

December 6, 2017

Report To: Mayor and Council

From: Travis Rob, Manager of Operations and Facilities

RE: Request From the Fort Frances Legion Branch 29 – RE Cross Walk at Church Street and Veteran Avenue

At the September 25, 2017 Meeting of Council a request was received from the Fort Frances Legion Branch 29 regarding the cross walk at Church Street and Veteran Avenue. The matter was referred to the Operations and Facilities Executive Committee with input from the Traffic Safety Committee.

Per the Ontario Traffic Manual Book this style of crossing is labelled a pedestrian crossover where the pedestrian carries the right of way. Additional signage is required as well as additional pavement markings compared to a standard cross walk. The crosswalk across Kings Highway at McDonalds is also a pedestrian crossover, however due to the higher traffic volume and additional lanes, amber signals are required. For the Church Street installation, all of the signage is installed per the OTM guidelines with additional signage overhead. The current on road markings are slightly lagging compared to the standard and will be improved to bring the crossover into compliance with the standard next summer.

Please see attached report from the M. Strachan, secretary of the Traffic Safety Committee outlining their recommendation.

One of the major issues with this crossover is the visibility of the pedestrians to the drivers due to the existence of parked vehicles in the near vicinity of the crossover. Based on the above information; Administration recommends that the pavement markings be updated to meet the Ontario Traffic Manual in summer of 2018 and that no other action be taken.

Respectfully Submitted



Travis Rob, P.Eng
Manager of Operations and Facilities

Council approval of this report will ensure that the pavement markings are brought into conformance with the Ontario Traffic Manual in the summer of 2018 and that no other action is taken.

Report To: Travis Rob, Manager Operations and Facilities
Manager

From: Milt Strachan, Transportation Superintendent

Re: Crosswalk Between the Municipal Parking Lot and the
Fort Frances
Legion Branch 29

The Traffic Safety Committee had a meeting on November 9, 2017 to discuss the complaint forwarded to Mayor and Council in regards to the crosswalk between the Municipal Parking Lot at Veterans Avenue and Church Street and the Fort Frances Legion Branch 29.

Mr. Wiedenhoeft and myself both went to the location of the crosswalk on our own at different times and tried crossing. Mr. Wiedenhoeft crossed 4 times, with traffic approaching and on two of these the vehicles stopped and let him cross before proceeding. The other two times the approaching vehicles just kept going and drove around him. Rick went into the Legion and discussed with some of the patrons and they informed him that they had some close calls at the crossing.

I tried the crossing 4 times as well. The first time was no problem, the vehicle stopped until I was across the street. The second time the approaching vehicle just kept going and drove around me. The next two times I waited for the vehicle to go by and crossed safely.

Mr. Wiedenhoeft and I both agree that repainting the crosswalk symbols and stop bars will help drivers recognize it as a crossing and that the light above should be repaired so that it is lit at night.

In my own opinion I would like to add that the pedestrians using the crossing from the Legion seem to think that it is a controlled crossing. Most drivers don't seem to recognize it as a controlled crossing.

The amount of traffic on this street doesn't demonstrate to me that it can't be a crossing that is used safely by the simple stop, look and listen rule and that allowing traffic to pass before crossing is the logical way to use it. If it is expected to be a controlled crossing than there has to be something to stop traffic.

Sincerely,

Milt Strachan
Transportation Superintendent