



FONVCA AGENDA

Wednesday Mar 20th 2013

Place: DNV Hall 355 W. Queens Rd V7N 2K6

Time: 7:00-9:00pm

Chair: Dan Ellis – Lynn Valley C.A.

Tel: 604-971-4151 ellis7880@shaw.ca

Notetaker: Sharlene Hertz

Regrets:

1. Order/content of Agenda(*short)

Chair Pro-Tem Suggests:

2. Adoption of Minutes of Feb 20th

<http://www.fonvca.org/agendas/mar2013/minutes-feb2013.pdf>

Emails pertaining to draft minutes will be distributed at meeting.

Business arising from Minutes.

3. Roundtable on “Current Affairs”

A period of roughly 30 minutes for association members to exchange information of common concerns.

A. EUCCA: William Griffin to close for construction December 2013

<http://www.dnv.org/article.asp?a=5576>

4. Old Business

4.1 Update from “Process” Committee of FONVCA

4.2 Follow-up letter to M&C – item 6e of Feb 20th

<http://www.fonvca.org/agendas/mar2013/letter-to-mayor-and-council.pdf>

5. Correspondence Issues

5.1 Business arising from 10 regular emails:
(includes previous month emails)

Distributed with full package and posted on web-site

5.2 Non-Posted letters – 1 this period

(includes previous month non-postings)

Distributed with full package but not currently posted on web-site.

6. New Business

Council and other District Issues.

a) **Shirtsleeve Meeting with Council on Tues Mar 26th**
<http://www.fonvca.org/agendas/mar2013/shirtsleeve%20meeting%20March%2026th.pdf>

b) **Update Report on OCPIIC – Dan & Corrie**

c) **Doctor Home Visits – update**

d) **Public Participation – “Reality or Rhetoric?”**
- trend since 1990’s – Corrie Kost

7. Any Other Business

a) **FONVCA Web Site Hosting – Renewal**
Update: Due: December 15/2013 Cost: \$400/3yr

8. For Your Information Items

8.1 Non-Legal Issues

a) **News-Clips of the month March 2012**

<http://www.fonvca.org/agendas/mar2013/news-clips/>

b) **Local Government Updates on Municipal Stats.**

<http://www.cscd.gov.bc.ca/lgd/>

c) **RBC Report on Housing Affordability**

<http://www.rbc.com/economics/market/pdf/house.pdf>
www.rbc.com/newsroom/pdf/HA-1122-2012.pdf

see also

www.housing.gov.bc.ca/pub/CMHC_MunicipalMeasures.pdf

www.housing.gov.bc.ca/pub/market_housing_affordability.pdf

d) **Braemar Park Conceptual Design (Nov 2008)**

[http://www.dnv.org/upload/pdocsdocuments/_2\\$401!.pdf](http://www.dnv.org/upload/pdocsdocuments/_2$401!.pdf)

e) **Fighting Mega-Disasters – Apr 17th Free Workshop at SFU**

http://cnhr.mhrisk.ca/cnhr_wkshp_mega-disaster_2013-04.pdf

Related: Global Risk report 2013 (worth a scan)

http://cnhr.mhrisk.ca/WEF_GlobalRisks_Report_2013.pdf

f) **Roberts Rules in Real Life**

http://www.jurassicparliament.com/blog/Robert%27s_Rules_in_Real_Life/post/Can_you_bust_these_motion_myths/

g) **CNV moves to allow secondary suites in Duplexes**

<http://www.cnv.org/c//DATA/1/40/2013%2003%2018,%20BYLAW%20NO%208295,%20322%20EAST%20KEITH%20ROAD,%20PUBLIC%20HEARING.PDF>

h) **Remarks on proposed DCC Bylaw – Corrie Kost**

http://www.fonvca.org/agendas/mar2013/Draft_DCC_Bylaw_Bylaw_Review-commented-n.pdf

8.2 Legal Issues

a) **White Papers on Justice Reform**

www.justicebc.ca/shared/pdfs/WhitePaperOne.pdf

www.justicebc.ca/shared/pdfs/WhitePaperTwo.pdf

9. Chair & Date of next meeting: Apr 17th

FONVCA Received Correspondence/Subject

11 February 2013 → 17 March 2013

LINK	SUBJECT
http://www.fonvca.org/letters/2013/14jan-to/CGA_26jan2013.pdf	Radar gun for local speed surveys / Available for community associations
http://www.fonvca.org/letters/2013/14jan-to/Doug_Curran_12feb2013.pdf	Please read the following information regarding your correspondence to Council
http://www.fonvca.org/letters/2013/14jan-to/Monica_Craver_21jan2013.pdf	BC Parks in Jeopardy: Doors opening to Vehicles on hiking Trails.
http://www.fonvca.org/letters/2013/14jan-to/Wendy_Qureshi_16jan2013.pdf	Lynn Valley highrises - we need a clip from Nov. 2007
http://www.fonvca.org/letters/2013/14jan-to/Wendy_Qureshi_1feb2013.pdf	Noise and idling bylaws
http://www.fonvca.org/letters/2013/18feb-to/John_Hunter_22feb2013.pdf	Thanks to Presentation by Rick Danyluk
http://www.fonvca.org/letters/2013/18feb-to/Nicole_Deveaux_25feb2013.pdf	Presentation by Rick Danyluk to FONVCA
http://www.fonvca.org/letters/2013/18feb-to/Irwin_Jerome_14mar2013.pdf	The Way it Really Is
http://www.fonvca.org/letters/2013/18feb-to/Wendy_Qureshi_15mar2013.pdf	Politics
http://www.fonvca.org/letters/2013/18feb-to/James_Gordon_15mar2013.pdf	String of emails arranging Shirt-Sleeve mtg

Past Chair Pro/Tem of FONVCA (Jan 2010-present)

Notetaker

Mar 2013	Dan Ellis	Lynn Valley C.A.	Sharlene Hertz
Feb 2013	Diana Belhouse	Delbrook C.A. & SOS	John Miller
Jan 2013	Val Moller	Woodcroft & LGCA	Sharlene Hertz
Nov 2012	Eric Andersen	Blueridge C.A.	Cathy Adams
Oct 2012	Peter Thompson	Edgemont & Upper C.A.	Charlene Hertz
Sep 2012	John Hunter	Seymour C.A.	Kim Belcher
Jun 2012	Paul Tubb	Pemberton Heights C.A.	Diana Belhouse
May 2012	Diana Belhouse	Delbrook C.A. & SOS	John Miller
Apr 2012	Val Moller	Lions gate C.A.	Dan Ellis
Mar 2012	Eric Andersen	Blueridge C.A.	John Hunter
Feb 2012	Dan Ellis	Lynn Valley C.A.	John Miller
Jan 2012	Brian Platts	Edgemont & Upper Capilano C.A.	Cathy Adams
Nov 2011	Paul Tubb	Pemberton Heights	Eric Andersen
Oct 2011	Diana Belhouse	Delbrook C.A. & SOS	Paul Tubb
Sep 2011	John Hunter	Seymour C.A.	Dan Ellis
Jul 2011	Cathy Adams	Lions Gate C.A.	John Hunter
Jun 2011	Eric Andersen	Blueridge C.A.	Cathy Adams
May 2011	Dan Ellis	Lynn Valley C.A.	Brian Platts/Corrie Kost
Apr 2011	Brian Platts	Edgemont & Upper Capilano C.A.	Diana Belhouse
Mar 2011	Val Moller	Lions Gate C.A.	Eric Andersen
Feb 2011	Paul Tubb	Pemberton Heights ← Special focus on 2011-2015 Financial Plan	
Jan 2011	Diana Belhouse	S.O.S.	Brenda Barrick
Dec 2010	John Hunter	Seymour C.A. ← Meeting with DNV Staff on Draft#1 OCP	None
Nov 2010	Cathy Adams	Lions Gate C.A.	John Hunter
Oct 2010	Eric Andersen	Blueridge C.A.	Paul Tubb
Sep 2010	K'nud Hille	Norgate Park C.A.	Eric Andersen
Jun 2010	Dan Ellis	Lynn Valley C.A.	Cathy Adams
May 2010	Val Moller	Lions Gate C.A.	Cathy Adams
Apr 2010	Paul Tubb	Pemberton Heights	Dan Ellis
Mar 2010	Brian Platts	Edgemont C.A.	Diana Belhouse
Feb 2010	Special		
Jan 2010	Dianna Belhouse	S.O.S	K'nud Hille

FONVCA

Draft Minutes of Regular Meeting February 19, 2013

District Hall 355 W. Queens Rd, North Vancouver, V7N 2K6

Attendees

Val Moller	Woodcroft
John Miller (notes)	Lower Capilano Community Residents Association
Diana Belhouse (Chair pro-tem)	Delbrook C.A. & Save Our Shores Society
Corrie Kost	Edgemont & Upper Capilano Community Association
Eric Andersen	Blueridge Community . Association
Cathy Adams	Lions Gate Neighbourhood Association
John Hunter	Seymour Community Association
Dan Ellis	Lynn Valley Community Association
Kim Belcher	Capilano Gateway Association
Doug Curran	Capilano Gateway Association
Eric Miuri	Lynn Valley Community Association

Regrets: Lyle Craver, Paul Tubb, Herman Mah, Sharlene Hertz

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

6. (a) 2013-2017 DNV BUDGET PRESENTATION: by Mr. Rick Danyluk (Manager Financial Planning) presented the District Draft Financial Plan with discussion taking place on the following points (and others):

- Utility funding rates and how Metro Vancouver amortizes project costs and charges to municipalities;
- Utilities were underfunded and staff are to report back on 2014 – 2018 rates and options;
- Rec. commission contract under review;
- Police contract represents 1% of the 1 ½% proposed tax increase;
- Some assets may be abandoned rather than repaired/replaced such as the water fountain on Capilano Road (originally given by Lions Club with District to maintain);
- Certain capital costs such as the expansion of Grant Connell are funded by fees (i.e. not paid for by taxpayers); and
- Some discussion on how other municipalities recover expenses by charging for things like parking whereas the District taxpayers pay for parks assets but other get to play for free.

Link to Rick's presentation can be found at <http://www.dnv.org/article.asp?a=5340&c=1021> or more directly at <http://www.fonvca.org/agendas/mar2013/2013-2017-budget-presentation.pdf>

1. Order/Content of Agenda

Addition of item 6f. Update on sewage plant.

2. Adoption of Minutes of January 16, 2013

Moved by Dan Ellis, seconded by John Hunter, carried.

3. Roundtable on Current Affairs etc.

3b) Woodcroft

At a meeting of the Association of Woodcroft Councils last year, Val Moller was nominated to be their Representative at FONVCA. Also, to pass on any District issue relevant to the greater community which could affect Woodcroft.

3c) Blueridge

The District sent letters to residences, informing them that the District would be planting trees on their boulevards. Discussion took place regarding the District violating their own policy on planting items over 18" tall on boulevards, that no planting should take place on boulevards without sidewalks as this forces pedestrians onto the road and that the District's old policy should be followed whereas they gave the residents a choice as to whether tree planting should take place in front of their property.

6c) OCP Implementation Committee

Advised that District staff was hiring outside staff to advise on the town centres and this would delay things by approximately one month.

3a) Edgemont Upper Capilano C. A.

Womens Drug & Alcohol Recovery facility to be built at Lloyd and Murdo Fraser. Alternate approval process was used for approval. Approx. 180 residents opposed and submitted forms. To force a referendum on this issue would have required ~ 6000 signatures.

Edgemont Village Refresh process underway with 1st meeting (of 3) held 6-9pm at Highland United Church on Tues Feb 19th

6e) Doctor Home Visits – Motion to refresh request (first made in May/2012) to the DNV a UBCM Resolution to the effect that: *“FONVCA write to Mayor & Council to encourage Council to bring to the UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) a resolution asking the BC Government to pass legislation changing the fee schedule to create financial incentives for home (medical) visits.”*

- moved by Dan Ellis, seconded by John Hunter, carried. **ACTION ITEM:** Corrie Kost

6b) Shirtsleeve Meeting with Council on Tuesday, March 26th

Topics moved for discussion were:

- **Encroachments** on waterfronts; **(selected as question for Council)**
- Role of community associations and FONVCA;
- Policy on Healthy Neighbourhood Fund;
- Animal welfare policy (re: \$2.5 million facility replacement cost);
- 'We pay, you play' re: district residents pay for parks that are used by non-residents with no recovery; **(selected as number three topic)**
- PPP for community facility replacements like the former Canlan agreement;
- **Sewage treatment plant** – amortizing 15 years versus 40 to 50 year lifetime of facility, longer term eases tax increases and also provides more options for different treatment types; **(selected as number one topic)**

- **Renewal of recreation facilities**, Rec. Commission agreement and governance of Rec. facilities. **(selected as number two topic)**

4. Old Business

4.1 **Update from “Process” committee of FONVCA** – they will be meeting shortly.

4.2 **Healthy Neighbourhood re-imbusement** for last month’s FONVCA meeting at Delbrook Community Centre had been resolved .

John Hunter left at 9:10 p.m.

7. Any Other Business

7a) **FONVCA Web Site Hosting** – reminder that the funding is coming up later this year. Cost is ~ \$300.00 which is ~ \$100.00/year for a three year agreement.

7b) **Metro Vancouver Community Forum** – Corrie to email the date of the forum (when available) to the members and ask for a volunteer to represent FONVCA. Interested members can refer to <http://www.metrovancouver.org/region/dialogues/Pages/default.aspx> for upcoming schedule of talks/topics.

Chair of next meeting on March 20th is Dan Ellis.

Chair for the Shirtsleeve meeting with Council **at 5pm March 26th** will be Dan Ellis.

Items deferred to March 20th meeting:

5.1 Business arising from 5 regular emails:

Distributed with full package and posted on web-site

5.2 Non-Posted letters – 1 this period

Distributed with full package but not currently posted on web-site.

6d) DCC (Development Cost Charges) Bylaw Review

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Subject: Follow-up of FONVCA resolution of May 16th/2012 emailed to M&C on June 1/2012
From: Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>
Date: 27/02/2013 10:05 PM
To: Mayor and Council - DNV <Council@dnv.org>
CC: 'FONVCA' <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Your Worship & Members of Council,

At the FONVCA meeting of Feb 20/2013 a motion was passed to refresh the attached request (first emailed to Mayor & Council on June 1/2012).

In reply to the original FONVCA request of June 2012 it was stated that it had arrived too late for inclusion in the agenda of the UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) for their meeting of 2012.

The FONVCA Feb 20/2013 motion read:

"FONVCA write to Mayor & Council to encourage Council to bring to the UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) a resolution asking the BC Government to pass legislation changing the fee schedule to create financial incentives for home (medical) visits."

Yours truly,

On behalf of FONVCA
Corrie Kost
2851 Colwood Dr.
N. Vancouver, V7R2R3

— Attachments: —

letter-to-council-item-3F-w-attachment.pdf

29.3 KB

June 1/2012

Your Worship & Members of Council,

At a regular FONVCA meeting of May 16th 2012, as a result of correspondence from a local resident (redacted version attached) the issue of health/home care was discussed.

The following motion was passed unanimously by those members present that:

“FONVCA write to Mayor & Council to encourage Council to bring to the UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) a resolution asking the BC Government to pass legislation changing the fee schedule to create financial incentives for home (medical) visits.”

During discussion of this issue, attendees were encouraged to individually, through their respective association, to **also** back the Ombudsman’s report ^(1,2)

We have an opportunity, at the local level, to make a difference on an issue which, sooner or later, impacts us all, and ask our local municipal council to continue the dialogue, via the UBCM, with the Provincial Government.

Yours truly,

Diana Belhouse,
FONVCA Chair Pro-tem
Tel: 604-987-1656

1. http://www.carp.ca/2012/02/24/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/BC-Seniors_Report_Volume_1.pdf
http://www.carp.ca/2012/02/24/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/BC-Seniors_Report.pdf
2. <http://www.carp.ca/2012/02/24/bc-ombudsmans-delivers-trenchant-new-report-government-responds-with-seniors-action-plan-2/>

I have had recent experience with Vancouver Coastal Health and the problems with accessing services and the confusing duplication of jurisdictions which provide those services.

There is the Lions Gate Hospital Outreach program of dieticians, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, pharmacists, and social workers, all duplicated by Community Care Services, and the Geriatric Outreach Program. The wound care nursing is part of one of these programs - but try and get help once they decide the patient is healed – you have to start all over with the “Case Manager”. Big problem here: lack of shared information about the patient’s condition.

So my first recommendation is this: the whole system needs a thorough review to stop unnecessary duplication and make it more efficient and less costly (e.g. reduce high administrative salaries) and that the DNV Mayor & Council send a resolution to the UBCM asking the Provincial Government to do this.

This all started for me last spring when I tried to find out about the day-care offered one or two days a week to people with Alzheimer’s or various degrees of dementia. I learned there’s a year long waiting list and cost is determined by the patient’s last income tax return, with some paying very little and others considerably more. Volunteers are used in these programs – one at West Van Seniors Centre, the other at Mahon Park at the Margaret Fulton Centre.

The second big concern I have is the virtual impossibility of getting a doctor to make house calls, even though patients cannot go to their Dr’s office.

Three weeks before my husband died, I finally was able to access a retired doctor, one of five who makes house calls for elderly home bound patients. He has 280 patients under his care and told me most G. P.’s won’t do this because it’s not paid well enough, or they simply are not interested.

I should explain that I had home care 24/7 for my husband and went the private route for everything. Coastal Health would have charged 50% more because we had saved enough to cover home care costs.

I had hand rails installed all through the house, special bathroom & bath equipment, wheelchair, transfer chair, walker, finally an electric lift in the bedroom, hospital bed etc. and private physiotherapy, message therapy, diabetic foot care etc. who came to the house.

For those of you unfamiliar with this, I should mention it is possible to borrow some equipment for a donation from the Red Cross for a 3 month period. Otherwise you must rent it or buy it. Only a physiotherapist can arrange for you to access the Red Cross.

Second Big Question: Why is our government not doing anything about the problem of the lack of doctors making house calls?

The Community Charter s.8(3)(i) allows municipalities to regulate, prohibit, and impose requirements relating to public health. Regional districts may, under section 523 of the Local Government Act regulate and prohibit for the purposes of maintaining, promoting, or preserving public health and can undertake measures considered necessary for these purposes.

Section 2(1) of the Public Health Bylaws Regulations establishes that bylaws relating to the protection, promotion, or preservation of the health of individuals are subject to concurrent authorities. So before such a bylaw can be adopted it must have been submitted to the Minister of Health Services and the regional health board or medical officer for approval.

So it is possible for a municipality to have some say over the way our local health system is managed.

The government is really encouraging home health care to take the burden off acute care hospital beds, but it is NOT making it happen.

This is a problem which affects the quality of life for all of us – and quality of life is a major consideration for community associations.

My second recommendation therefore is that FONVCA ask the DNV Mayor & Council to bring to the UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) a resolution asking the BC Government to pass legislation changing the fee schedule to create financial incentives for home visits.

I could say a lot more but time is of the essence. I was given an excellent article about the recent Ontario experience which pointed out the lack of training for family medicine residents to do house calls, that doctors in rural areas are more likely to do house calls, the need for medical leaders who want to change the culture of family medicine to value house calls for the elderly infirm; and that medical school stress this aspect of medical care.

So please think about this. I am not a single voice crying in the wilderness. This concerns all of us –we're all getting older, baby boomers too – Let's ask DNV to lead the way via the UBCM this fall.

FONVCA AGENDA ITEM 5.1

FONVCA LETTERS 14JAN - 10FEB

Subject: Fwd: Radar gun for local traffic speed surveys / Available for community associations

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

Date: 27/01/2013 11:32 AM

To: Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Radar gun for local traffic speed surveys / Available for community associations

Date: Sat, 26 Jan 2013 23:45:36 -0800

From: Capilano Gateway Association <capgatewayassoc@gmail.com>

Reply-To: capgatewayassoc@gmail.com

To: FONVCA <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Hello Corrie,

Residents of our community have been concerned for some time with the speed of traffic along Fullerton Avenue and Curling Road. Speed surveys undertaken by RCMP were deemed suboptimal by DNV Streets and Traffic department.

In light of this situation, the Capilano Gateway Association purchased a radar gun for use by FASIC, our local traffic committee, developing speed surveys along local streets. The data from these surveys will be useful as part of plans for improving public safety.

In recognition of the fact that a number of other communities within the DNV have similar concerns with respect to safety and vehicle speeds within their neighbourhoods, we would like to offer the use of our [radar gun](#) by other associations. The gun is simple to operate, with an accuracy of +/- 1 mph and can record vehicles at 1,500 ft. distance.

To help offset the cost of the gun we are asking for a \$10 weekly donation to our association. Please let us know if you would like to book the gun for use by your group.

best regards,

Subject: Fwd: Important: Please read the following information regarding your correspondence to Council

From: Douglas Curran <Dougcurran@shaw.ca>

Date: 12/02/2013 2:28 PM

To: Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

CC: FONVCA <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Hello Corrie,

I received the response below from West Vancouver's Mayor and Council. I found it refreshing to think that all correspondence on public matters be made open and available. Some months back you had noted the W Van policy and thought the below a good reference for a step that would be of benefit within the DNV.

Doug

Douglas Curran
2046 Curling Road
North Vancouver, B.C.
Canada V7P 1X4

Ph: 604-985-5621
www.dougcurranphotos.com

Begin forwarded message:

From: MayorandCouncil <MayorandCouncil@westvancouver.ca>

Date: February 12, 2013 10:14:36 AM PST (CA)

To: Douglas Curran <Dougcurran@shaw.ca>

Subject: Important: Please read the following information regarding your correspondence to Council

Notice: Thank you for your email correspondence to Council. Please read the following important information regarding your correspondence to Council.

Correspondence (emails, letters, faxes) to Mayor and Council requires the inclusion of the author's name and civic address. Correspondence to Mayor and Council will be published each week on the "Correspondence to Mayor and Council" web page, and listed on Council meeting agendas. Correspondence is published in its entirety unless the author specifically requests confidentiality (please see the exception regarding confidentiality noted below). Correspondence authors who do not wish their name/contact information to be made public (please see the exception regarding confidentiality noted below) are requested to inform Legislative Services by phoning 604-925-7004 or by sending an email to mayorandcouncil@westvancouver.ca <blocked::blocked::mailto:mayorandcouncil@westvancouver.ca> by Friday, February 15, 2013 at 12:00 Noon; otherwise the correspondence will be published in its entirety.

Please note this exception: Confidentiality does not apply for correspondence addressed to Mayor and Council, or Council, regarding the subject of, and notice of, a public hearing or public meeting, development application consideration, or other public processes and statutory notices. Correspondence of this nature will be included, in its entirety, in public information packages, in correspondence published on the "Correspondence to Mayor and Council" web page, and will be part of the public record.

Correspondence addressed to Mayor and Council is circulated to Mayor and Council in the week in which it is received, and forwarded to the appropriate division director for consideration and response to the author, or for information. Written responses from directors are included in the responses to correspondence section of each week's correspondence list.

Please don't hesitate to contact Legislative Services at 604-925-7004 if you have any questions in this regard. Thank you.

Subject: Fwd: Fw: Dr. Horejsi - "BC Parks in Jeopardy: Doors opening to Vehicles on hiking Trails."

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

Date: 21/01/2013 12:23 PM

To: Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Fw: Dr. Horejsi - "BC Parks in Jeopardy: Doors opening to Vehicles on hiking Trails."

Date: Mon, 21 Jan 2013 11:51:17 -0800

From: Monica Craver <mecraver@shaw.ca>

To: <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Dear FONVCA: The following needs to be posted for the Public Record. I believe that many public authorities and landowners *do* understand the damage the extreme freeride mountain biking cult/lifestyle wrecks on the natural environment (riding and trail building activities) --- but for reasons only known to themselves continue to remain willfully blind to it. It is a shameful state of affairs all around. This will be *my* final response to the ongoing epidemic of mountain biking in our midst. Take care.

From: [Monica Craver](#)

Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2013 6:21 PM

To: [DNV Mayor and Council](#)

Subject: Dr. Horejsi - "BC Parks in Jeopardy: Doors opening to Vehicles on hiking Trails."

Dear Mayor and Council: Although this paper was written for, and about provincial and national parks, much of what is stated in it could also be applied to municipal "planning" for mountain biking. This was not written by me, but by a wildlife scientist -- an expert in his field. I don't expect much will change in DNV with respects to the ongoing problematic issue in the woods, either, but this is yet another voice speaking out against "failed management policies" with respect to mountain biking, etc. that you should seriously consider. Thank you.

--Monica Craver--

(PS. According to the BC Motor Vehicle Act a bike, or "mountain" bike, is considered to be a vehicle.)

From: [Brian Horejsi](#)

Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2013 2:13 PM

To: [Monica Craver](#)

Subject: Comment on Garibaldi Plan

Hi Monica

I've just sent this in to BC parks...

...

I don't imagine there will be a positive response from Parks – they have close to a dozen plan "reviews" under way, and the commercial economic agenda is overpowering, but it should be known to them that there are people across the land that object to their failed management policies.

Brian

BC Parks in Jeopardy: Doors opening to Vehicles on hiking Trails.

09 January 2013

Analysis and comments by Dr. Brian L. Horejsi

It is simply difficult for many British Columbians to imagine that managers of the provincial Park system would deliberately introduce to, and promote in Parks, an activity based on machines and dependent on vehicles. British Columbia's park lands have become increasingly ecologically fragile and isolated, and each day they become more valuable to BC residents, as well as other Canadians, for their role in protecting natural ecosystems and contributing to social and environmental well being. Parks managers have consistently failed to meet this goal, an ugly reality widely known to environmental activists and independent environmental scientists, and a failure that has drawn the attention of the provinces Auditor General <!--[if !supportFootnotes]-->[1]<!--[endif]-->; yet BC Parks management is in the process of forcing off pavement mountain biking, an activity known to be responsible for a growing list of destructive environmental consequences and one inbred with a culture of lawlessness and aggression, into the provinces Parks. Conspicuously absent from this management initiative is any environmental impact assessment addressing the environmental and social costs of mountain biking.

A cultural change in BC Parks management has been underway for over three decades; to Parks watchers and conservationists, it is almost palpable: You can feel it! The swing has been from old time senior management, people with a philosophy of protection and commercial restraint, to the new breed of promoters and collaborators, people whose swagger comes from expanding special interest use of Parks and incorporating commercial business interests into Parks. Gone, or going, are people that see Parks as valuable Provincial and National publicly owned ecological assets, not just symbolically, but as real and tangible landscapes divorced from the growth and consumption agenda of other Provincial and Federal lands. Parks are lands where decisions and management should be based one part on scientific ecological integrity, one part environmental impact assessment, and one part province wide democratic citizen involvement, lands where the protection and conservation agenda are to be aggressively defended.

The thrust of the most recent Provincial Parks Planning initiative [\[2\]](#) presents an ugly head that threatens to deliver a destructive and irreversible blow to the public and ecological role that Provincial Parks have historically played, and not incidentally, were in part established to play. BC Parks have through time united British Columbians from across the province, and in some cases citizens from coast to coast, and faithfully served tens of millions of citizens. Where they have served Canadians, they have successfully done so in large part by being stable refuges from mechanization, commercial development and industrialization. Based on a suspect management "review", one in which mountain bikes have suddenly achieved their own special category of user, a century of successfully serving people from across the province is apparently no longer a high priority - no longer a management standard. Satisfying millions of visitors expecting equal and unimpaired access to most park natural areas, all while serving the dual role as home to relatively intact and protected ecosystems, is now under severe and intense attack from commercial and mechanized interests. And sadly, Parks management has become a significant contributor to the threat. To suggest that this is a serious betrayal of the will of the people of British Columbia is, in my view, an understatement.

The BC Park planning agenda strikes not only at Park ecosystems, but equally as dangerously, it attacks the century long conservation and protection vision and philosophical foundation of Parks in general. The planning review apparently is being justified by senior Park Management spouting the same tired proclamations that have led over decades to a long and growing list of endangered species and places, the precarious state of biodiversity across the province and country, and the degraded state of public lands "managed" for industrialism and motorized/vehicle use (Provincial Forests and some parks). There have always been extreme activity and commercial interests pounding at the doors of any Parks system, whether they be mining, grazing, or hotelier interests. But the newest breed, equally as dangerous, are mountain bike promoters, dealers and manufacturers. Park management has far too often cowered before these latest pressures, whose proponents sense weakness and incapacity to regulate; and too often senior Park Management has assuaged its failures to protect Parks with cries that compromise is necessary!

Compromise, however, no longer has a place in the conservation and protection of remnant landscapes like Provincial Parks. Compromise is the function of giving away something each time pressure or demand occurs. It works well for commercial, corporate and other special interests - to use an example, special interest Group A demands a piece - a few acres or just a few km of trail in the South Chilcotin area, for example - of the \$100 dollars you have in your hand. Five years later Group B wants the same thing. After decades of compromise, you now hold \$13.47. Some might consider that a benefit; after all, you could have nothing left! I don't think most British Columbians see it that way. Nor do living ecosystems function that way.

British Columbians have already had most of the land in their Province compromised by special interest users. After 100 years Provincial Parks are the remnants of insatiable demand and compromise. They are invaluable; and they harbor and, in cases like Lillooet or Garibaldi, anchor much of the Provinces still ecologically functional landscapes. They are the end result of a century of conservation horse trading. Now another crack has appeared in the conservation dam.

In danger are still functioning, living ecosystems that have absolutely nothing to gain from compromise. They need all their existing biological and evolutionary parts and processes to stay alive.

This invasion of Parks is not happening by accident. It is, in my view, a calculated effort to defer to extremists in local communities, national lobby groups like the International Mountain Biking Association and their local "tribes", and radical chamber of commerce types and collaborating legislators in western Provinces.

Our neighbor, America, is already seeing failures resulting from managements abdication of legal and moral, social and environmental obligations. In Big Bend National Park, for example, the Superintendent caved in to mountain bike lobbyists from outside the Park [\[3\]](#), where National Park standards were eroded through complicity with an in-service coterie of people, and callously authorized a regime of ecological and social conflict characteristic of mountain biking. And we have our own deplorable precedent in Banff National Park, where the crushing top-down fist of commercialization and associated extremist activities is accelerating ecological decline and fueling disintegration of democratic public participation process.

A mole is a person who insinuates him or herself in an organization or system for the specific purpose of elevating a single agenda, usually an agenda that person stands to personally gain from, above all others, with calculated disregard for the social, psychological, or environmental damages and costs imposed on other interests and agendas. The strategy is most common in the environmental regulatory world, and it is a practice that has been highly successful for the mtn biking lobby; through it they have broken down traditional, environmentally and scientifically sound, user compatible standards and activities on Public lands with remarkable regularity. I suspect this has been, and is, a factor in the apparent urge to force off-pavement mountain biking into BC Parks.

When conservation management of Provincial parks retreats to the level of what some might refer to as a reasonable compromise, it is illuminating to look at the money and lobbying trail. A compromise built on blind or willful ignorance of conflict, intense lobbying by special interests like mountain bike dealers, manufacturers and promoters, and an indefensible absence of scientifically sound environmental impact assessment and land and wildlife protection standards, is not a compromise. It is malfeasance!

It is alarming that BC Parks would push mountain biking in direct confrontation of decades of sound scientific study showing the acute and costly conflict between machines, their users, and bears, bighorns, and wolves as well as elk, mule deer, and sadly, all other species including birds. After decades of intense effort by the public, with collaboration by some government agencies including in some instances BC Parks, to recover grizzly bear populations in many parts of the BC park system, efforts which are by no means yet to be considered a success, it is offensive to see the indifference of senior planners and managers as they load additional human use and conflict into ecosystems already under ecological stress. And while Climate disruption is adding already to that stress, it is notably absent in Parks documents.

The net results of a mountain bike invasion will be many, all negative. BC Parks is moving toward domination of landscapes by destructive land uses and intense user conflict, much as has been the case on U.S. Federal lands (National Forest and Bureau of Land Management lands). The unfortunate appearance of the local decision-mountain biking initiative demonstrates a disproportionate influence over a regulatory agency whose mandate is to protect the interests of all the people. As the Provinces Auditor General points out "Ecological integrity of parks and protected areas is integral to the quality of life in British Columbia". Given that BC Parks is "not successfully meeting this goal" [\[4\]](#), opening the floodgates to mountain biking is further aggravating bitter and unjustified conflict about who owns Provincial lands and who should decide how and to what extent they are protected.

The change that will take over all of BC parks when mountain bikes begin to run freely will precipitate a life altering shroud of social and user conflict. Contrary to the rote arguments by senior management and planners in BC Parks (see, for one example, the Garibaldi expanded biking initiative, and the generalized concession to biking in the overall planning process <!--[if !supportFootnotes]-->[5]<!--[endif]-->), a decision to impose mountain biking on Provincial Parks is a decision that will significantly affect the quality of the environment. Gone will be the serenity and satisfaction experienced by citizens that come to watch wildlife and walk in spectacular landscapes in peace; front country and back country solitude will be elusive, if not gone; the delightful anonymity that hikers exhibit, their generally quiet demeanor and friendly yet excited conversations about the grandness of nature, will be over ridden by the high fiving, whooping, and screeching common to some mountain bikers, the constant clutter, thumping and creaking of machines, and the visual spectacle of people that consider themselves members of "tribes" and too often dress in garish garb characteristic of the Tour de France. No two groups of people could be in greater contrast.

One of these groups, citizens that have enjoyed our Provincial Parks for non mechanized and peaceful recreation for over a century, will lose an often cherished and valued park environment and experience, while another, mountain bikers and their corporate backers, will take over previously natural use landscapes with machines and the bravado that accompanies them.

This cannot be viewed, except in today's perverse commercial and growth dominated agenda, as a success or achievement.

These mean spirited actions by Parks managers are not accomplishments; they go into the lost-past and lost-future column, a place where British Columbians begin to lose something they have managed to (generally) hold above the every day ugly politics of greed and consumption for the better part of a century. To think that essentially internal Park planning decisions can now severely damage, and begin to alter Provincial Parks like the Yalakom or South Chilcotin, or any other Provincial Landscape, according partly to personal and institutional biases and whims, is tragic. It is and will be tragic for millions of British Columbians, and it robs future millions of citizens of the chance to experience present day living landscapes the likes of which do not exist anywhere else in the west.

In what stands out as a masterful piece of deception, mountain bikers, their advocates and regulatory ministries almost exclusively hang their hat on only one issue to "justify" their activities and it is that bikes and bikers have no greater impact on a trail than hikers. They reference essentially one study that began with a crippling bias – it was originally instigated and funded by the mountain biking industry. It focused on whether a bike tire or hiking boot causes more damage to a trail. The result is the farcical equivalent of claiming that the only impact your car has on the world in which it operates is where its tires contact the pavement. It is a magician's sleight of hand – like the broken wing display of a grouse leading the dog off the trail – that has hornswoiggled land and wildlife managers and, it appears, government environmental analysts.

To make the claim that the physical impact of mountain biking on soils is no greater than the impact of hikers and walkers is not just preposterous, but for any land management Service to hang their "justification hat" on it as though it were ordained by solid science and evidence, is dishonest. To dismiss as irrelevant the weight loading on tire surface, the constant shear of rotation movement, and the braking, sliding and skidding of wheels, says a great deal about the ideological spin some land managers have put on this issue. Unwittingly, I suspect, land and wildlife managers and proponents of mtn biking contradict themselves and the "no greater impact" argument by immediately pointing to the need for drastic trail upgrading, including "armor" plating, necessary to accommodate biking. That begs the question, just which is it, ladies and gents? No impact, or massive trail construction and / or upgrades which lead to a sharp increase in physical trail size and presence, biker use, and subsequent erosion surface?

But this is only a small part of the effort to railroad public perception of bikes and biker impacts and conflicts. By insisting that you and I hold a magnifying glass to the physical impact of bikes on soil (trails) regulators and bikers systematically ignore and misrepresent the three greatest areas of impacts; 1) conflict with traditional users, and the rapid displacement of hikers, walkers and people interested in the natural world and escape from machines and industrialization (is that not what Parks are for?), 2) the vastly extended range of impacts on soil, waterways and vegetation that machines cause, and 3) the broad and often intensive ecological and behavioral <!--[if !supportFootnotes]-->[6]<!--[endif]--> zone of impact on wildlife that bikes and bikers impose on the trails and parking areas they use.

This orchestrated misrepresentation by omission is as absurd as arguing that the only thing important about the elephant in your living room is the sole of its foot!

To further aggravate the distortion mtn biker advocates have propagated, the overarching issue – that machines and vehicles like off pavement mountain bikes are incompatible with, and consequently should never be permitted to enter and degrade, Parks - is deliberately avoided.

The prevailing view of industrial and vehicle impacts on landscapes and ecosystem is dependent on a long established administrative / corporate insistence that the non human living world be regarded as an essentially mechanical system lacking the sensory and cognitive abilities of humans when in fact, the mammals, birds and fish that occupy public lands have sensory systems and abilities / capabilities that are in many cases far superior to those of humans. This requires cognitive and reflex capacity, different than that of humans of course, to process (and react to) the information they get from their surroundings, surroundings which increasingly are clogged with human presence.

The displacement effect of newly created or aggravated habitat "pits" that form around mountain biking roads and activities, consisting of lost and degraded habitat security and utility, will redistribute some, if not many or all, of the members of existing wildlife populations, with ramifications for in-Park and inter-jurisdictional conservation and conflict management. These negative changes will add cumulatively to existing stress on endangered species, populations, individual animals, their habitat and legally mandated conservation and recovery efforts.

Humans have an evolutionary and cultural connection with wildlife, and while much of this is cognitive – a positive mental state of mind about wildlife – there is no question too that the setting – both the landscape and designated management agenda, as well as visual, auditory and olfactory signs - all elicit renewal and reinforcement of cognitive connection and enjoyment.

One of the immeasurably rewarding pleasures gained from walking in, or just thinking about, British Columbia's Parks is not seeing evidence or examples or occurrences of mechanical contrivances, the kinds of things people in North America see on a hourly basis in most of their life. Escaping these stress producing irritants is a major reason people use Parks, wilderness areas, and other more well managed, less industrialized public lands. It is a treat, soothing to the soul and mind, to walk a trail and not see tire tracks, discarded parts of machines, or the high rate of debris vehicle users haul with them, or a bike despoiling a nearby ridge top. Garibaldi, and the entire BC park system, will be tarnished forever, losing in the process a great deal of its natural lustre, if vehicle bike tracks begin to desecrate trails.

Walking a trail and seeing tracks of a grizzly bear that might be just ahead of you, or passed by this morning travelling your way, or noting the monster tracks of a moose and wondering if it's just around the corner, or simply admiring the delicate track of a mule deer, brings a surge of pleasure and excitement to many hikers, me included.

In this cumulative respect, the presence of mountain bikes on any landscape is an added threat to the appreciation and conservation of natural cultural resources – resources which are not always carved on a rock wall – and which I believe include evidence of trail use by wildlife, however temporary these signs of the natural world might be. These important signs and indicators are obliterated by mechanization like mountain biking.

