

Report To: Planning & Development Executive Committee

From: P. Briere, By-Law Enforcement Officer & T. Dennis, CBO/Planner.

Date: January 10, 2018

Re: Deputation S. Hoard re: Wood Burning Smoke Health Hazards.

The Planning & Development Executive Committee will recall that a deputation from Mr. Stan Hoard was referred by Council to this Committee with input from the Fort Frances Fire Rescue Service and the Northwestern Health Unit.

Since 2013, the By-Law Enforcement Department along with the Chief Building Officials (present & previous) and Fire Department Personnel have been responding to numerous complaints from Mr. Stan Hoard in regards to his neighbours frequency of burning wood in their wood stove which is located in their garage and smoke issues.

This office along with the Fort Frances Fire/Rescue Services and Chief Building Officials have investigated each and every complaint and have concluded on each occasion that the neighbours at 1211 Elizabeth Street East have been in complete compliance with all Town of Fort Frances By-Laws, Building Code and NFPA 211 Standard. We have had numerous discussions with the home owners at 1211 Elizabeth Street East in regards to the complaints that are received by this office. Each time we have had a discussion, the home owners have been more than cooperative with everyone involved in the investigation of the complaints. The home owner has on numerous occasions, allowed staff to inspect their wood burning appliance, wood pile and how they operate their appliance. The home owner has even complied with a request from the Chief Building Official at the time to extend their chimney to help resolve the issues.

Currently, the process for a wood burning appliance is as follows:

- New Building Construction – a permit is required and if a wood burning appliance is installed as the heating source it is included within the permit and inspected accordingly.
- Existing buildings – a permit is required if a wood burning appliance is installed in an existing building.
- Altered/Replaced Appliances – a permit is required to make any changes or replacements to a wood burning appliance used as a source of heating.

After the Chief Building Officials role is completed and permits are signed off and closed. The authority for wood burning appliances falls to the Insurance Industry. A home owner's insurance company has the authority to request that that wood burning appliances meet WETT Certification Standards before the company will insure your building(s).

Therefore, with this stated the By-Law Enforcement Department & Chief Building Official/Municipal Planner are completely satisfied with the current operations at 1211 Elizabeth Street East. Compliance with all Town By-Laws have been met or exceeded by the home owners and we are continuing to work alongside home owners on a regular basis to discuss any and all issues that arise or may arise with the activities that they conduct at their location.

Respectfully submitted,

Original Signed By

Patrick Briere
By-Law Enforcement Officer

Original Signed By

Tyson Dennis
CBO/Municipal Planner