

THE QUESTIONS POSED TO CANDIDATES

Lions Gate Neighbourhood Association

1. Re: the Lower Capilano Community Centre - Are you committed to determining an appropriate location that will fully accommodate such a centre, and the timely development of the Lower Capilano Community Centre, as provided for in the 1996 referendum?
2. Currently, a committee of Lower Capilano residents and District staff are reviewing the Marine Drive corridor, to make recommendations for improvements to this commercial area. Are you aware of this Plan, and will you be committed to supporting the vision for revitalization of the area?
3. What involvement have you had in the community?
4. Lions Gate is under continued pressure for redevelopment which does not fit the single family residential character of the area, and does not respect the OCP. If a redevelopment proposal is presented to the neighbourhood, and the neighbourhood ultimately rejects it, would you vote in support of such a project?
5. Are you in favour of the way bylaws are currently enforced?

CANDIDATE RESPONSES

KEVIN BELL

1. Yes.
2. Yes.
3. Vice-Chair DNV Parks and Natural Environment Advisory Committee President, North Shore Save our Shores Society Executive Member of Edgemont Community Association Active volunteer with North Shore Streamkeepers and Wild Bird Trust of B.C. (operators of Maplewood Conservation Area) Regular attendee at council meetings. Made many presentations to council over the past 20 years. Ran for council seat in 2002 municipal election. Community activist, helping to maintain environmental standards and preserve wildlife habitat on the North Shore. Spearheaded campaign to save the Maplewood Flats wetland area during the 1980's and 1990s. Retired DNV employee with 25 years of first hand experience working with the community. Home owner in Edgemont-Murdo Fraser area since 1979. Son attended Capilano Elementary School.
4. No.
5. No. At present District bylaws are inadequately enforced due to past laissez faire management practices. Under our new municipal manager, I am confident we will see a new and proactive approach to enforcing bylaws

BRUCE CROWE

1. Yes, although timely doesn't seem an accurate term given it was voted on in 1996.
2. I am aware of the plan as I heard your preliminary presentation in March 2003 to the Advisory Planning Commission. It sounded very hopeful then. I would like an update on the vision though.
3. Currently a School Board Trustee, soccer/ softball coach, Recreation Commissioner 2 years, PAC President, member of Advisory Planning Commission for 1 year.
4. I'd want to hear the alternatives provided by the neighbourhood first. As a School Board Trustee I am known for listening and advocating for the parents and voting to support them if I agree with them.
5. Enforcement must be carried out of bylaws are to be effective. Residents need to take responsibility for understanding bylaws.

ROGER BASSAM

1. Absolutely. I supported it in '96 and I don't understand why this project has not been completed let alone started! The Lower Capilano Community Centre is a much needed facility and the delay in executing this project has resulted in dramatic cost increases which may impact the scope of the project. This is simply a result of poor leadership on Council.
2. I am aware this plan is being created and I agree that Marine Drive needs revitalization. I am looking forward to the improvements. I cannot claim to support the 'vision' as I have not seen the final draft of recommendations but like the Lower Cap Community Centre this project needs to move ahead.
3. For the past eight years I have been working on issues that impact our community. I have held a Chair on the North Vancouver Sports and Recreation Council for that entire time and have been on several other committees including the District Parks and Natural Environment Advisory Committee. I currently Chair the Sports Field Development Fund which annually contributes about \$250,000 back to the community and is an excellent model for relationships between community groups and governing bodies like the District.
4. I would work with neighbourhood groups to ensure that a project is supported by the local population and will be beneficial to the community. OCP's exist for a reason and I support community based planning.
5. My experience suggests bylaw enforcement is quite sporadic and seemingly for a number of reasons. If it is an important enough issue to have required a bylaw than that bylaw should be enforced. If we have bylaws that are not necessary or are excessive infringements on the rights of our citizens then those bylaws should be reviewed and amended or revoked.

DOUG HILL

1. The Lower Capilano Community Center should have been addressed some time ago. Delay has meant increased costs will be incurred. Once an appropriate agreement is reached on location the project should proceed.
2. I am aware of a plan to revitalize the Marine Drive corridor and would certainly review the vision and support plans that were community based and fiscally viable.
3. I have resided on the North Shore for over 30 years. I am involved in the block watch program and do volunteer work at a local club. I attend and speak at council and community meetings, recently on emergency response by the fire department and at the Lynn Valley Library community meeting.
4. OCP's were developed to show the long term vision for the community. It would be difficult to support development that the community opposed.
5. I believe bylaw enforcement needs to be improved.

JANICE HARRIS

1. In a word, yes!
2. I am very keen to move forward on the revitalization of the Marine Drive corridor and feel that I have already been supporting some of its key components while on council, including creating a better pedestrian experience and a more lively commercial scene (Indigo books leaps to mind.) I am extremely happy with the street tree program on Marine Drive. Other components of the plan envision residential above grade and commercial and community space at grade. I look forward to the full package of recommendations from the working group.
3. My involvement with the community is all tied up with my fourteen years as a councillor on District council. I am aware of most of the issues facing the community and have always tried to be part of their positive solution(s).
4. I rejected the last significant redevelopment proposal on the Larco site because there was clear community opposition to it. I should note that communities are not necessarily homogeneous in their opinions and feel that all points of view should be listened to. An open mind is essential for good decision making.
5. Yes, given the resources available.

