

Council Chamber
City Hall, Saskatoon, Sask.
Monday, October 27, 2003
at 7:00 p.m.

INDUCTION CEREMONIES FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

City Clerk Mann called the meeting to order and requested that everyone remain standing for the National Anthem. She then introduced Elder Walter Takakenew and Salvation Army Captain Bruce Mac Kenzie, who each presented a prayer of invocation.

The Honourable Chief Justice Gerein, of the Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench, administered the Declaration of Office to His Worship Mayor Donald Atchison, placed on his shoulders the Chain of Office of the Mayor of the City of Saskatoon, and charged him with the duties of the Chief Executive Officer of the City.

Prayers for the Mayor and his Office were given by Elder Walter Takakenew and Captain Bruce Mac Kenzie.

The City Clerk then called forward Councillors Alm, Birkmaier, Dubois, Fortosky, Heidt, Hnatyshyn, Neault, Paulsen, Penner and Wyant, individually, who took their Declaration of Office before the Mayor, following which His Worship the Mayor charged the Councillors with the responsibility to employ themselves in their office in a diligent, faithful and impartial manner, and welcomed them as members of City Council.

After salutations were extended, the Councillors took their seats and His Worship the Mayor took his seat on the dais. His Worship the Mayor invited the members of the Administration, City Manager Richards, City Solicitor Dust, General Manager Corporate Services Velkamp, General Manager Community Services Gauthier, General Manager Fire and Protective Services Bentley, General Manager Infrastructure Services Uzelman and General Manager Utility Services Hewitt, to take their seats within the Bar.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

“Thank You Saskatoon!

Tonight is a night for celebration

It's the start of a new era for Saskatoon.

Let me begin by stating:

‘This election has provided a wake-up call for all at City Hall and those of us on Council.’

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A record turnout of voters spoke loud and clear... change is needed and cannot be ignored. This election has revealed... we have issues that cannot be ignored.

The citizens of Saskatoon are concerned.

I, as your new Mayor, together with Council, am being challenged to attack the issues that are dividing this community.

Gone is the idea that it's our river that divides the city. It's not the river – it's the issues of poverty, crime, taxation, race and city development. We have serious work to do.

Public safety and security is near the top of the list. A new Board of Police Commissioners with the Mayor as the Chair will bring new leadership to our professional police service and a new vision to attack crime.

We must attend to the business of the city to build new prosperity. Priority for public funds must be given to city services such as policing and fire, public transportation and infrastructure such as roads and bridges, sewer and water.

If we invest in our city, businesses will invest in us. New businesses and new jobs provide employment for Saskatoon families.

We must take advantage of opportunities to partner with the U of S for the benefit of all – new student housing, a new sports facility and the synchrotron are all positive prospects for growth in Saskatoon.

Whenever possible, we must partner with private business to service City needs. Through partnering we can do more and... very often... can do it for less.

We must also take advantage of private investment... not only in South Downtown, but in all sectors of our city... we must paint with broad strokes, satisfying our community's varied interests.

We must reach out to private sector investors... their investment in us will favour continued development of our city... Saskatoon.

I have a vision that Saskatoon will become one community for all. Our community leaders must work towards assuring equality for all citizens.

Opportunities and responsibilities should be shared equally amongst citizens. Saskatoon belongs to everyone. We should be one community – one Saskatoon.

The biggest challenge to City Council and the Mayor of Saskatoon will be to find common ground on many fronts.

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We must build public trust through the successful achievement of our community's goals.

It's up to us to work as a team and do the job you ask of us.

As stated earlier, we have serious work to do.

Saskatoon, you have spoken and it's our job to respond.

As your Mayor, I'm ready to lead the way.

You have elected a team of enthusiastic councillors who'll bring new ideas forward. In closing, we, in co-operation with you, the citizens of Saskatoon will create a winning team!

Thank you."

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk