited a recent meeting to consider an application before the Downtown Design Board for the proposed Inn at the Forks. Councillor De Smedt indicated that he was interested in meeting regularly, perhaps every six months, with the Forks/North Portage Partnership on systematic briefings.

Mayor Murray responded that while responsibility of the Forks /North Portage rests with the Executive Policy Committee, there was nothing proceeding to require the involvement of the City Government at this time. He further stated that the City's issues were with the land use and governance of the overall site.

Executive Policy Committee – Question Period (continued)

Councillor De Smedt noted that the Design Review Board approved two parkades in February 2002 and stated that there would have been a chance to reconcile any differences had there been an opportunity to meet with the Forks/North Portage Board.

Mayor Murray replied that the Downtown Design Board is not supposed to deal with how many parking spots had been identified, and noted that the City's Legal Services Division had expressed concerns regarding the Committee's jurisdiction.

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,

That the rules be suspended and the Executive Policy Committee Question Period be extended by 10 minutes.

Lost

Council recessed at 11:57 a.m., and reconvened at 1:31 p.m., same members present.