The stunning ignorance imbedded in the argument “just let us build a super sized (bike) road – bikers and their industry coyly insist on calling them trails – for bikes travelling at 7 to 20 times the speed at which a hiker walks, at multiple bike widths, with extreme construction durability, sometimes through previously unfragmented wildlife habitat, and then introduce bikers with an anti social *“we deserve to have our machines here attitude”*, and we “know” there will be no environmental or social impact, indicates a deep seated attitude of denial, entitlement, and disrespect. Equally as threatening to public lands and British Columbians who engage in traditional use of those lands, is the acceptance of such a fraudulent claim by regulators like BC Parks.

Decisions to enable off pavement mountain bike use in BC Parks ignore reality; the daily range of mountain bikes far exceeds that of people on foot (or horseback), it allows bikes and bikers to outdistance and elude the “reach” of law enforcement, and it ignores the far reaching biker invasion of designated or de facto habitat security which Provincial Parks have at least historically attempted to provide. Mountain bikes represent not only a vastly different kind of human footprint, but they enable major expansion of the human footprint with negative ecological, and wildlife population dynamics and viability consequences.

A recent decision in the U.S. is printed in the Federal Register under the heading “Vehicles – bicycles”, is at least honest, although probably by accident, and indicates to me that legally, mountain bikes are vehicles! Its time BC Parks comes clean in a functional everyday sense and acknowledges, in their everyday language and planning documents, that mountain bikes are vehicles, that should be treated and managed like all other vehicles. In reality, proposals to permit mountain bikes in Provincial Parks represent a seismic shift to give priority to vehicles above traditional – historical foot dependent use by humans.

The reality is that far too many land and wildlife management Ministries and people in those ministries, are mired in a chronically under informed vacuum that fails to serve the public interest or meet the serious needs of scientific, intelligent and aggressive conservation responses and actions now desperately required in BC’s Provincial Parks.

The list of impacts and conflicts associated with mountain biking keeps growing, and yet land and wildlife managers frequently behave as though they are without common, scientific or social sense, robotically repeating propaganda and misinformation from the biker lobby. Mountain bikers as a group are disproportionately males, young males. Yet Parks have until recently prided themselves in appealing to the biological evolutionary linkage to the natural world found in virtually all members of Canadian society, including females and all age classes of Canadians. It is not uncommon, in fact, to see special programs designed to get all people interested and active in the outdoors. Mountain biking does exactly the opposite; the aggression and threats to emotional and physical well being of walking trail users that bikers present disproportionately drives female hikers, outdoor activists, and young, mature and elderly walkers to abandon trails and areas invaded by mountain bikers. Consequently, many hikers abandon areas sacrificed to mtn bikers, leading to displacement of woman of all ages as they abandon “their” public lands, their hiking trails, their favorite walks and their special areas, creating a sex aggravated impact.

The threat that bikes and bikers pose to other users and wildlife should come as no surprise. The cognitive “envelope” around a person engaged in a seemingly simply yet demanding manual motor task likeriding a mountain bike on a trail is disturbingly narrow; it consumes most of the participants brain “power”, virtually shutting off input to that individual from visual, auditory and olfactory signals that originate outside that very restricted envelope. In other words, contrary to the proclamations of bikers about experiencing the outdoors and interacting with the natural world, they are virtually in a shroud created by subconscious innate, natural biological and neural demands on their senses; they see little, hear little, and smell very little. They are as distant and removed from “nature” [\[supportFootnotes\]-->\[7\]<!--\[endif\]-->](#) as if they were driving a car! And they are almost as much of a threat.

The tiresome claim that mtn bikers are being “denied access” to any area is another of the baseless and factless arguments common to promoters of the industry; Almost all bikers are, as trite as it may seem to point it out, in possession of two legs and two feet and (most) are as capable of walking as hikers are. They have *never* been denied access to wilderness areas, protected areas, or Provincial Parks. Like every other British Columbian, they are welcome to walk public lands under virtually all circumstances, the very, very few exceptions – which apply equally to all users - being resource protection closures!

Public lands and Provincial Parks were initially protected many decades ago because visionary people saw great value in public ownership of exceptional landscapes that “protected (“stored”) and renewed watershed, biodiversity (including wildlife and natural landscapes), clean air, and refuge for all citizens from the physical and mental poking and prodding of everyday work and survival.

This great vision and the ecological well being of these landscapes began to slowly unravel beginning in the 1960s when public lands began to be viewed as storehouses for extractable resources. Provincial Parks, in some cases however, began to segregate themselves from this consumption agenda, establishing themselves in the eyes of the public, as the best of special places and deserving of legal protection separating them from the industrial and mechanical invasion that was degrading provincial Forest lands.

By the 1980s the march against public lands was intense, but still Provincial Parks, thanks in large part to growing involvement of citizens who had come to realize what was at stake, held the high road against industrialization by special commercial interests.

What was gaining momentum inside the bowels of political government and their Ministries, however, was a culture that viewed public lands as a dumping ground or release valve for new land use schemes that were gaining insider political traction, including off road vehicles, oil and gas exploration and exploitation, logging and the most recent, off pavement mountain biking.

British Columbia is suffering a crisis in regulatory decay brought on by governments that have increasingly viewed and “managed” public lands as a by product of economic growth and consumption. Absent the legal foundation to say no at a regional or Provincial Level, no competent or efficient regulatory system can exist. **As is now becoming far too evident, todays regulatory / management system is incompatible with the long term protection of viable ecosystems**, including the protection of ecological, legal and social characteristic that have for over a century defined societies view and expectations of Provincial Parks. The pathological premise that continued human and industrial consumption of the biocapacity of public lands (by for example, mountain bikes and bikers) can be “managed” at the impact end (on the trail) as opposed to the decision making “end” (before it starts) threatens dramatic interference with the ecological function of Provincial Parks as we know them today.

Provincial Parks are amongst the few remaining landscapes on which society has committed itself to sharing physical and ecological space with other species. Now this commitment is under severe threat. The growing occurrence of incremental expansionary and consumptive actions are irreversibly degrading Parks, each one taking another bite out of the Parks living systems and each one counter to the traditional role of maintaining ecological function and keeping development and mechanization out of and at a distance from Park Ecosystems. In some sectors of government and the public service, this agenda is misrepresented as “leadership” when in fact what is needed are managers, for example, whose leadership would come in the form of an in- Park “no growth – no additional activities” agenda.

One of the pressing needs in today's world is the need for some positive social constants, as well as some ecological stability, and Provincial Parks have historically played just such a role, helping stabilize the lives of millions of Canadians. Parks are intended to act as fire walls against the day to day frenzy of commercial, government, and corporate excess, and self centered individualism, that creates the disparity, friction and stress in today's world. Changes in orientation of Provincial Parks, in this specific case forcing off pavement mountain bike vehicle use on walking trails in BC parks, are striking at the century long stability and vision of Parks and creating another layer of tension, conflict, cost and impact British Columbians don't need and haven't asked for.

Dr. Brian L. Horejsi

Ecologist / wildlife scientist,

And frequent public land user,

Calgary, Alberta

<!--[if !supportFootnotes]-->

<!--[endif]-->

<!--[if !supportFootnotes]-->[\[1\]](#)<!--[endif]--> See: Conservation of ecological integrity in B.C. parks and protected areas. 2010.

Report 3, August 2010. Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia.

<!--[if !supportFootnotes]-->[\[2\]](#)<!--[endif]--> BC parks, Protected Areas Management Planning, for 9 interior Parks, and for

Garibaldi park, began in 2011. See BC parks website at http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/planning/mgmtplns/lillooet/lillooet_mp.html

<!--[if !supportFootnotes]-->[\[3\]](#)<!--[endif]--> Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility. 2012. Big Bend breaks ground

on single-track bike racing trail. News Release, 18 April 2012.

<!--[if !supportFootnotes]-->[\[4\]](#)<!--[endif]--> See footnote 1. These two quotes are from: Conservation of ecological integrity in B.C.

parks and protected areas. 2010. Report 3, August 2010. Office of the Auditor

General of British Columbia.