JIM CUTHBERT

1. Most definitely! I have detailed, first hand knowledge of the many benefits of a new Community Centre having been actively involved since 1988 with the lobbying, planning, designing, financing, construction, operation and management of the Parkgate Community Centre.

2. I'm aware of the Marine Drive Corridor Improvement Plan and support its revitalization objectives.

3. Community Service: Member, North Shore Black Bear Network, 2001-04
Member, Mount Seymour Lions Club, 2002-04
Councillor, District of North Vancouver (DNV) 1990-96
Chair, Lynn Canyon Safety Task Force, 1991-93
Commissioner, North Vancouver Recreation Commission,
Chair of Facilities Committee 1992-95
North Vancouver Recreation Commissioner, 1992-94
Chair/member of 3 Councillor North/West Vancouver Emergency Programs Committee 1993-96
GVRD Director, Parks Management Committee, 1991-96
GVRD Director, Bicycle Task Force, 1993-94
member of District of North Vancouver's Advisory Planning Commission, Advisory Design Panel, Parks Advisory Committee, Environment Task Force, and Museum and Archives Commission
Co-Chair, Official Seymour Local Plan (SLP) Management/Coordinating Committees, 1998-2002
Chair, SLP Community Services Committee;
Member, SLP Growth/Development Committee, 1998-2002
Vice-Chair, Parkgate Community Services Society (Parkgate Community Centre), 1997-2004
Chair, Parkgate Community Centre Formation Committee - Active member of small team that developed successful partnership governance model for Parkgate Community Services Society
between DNV, North Vancouver Recreation Commission and Parkgate Society, 1997-2000
Member of DNV Advisory Planning Commission, Environment Task Force and Parks Advisory Committee, 1990
Seycove Sec. School/Dorothy Lynas Elem. School Parent Advisory Councils, 1997-2002
Director and first Chair, Seymour Community Association, 1987-90, 1997-2004
President, North Shore Rowing Club 1998-2000
Director, Flicka Gymnastics Club 1999-2002
Chair, Youth Services Committee, Deep Cove/Dollarton Community Programs Society, 1988
Church Youth Program Leader and Management Committee member, 1988
Co-Captain, Captain, Block Watch, 1997-2004

4. No.

5. The current large number and diversity of District bylaws has led to shortcomings in bylaw enforcement. A detailed review of selected bylaws would help to rationalize the number of bylaws that can effectively be enforced. Bylaws need to be enforceable.

DOUG MCKAY-DUNN

1. Yes, the community centre is the cornerstone of revitalizing the lower Capilano Neighbourhood and must be completed as soon the community reaches agreement on location and program elements. As Councillor, I was fully committed to completing the project and as Mayor I will provide the necessary leadership to move the project forward.

2. Yes, as my record on Council shows, I asked in council and of the Planning Department many times regarding the status of the Marine Drive Corridor study. I understand that funds are needed for streetscape design and capital funds in our infrastructure budget to begin the needed improvements on the corridor. Once the design schemes are completed they must be adopted as guidelines for future redevelopment on Marine Drive.

3. North Vancouver has been my family's home for over 24 years, and we consider ourselves fortunate to live here. Preserving that quality of life has been one of my priorities and I have taken an active interest in community affairs for many years. This involvement is fairly extensive and includes terms as School Board Chair and District Councillor. I have also served as Commissioner for the Rec Commission, been a member of the GVRD Water Committee, and prior to election to civic office, served as President of the Seycove Parent Advisory Council. I am currently a Director of the Seymour Crime Prevention Society and Executive Member of the Seymour Community Association. I believe grass roots involvement with community groups and individuals is essential. As an example, I built a community wide policing network with the full cooperation of businesses, community and local politicians and secured the full support of Mayor Philip Owen. The model was community driven and controlled by the associations.

4. No, because I believe that the process for developing a proposal should result in a project that is supported by the majority of the community. Otherwise, it should be returned for further refinement to address the issues of concern.

5. I think we could do a better job of enforcing our By-Laws, especially where residents' enjoyment of their homes and properties is being adversely affected. I believe that feedback from residents addressing their specific concerns should be encouraged and dealt with in a collective manner. Residents know their neighbourhoods best and often have the best solutions to local issues, so having them as part of any resolution is paramount. This may result in more resources being dedicated to education and enforcement programs, or we may even find more innovative methods to address specific concerns.

JOAN GADSBY

1. Yes, I am committed to determining an appropriate location for the much overdue Lower Capilano Community Centre and timely development of same. I have received and reviewed the September 21, 2004 staff report on this subject. However, I have not as yet received from staff as requested, information pertaining to the Larco proposals for the redevelopment of the Capilano Winter Club site inclusive of incorporating the Lower Capilano Community Centre but expect to do so early next week.

