

I am addressing council to oppose the Bishop Grandin Blvd name change and to remind council (all the Councillors and including the Mayor) of something you have long forgotten. As City Councillors and Mayor you are all elected to work for the taxpayers of the city. Without our dollars you do not exist. To put it simply City Councillors and the Mayor are nothing more than caretakers for us, your employer. WE ARE YOUR BOSS, not you as you think. I have more respect for a caretaker because unlike city councillors, the caretaker does what he is paid for or what is asked of him. The caretaker does not attempt to rebuild your business or your assets. And unlike you clowns, the caretaker does not get paid half the salary you get and he has to work (not 8 years) his whole life to get a meagre pension compared to yours.

Bishop Grandin (whether you like it or not) is an integral part of the founding of St. Boniface. St. Boniface is where it is today because of people like Bishop Grandin. He did a lot of good things (more good than bad) in his life and yes he did mistake, but you cannot ignore the good he did for the community and he deserves the right to have his memory preserved. Like everyone of you on Council, Bishop Grandin was human and made mistakes. As Jesus said.. Let he who is without sin, cast the first stone. Go ahead and tell us which one of you Councillors or the mayor is without sin. You clowns and none of us for that matter, have no right to go back and judge people who are no longer here to defend themselves. Bishop Grandin was never convicted of any crimes, let alone charged with any. This was an different era and things were a lot different than today. You cannot apply today's way of life or standards to yesteryear s. It is not our right to judge as we were not there at the time to understand what was going on.

What will changing the name (by the way Canada only has 2 official languages and streets must be in both) of the boulevard to a name that we can't pronounce or understand actually do...will it fix anything...no. It will however cost the taxpayer (who is already burdened with excessive taxes and little service) million of dollars. All businesses will incur more cost, land titles will incur huge cost to change all the data from the name change, and city will have cost that taxpayer will have to bare. Common sense (something lacking at Council) says that this is a ridiculous idea and a huge waste of money, money that would be better used to lower taxes for seniors.

Residential schools by our standards were a disaster, but the federal government and first nations were equally responsible. Bishop Grandin and many other members of the clergy are a part of history. We are all here today (whether First Nations want to admit that or not) because of people like Bishop Grandin and others like him. He is part of our history. History belongs to all of us, does not belong to politicians. It is our history and it is not your right or any minority group's right to change it. Where in the city's charter does it say you have a right to change history.

Now here is the truth.. None of you Councillors have been given the right by us the taxpayer to make those changes. Mr Mayor.. you only got 53,663 votes out of over 200,000 votes so you only have the support of 1/4 of Winnipeg voters,, Matt Allard only got 10,124 out of 36,284 or 30% of the support, and most other councillors fared the same . When 70% of your bosses do not support you, you do not have the right to rule over us. Your job as janitors is to do the basic work that we overpay you to do and nothing more. In other words stick to washing floors and cleaning the toilets and leave our history alone. Not yours to touch.

Now be assured that if you attempt to change the name I will file for and injunction to prevent you from doing so. History is not yours to change, it does not belong to you