

## **President's Letter to the Membership**

Hello everyone. Wow! What a year. Again, it has been a busy year. There have been many changes in the world as well as our little part of it.

The BIZ board has been very busy with its many projects. Our BIZ Administrator deserves many accolades for the excellent work she has performed in bringing the board's vision to life especially during these trying times. Again, the board and I would like to thank Astrid for everything she has done for the board and especially for the help she provides me in my role as President.

We had another great year with the Green Team. We had a returning student, Yusef, which made the summer much easier. Their days were very full watering our sixty hanging plants, litter and needle pick up, graffiti audit, 311 complaints and general maintenance of the area.

The BIZ was busy with the projects that were carried over from last year including the hanging flower baskets, the holiday lights, and the street banners. Along with these projects the BIZ also had installed more bicycle racks, started a recycling program, and installed dual stream bins.

The BIZ secured a capital grants fund for one hundred thousand for streetscaping. We look forward to working with the architect to put some of the ideas that were heard at last year's AGM into action.

We have also been lobbying the City against a plan they have put in place for the BIZ zones to cover a portion of a civic salary. Your BIZ, along with many other BIZ zones in the city, are totally against this and now have appeared twice in front of Councilors to voice our opinion.

I again stress to our membership that we must remain vigilant and keep reporting the trouble spots to the Winnipeg Police Service as well as to the BIZ. Without facts from our membership, it is difficult to meet with the police to effect change.

I wish everyone well this year and to be extra cautious. This is not going away anytime soon.

Keith Horn President