2. Yes, I am aware of the Marine Drive Improvement Strategy 2004 -Summary Document dated March 2004 which I received and have reviewed this week. I recognize the need for revitalization of the Marine Drive Corridor which has been discussed for many years and essentially support the vision for this area as outlined in this document. Obviously, further public input to the vision and contents of the document will be required to arrive at a consensus.

3. I served on North Vancouver District Council previously (ending in 1993) for 13 years. During that time I served on almost every Committee and Board in the District--ie Advisory Planning, Design Panel, Police Liaison, North Shore Health, Lions Gate Hospital, Silver Harbour, Emergency Program, Family Court, Advisory Commission on Community Services, Seymour Facilities, Deep Cove Community Programming, Economic Twinning, Chamber of Commerce and GVRD Communications and Education etc. (Reference my re-election brochure.) My interest in providing leadership in Government continued after I left Council with my involvement in developing and implementing a "Leadership in Government" program at Royal Roads University where I also became a part time Faculty member. Other community involvement includes former North Vancouver Chairman, Conquer Cancer Campaign (3 years), President of Highland's United Church Women, Vice Chair, Canyon Heights School Association, B.C. Board of Alcohol and Drug Education Services, Centre for Excellence, B.C. Women's Hospital etc.

4. I have always been very concerned about redevelopment proposals which are excessive in density and which reflect major changes in our unique North Vancouver District lifestyle and neighbourhood character. It is very crucial to encourage maximum community input to any development proposal and to work towards a consensus of what the community wants and needs-- both within a given area and for the District as a whole. We need controlled balanced and rationalized growth that recognizes the rights of existing property owners and residents, the needs of special groups including the growing number of seniors and young families and which reflects the realities of the market. Based on what information I have received to date regarding the Larco proposal for the redevelopment of the Capilano Winter Club site, I am concerned about the proposed densities and height of buildings, traffic issues etc. If elected, I will carefully evaluate and reflect in my decision, neighbourhood input for this site.

5. All bylaws should be enforced or there is no reason to have same. Some bylaws are enforced currently only on complaint. I understand from attending the meeting this week for candidates in the by-election with senior management staff of the District that the new municipal manager, James Ridge has and intends to introduce more stringent by law enforcement measures which I will support.

CHRIS DORAIS

1. Yes

2. I'm not fully up to date regarding this plan. I am a strong believer in local communities having the main influence in their local community plan and the resulting amendment to the Official Community Plan. There must be close consultation with the City of North Vancouver and their Official Community Plan for the Marine Drive corridor. Consideration must also be given to the Liveable Region Strategies for the Greater Vancouver area. I support a vision to revitalize the area where it includes the community's views.

3. I have been heavily involved in North Vancouver over the last 14 years. I have been a strong advocate on issues such as health care, childcare, senior's issues, and education. I am currently a School Trustee on the North Vancouver School Board. I was involved in setting up the North Shore Regional Health Board. I was a Trustee on the North Vancouver City Library Board. I sit on the North Vancouver City Advisory Commission and the Joint Use of Facilities Committee. I have also been an executive member of Co-op Boards in the past. I have coached soccer and baseball and I have been involved with the corresponding sports associations.

4. As stated before, I would support the majority of the community's wishes.

5. I am not aware of any problems with by-law enforcement, but would certainly be interested in any views your community may have.

ROBIN HICKS

1. Yes. It's important that all sub communities within the District have a focal point for meetings and cultural and recreational activities. The Lions Gate community centre is both planned and funded and should proceed as quickly as possible. The site should be convenient, accessible and selected in conjunction with the local residents. There could be benefits and trade offs if developer finding is involved.
2. I am aware that a review is occurring. Initial changes were taking place when I was on the Advisory Planning Commission. I think the future financial stability of the district is dependant upon broadening of the non residential tax base. This implies in particular improvements to commercial areas and new opportunities for business. Change and innovation are vital and the Marine Drive corridor will play a large role in the Districts' future. The residents should be given the ultimate decision where any choices become available.
3. I am currently Treasurer of the LVCA, past chair of NVD's Citizens Finance and Budget Advisory Committee, past member of the Advisory Planning Commission and was also a member of the Northlands (Golf Course) Advisory Committee. I have coached junior soccer, been treasurer of Cruisers Swim Club and currently am on the executive of Capilano Tennis Club. I volunteer as a golf course marshal and instruct school children in finance and business for Junior Achievement at schools on the North Shore. I also assist Seniors with their annual tax returns.
4. Neighbourhood involvement and support for community planning is the most important component as evidenced by our Lynn Valley community plan. I am committed to respecting and supporting local community opinion and views and would not support inappropriate development.
5. There are numerous bylaws – building, zoning, traffic, parking, park use etc. which the District has in place and varying degrees of enforcement. These need to be reviewed on an ongoing basis to validate their cost and usefulness. Bylaws that involve public safety are generally the most important. Zoning bylaws are arrived at after lengthy community planning processes and should be adhered to, and only changed when benefits accrue to both the local neighbourhood and the community as a whole and after extensive public hearings.