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## **June 2004 Newsletter**

**Alderman  
Diane Colley-Urquhart**

### **Tsuu T'ina and Province Sign Historic Agreement**

I was in attendance to witness the signing of a long awaited agreement in principle between Chief Sandford Big Plume of the Tsuu T'ina and Premier Ralph Klein on behalf of the Province of Alberta on April 30<sup>th</sup>. Discussions to build the road that will link 37 Street at Anderson Road to Sarcee Trail have been ongoing for over half a century – discussions this past year between the Province, the City and the Tsuu T'ina have led to a land agreement that will give The Province control of the right-of-way for the future ring road with an alignment through the Tsuu T'ina Reserve. Chief Big Plume's leadership and the support of his Council in throughout these negotiations have been instrumental in arriving at this agreement.

This signing is historic. Further negotiations and discussion are underway between key partners as part of the detailed functional design study that will take place over the next 12 – 18 months in consultation with our communities. This study will determine further details such as costs, cost-sharing, alignment and environmental impacts. I have been supportive of the Tsuu T'ina's plans for economic development and their desire to build a roadway to serve the Nation as well as a long overdue north-south major route for Calgarians and the residents of Ward 13.

We all need to congratulate both Premier Klein and Chief Big Plume for their leadership, determination and commitment in making this agreement a reality. The City, The Province and The Nation have long awaited this critical piece of infrastructure in the southwest corridor.

### **Proposal to Purchase LRT Vehicles**

At the 2004 April 27 meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Land Use, Planning and Transportation of which I am Chairman, an important motion was approved to acquire 14 new Light Rail Vehicles for a total price of approximately \$56 million. Currently, The City does not have plans to purchase any LRV's until 2010. These vehicles are custom built and delivery of an order is two years. Should Council approve this recommendation on 2004 May 17, we will have these additional vehicles in 2006. It is critical that additional LRV's are added to our severely over-crowded system as soon as possible.

### **Emergency Preparedness and Safety Expo**

Over the past year I have held several Town Hall Meetings in all Ward 13 communities. Thanks to all of you who came out to find out what is going on and to discuss the issues. Please watch for the upcoming Ward 13 Open House on Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 9 PM at the South Fish Creek Recreation Centre Complex. This Open House will include all City Emergency departments and provide displays and valuable information for all members of the community.

As always, you can contact my office regarding these or any civic matters at 268-1624, by email at [dcolley@calgary.ca](mailto:dcolley@calgary.ca), or through my website, [www.aldermandiane.ca](http://www.aldermandiane.ca). Alternatively, you can contact 268-CITY (2489).