<!--[if !supportFootnotes]-->[\[5\]](#)<!--[endif]--> Garibaldi Park; Management plan amendment for the Spearhead Area. Draft. BC

Parks, October 2012. And See Footnote 1, above. **It is a disturbing indication of**

political interference that BC parks would not recognize the comprehensive

environmental destruction associated with mountain bikes in the area before

issuing a plan amendment specifically designed to consider expansion of mountain

biking, and then, in early December 2012, decide, based on only a very narrow

aspect out of a wide range of impacts, that mountain biking is not appropriate in

only a small part of the Park, the Upper Spearhead drainage.

<!--[if !supportFootnotes]-->[\[6\]](#)<!--[endif]--> Displacement, harassment, and alienation.

<!--[if !supportFootnotes]-->[\[7\]](#)<!--[endif]--> This cognitive isolation is made even more acute by a helmet, which not only physically shields the rider from his/her environment, but provides the rider a sense of anonymity and consequently self imposed immunity, one of the foundations of aggressive and lawless behavior.

-- The END --

— Attachments: —

BC Parks in Jeopardy_Mtn Bikes_#2_09January 2013.doc

68.0 KB

Subject: Fwd: Noise and idling bylaws

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

Date: 01/02/2013 2:48 PM

To: Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Noise and idling bylaws

Date: Fri, 1 Feb 2013 14:08:55 -0800

From: Wendy Qureshi <wendyqureshi@shaw.ca>

To: North Shore News <editor@nsnews.com>

CC: fonvca@fonvca.org

Dear Editor,

What is going on with the DNV bylaws? They are not enforced. I live near Lynn Valley Road and Mountain Highway. There are trucks coming and going all day every day. Do they have to keep their motors running for an hour or more?

I have spoken to some of these drivers and asked them why they don't turn off their motors. I get the "bird." Nasty.

There was a truck parked in front of Woodstop today and it was running full tilt for more than an hour. The back-up beep beep also went on and off for more than an hour. They were loading wood onto the truck. There is no need to keep the motor running.

Please, we residents of Lynn Valley do not need this constant barrage of noise and it will certainly get worse if there are highrises built in our community.

Wendy Qureshi
North Vancouver
604-980-1885

Subject: Fwd: Lynn Valley highrises - we need a clip from Nov. 2007
From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>
Date: 17/01/2013 11:35 AM
To: Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Lynn Valley highrises - we need a clip from Nov. 2007
Date: Wed, 16 Jan 2013 23:54:12 -0800
From: Wendy Qureshi <wendyqureshi@shaw.ca>
To: CBC Radio <earlyed@cbc.ca>
CC: George Koch <georgewkoch@shaw.ca>, John Sharpe <goforaspin@gmail.com>, Monica Craver <mecraver@shaw.ca>, alexschwarz@telus.net, Fonvca@fonvca.org

Dear Rick and gang,

I am a long time supporter of your program. My thoughts and emails have been on-air.

Former District of North Vancouver Councillor Ernie Crist was on your show as was Lynn Valley Community Association representative Dan Ellis in early November 2007 after the following ad was published.

We people who are fighting against highrises in our community would appreciate this clip.

Thanks in advance.

Wendy Qureshi
604-980-1885

Begin forwarded message:

From: Wendy Qureshi <wendyqureshi@shaw.ca>
Date: January 15, 2013 2:29:27 AM PST
To: George Koch <georgewkoch@shaw.ca>
Subject: Ta da

An open letter to the **PEOPLE OF THE NORTH SHORE**

What is a sustainable community (Lynn Valley) and how can we achieve it?

The North American City is the product of the automobile. It shaped our lives, our culture, and our economic priorities. Land was plentiful, oil cheap and Henry Ford, an American hero, turned mass production of cars into a religion.

However, the imperatives for radical change are now upon us. Our reliance on the automobile to commute in the city is past.

Global warming is not a myth, the economic cost of single vehicle transportation is not a myth, nor is the waste of land nor is the staggering cost to our health and the depletion of fossil fuel. Change is no longer an option. It is a challenge we will either meet head on or we will suffer serious consequences.

The new 21st century livable city is designed for people not cars, stated world renowned city planner Hans Blumenfeld on his visit to Vancouver almost 30 years ago. Indeed there are no cars to speak of and to the extent that they exist, they are the exception not the rule.

Transportation in the new city is based on mass transit. It is efficient, convenient, cheap, and pollution free. It is virtually noiseless and pleasing to the eye. It is in harmony with the city's architecture. It is part and parcel of a new human friendly environment in which people speak to each other and relax while traveling at great speed moving to their destination. It is an antidote to alienation and comprises everything from rapid trains, noiseless street cars, to buses, ferries and mini buses.

The new city has plenty of trees, parks, playing fields, indoor and outdoor recreation and cultural

facilities. Most neighbourhoods are self contained for efficiency and yes, there are highrises. Indeed, compact developments are the rule rather than the exception while total green space is enhanced and pedestrian friendly.

However, the new proposal for highrises in Lynn Valley is not conducive to this objective. It is the exact opposite. It is outmoded and reactionary.

Far from decreasing reliance on the car it will enhance it. Far from less pollution, there will be more. Far from generating less traffic congestion, there will be more. The reason is that the most important element of enhanced livability, as outlined in numerous vision statements by the World's most credible town planners, will be missing, namely a transportation system which reflects this concept and must be its backbone.

If the proposal for highrises in Lynn Valley, in the name of motherhood and apple pie, is implemented as it will unless the people stand up now and stop it, everything which is outdated now will be worse. Any and all talk to the contrary is at best wishful thinking or an out and out hoax as was the previous densification of the Lynn Valley Core sold to the people of Lynn Valley as a "Pedestrian Oriented Town Centre".

Sign the petition. Get on board. If you want to join our team and fight this travesty, contact Wendy Qureshi at 604-980-1885 or wendyqureshi@shaw.ca

The struggle continues.

WENDY QURESHI

JOHN SHARPE

ERNIE CRIST

Concerned citizens who care about the sustainability of our community, Lynn Valley.

FONVCA LETTERS 11FEB to 17MAR

Subject: Presentation by Rick Danyluk to FONVCA this week

From: "John Hunter" <hunterjohn@telus.net>

Date: 22/02/2013 2:57 PM

To: "David Stuart" <StuartD@dnv.org>, "Nicole Deveaux DNV"

<nicole_deveaux@dnv.org>, "Councillor Alan Nixon DNV" <anixon@dnv.org>,

"Councillor Doug Mackay-Dunn" <dmackay-dunn@dnv.org>, "Councillor Mike Little"

<mlittle@dnv.org>, "Councillor Robin Hicks" <rhicks@dnv.org>, "Councillor Roger

Bassam" <rbassam@dnv.org>, "Councilor Lisa Muri DNV" <lmuri@dnv.org>, "Mayor

Richard Walton" <rwalton@dnv.org>

CC: "Rick Danyluk" <DanylukR@dnv.org>, "FONVCA" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, "Corrie Kost" <corrie@kost.ca>

Dear All

On behalf of FONVCA, I would like to thank Rick for his excellent presentation to FONVCA February 20 and the evening time he took to do it. It was very well done, led to lots of questions and debate, and will assist I think in shortening the debate process for many of us. Having said that, there are some issues which will arise but we are all better informed which makes the process more efficient.

Cheers

John Hunter

Subject: RE: Presentation by Rick Danyluk to FONVCA this week

From: Nicole Deveaux <DeveauxN@dnv.org>

Date: 25/02/2013 10:56 AM

To: "John Hunter" <hunterjohn@telus.net>

CC: Rick Danyluk <DanylukR@dnv.org>, FONVCA <fonvca@fonvca.org>, "Corrie Kost" <corrie@kost.ca>

Hello John, I am glad to hear that the session was informative. We have followed the approach of a separate briefing with the community associations for some time now and I think it has led to a very productive dialogue. Unfortunately I was unable to attend this year due to an unforeseen family matter but I look forward to future exchange of ideas.

