

LETTER: Goodbye village, hello Edgemont mall

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Dear Editor:

Paul Sullivan made some interesting comments in his (Friday, Nov. 27) column about Edgemont Village. We have lived in the Village since 1983 and have seen many changes – some good, some not so.

He refers to “moseying” around the village and that drivers “stop for you” – don’t count on it. Traffic has become nasty since the Capilano reroute, and if people think it will die down after the work is complete, think again. I can’t see that happening with all the new development and additional housing.

Yes, progress is inevitable, but the Village is changing into a glorified medical centre. These tenants are probably the only ones able to afford the extortionate rents now creeping into the area.

He waxes lyrical about Peter Rabbit. Does he know that this “cute little business” is about to be ousted out of its space, along with Trims? Where are we going to get lovely flowers and plants, fake and real, for a decent price now?

And as to the “eclectic architecture,” random is being kind. The Village has become an architectural mish-mash: Spanish library here, Italian veterinarian there, new-age credit union and glass-awning-overkill banks.

I attended the numerous workshops on the “visioning” of Edgemont Village and so far all that seems to be happening is the slow death of charming small retail businesses and the encroachment of large corporations such as Starbucks, Subway, Cobs, all the banks and credit union.

If the unique retailers are pushed out of Edgemont Village, as seems to be the direction the landlords are taking, we will have lost something very special. It won’t be long before this becomes Edgemont Mall.

Anne Savill

North Vancouver

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