From: John Hunter [mailto:hunterjohn@telus.net]

Sent: Friday, February 22, 2013 2:57 PM

To: David Stuart; Nicole Deveaux; Alan Nixon; Doug MacKay-Dunn; Mike Little; Robin Hicks; Roger Bassam; Lisa Muri; Richard Walton, Mayor

Cc: Rick Danyluk; FONVCA; 'Corrie Kost'

Subject: Presentation by Rick Danyluk to FONVCA this week

Dear All

On behalf of FONVCA, I would like to thank Rick for his excellent presentation to FONVCA February 20 and the evening time he took to do it. It was very well done, led to lots of questions and debate, and will assist I think in shortening the debate process for many of us. Having said that, there are some issues which will arise but we are all better informed which makes the process more efficient.

Cheers

John Hunter

Subject: The Way It Really Is - Revised
From: Irwin Jerome <jerome_irwin@yahoo.com>
Date: 14/03/2013 8:41 PM
To: Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

For the sake of greater clarity and comprehensiveness, I've tweaked the piece earlier sent. Cheers!

— Attachments: —

THE WAY IT REALLY IS.docx

17.4 KB

- THE WAY IT REALLY IS; LIKE IT OR NOT! -

A recent trip to Australia, and what was gleaned about politics Down Under seems germane to the recent "turning of the screws" on our own "Up Over" end of the planet and especially here upon the North Shore of British Columbia.

While scanning the mainstream media in Sydney, New South Wales and the country at large what quickly became obvious is the enormous amount of corruption, greed, and tribalism that is rife throughout the culture: in politics, law enforcement, finance, sports and entertainment industries, not to mention a rampant gangland with its own underworld code: in short, the culture at large.

To Australia's credit, their investigative journalism is second to none and journalists constantly dig up and are able to get into print all the unvarnished dirt and truth. It doesn't ever come as any shock, however, to the general populace. For the populace already knows full well the extent of the historical corruption and greed. It knows that the tribalism ("mate ship") that, since the arrival of "The First Fleet" to Australia's shores, has historically existed in every sector of society in whatever political circle, law enforcement agency, financial market, sports club or dodgy underworld pursuit will, in the end, stymie whatever fair and just outcome to yet the latest outrage. Mate Ship & Tribalism Rules! The mob under attack or scrutiny simply circles the wagons and defends or covers for their mates! Few ever end up going to jail or are thrown out of office for whatever the latest outrage! Wrongs are seldom righted! And so it goes! The whole thing continues to roll on until yet the next scandal is uncovered and there's more of the same ol', same ol, yaddah, yaddah!

Getting caught up to speed on what politically has recently transpired, to a much lesser extent in the City & District of North Vancouver has been instructive. In a very real sense it is just more of the same ol', same ol', yaddah, yaddah but on an obviously much smaller, more local scale. Cases in point: North Van City Council's recent controversial vote regarding the hotly contested Onni development at 13th & Lonsdale, and North Vancouver District's long-standing proposals regarding the Seylynn Village & Lower Capilano-Marine Village Centre developments. Even the

citizenry of West Vancouver have their own tales to tell of political dissimulation and subterfuge. For instance, after numerous citizen discussion groups with the developers the block height established for proposed development along the 1300 block of Marine Drive was believed to end up being three to four storey's. Yet when an Open House was held to display the development it somehow had morphed into a seven to eight story project.

In spite of all the similar such open hearings and palaver that has ensued over recent years, the majority of the citizenry of the North Shore sense they aren't really ever listened to by the local Councils and their staffs. They know little of whatever secret, devious negotiations or tomfooleries that have transpired behind closed council doors. They haven't a clue what council's actually are doing regarding sweeping density and height changes to their OCP's until it is a *fait accompli*.

Like politicians everywhere, who ultimately know what side their bread is buttered on, our politician's are no different than all the rest in the world. They know where the real money, power and control resides and who their mates are who control them. We have our own brand of Mate ship and Tribalism on our side of the Big Pond, as well! Most of our elected politicians either already are professionally involved in various real estate endeavors or some other form of development-oriented corporation. So, to begin with, if the whole thing was on the up and up, such politicians would either constantly have to recuse themselves from voting on such matters or should never be allowed to hold office in the first place due to an obvious conflict of interest.

But such compromised politicians are indeed allowed to hold office and smooch with their development-oriented mates, over power breakfasts-lunches-dinners, while constantly changing the rules of the game whenever it suits them to do so to accomplish whatever end run around the citizenry.

Is it any wonder that when one watches televised sessions of council meetings that the citizen galleries are mostly always empty, save for the developers and their skills? Is it any wonder why every year the percentage of the voting public on the North Shore gets lower and lower as fewer and fewer citizens even bother to cast their votes. Perhaps unless and until voting is perceived as

every citizen's sacred obligation and responsibility, and so made mandatory in local, provincial and federal elections in Canada, this reality, like it or not, will never ever change!

Words (800)

Jerome Irwin, 1398 Hope Road, North Vancouver, B.C. V7P1W7 (604)984-7598

jerome_irwin@yahoo.com

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Politics

Date: Fri, 15 Mar 2013 06:12:07 -0700

From: Wendy Qureshi <wendyqureshi@shaw.ca>

To: Vancouver Sun <sunletters@vancouversun.com>

CC: fonvca@fonvca.org

Dear Editor,

I am laughing out loud as I continually read about "experienced politicians." Experienced at what? Incompetence.

Wendy Qureshi

North Vancouver

604-980-1885

Subject: RE: FONVCA/shirtsleeve meeting March 26th

From: James Gordon <gordonj@dnv.org>

Date: 15/03/2013 12:49 PM

To: "Cathy Adams" <CathyAdams@shaw.ca>, Natasha Letchford <letchfordn@dnv.org>

CC: "FONCVA" <FONCVA@foncva.org>, Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>, Linda Brick <BrickL@dnv.org>, James Gordon <gordonj@dnv.org>

Hi Cathy.

We will be ordering dinner for FONVCA's meeting with Council on March 26. Earlier you estimated 6-10 attending from FONVCA. Is that still an accurate estimate? If you could let me know we will pass that along to the caterer.

Jim

James A. Gordon
Manager of Administrative Services
and Municipal Clerk
District of North Vancouver
355 West Queens Road
North Vancouver, BC V7N 4N5
604.990.2207 Direct

-----Original Message-----

From: Cathy Adams [<mailto:CathyAdams@shaw.ca>]

Sent: Friday, March 08, 2013 9:23 AM

To: James Gordon; Natasha Letchford

Cc: FONCVA; Corrie Kost

Subject: FONVCA/shirtsleeve meeting March 26th

Hello Jim

Getting back to you with proposed discussion topics from FONVCA for the shirtsleeve meeting on March 26th. Please find them attached. I have also attached what has previously been established as meeting procedures for these shirtsleeve sessions, which should be sent to Council.

Please inform Council that Dan Ellis has agreed to Chair this meeting

- sometimes Mayor Walton co-chairs. I he wishes to, Richard can contact Dan directly on that.

I will also ask for confirmations from our members on who will be attending, and give that number to you a little closer to the date.

Thank you,

Cathy Adams, for FONVCA

Hi James

You were asking about the date for this shirtsleeve meeting - I had confirmed that to Natasha awhile back.

So March 26th is good.

I will send discussion topics to you soon, too.

Cathy Adams, for FONVCA

At 09:09 AM 2/27/13, James Gordon wrote:

Good morning Cathy.

I understand that this proposed date was to be discussed at a recent FONVCA meeting. I was wondering if it was and if the date is suitable for you. Could you confirm? If it is we will start making arrangements.

Jim

Hello Natasha

Yes - we have polled our members and this date will work. March 26th, 5-7 p.m.

I suggest the number from FONVCA attending would be 6-10, and will have a better number for you closer to the date.

Discussion topics - we will discuss at our meeting on Feb. 20th, and send that to you for forwarding to council. I have attached what has previously been established as meeting procedures for these shirtsleeve sessions, which should be sent to Council.
Thank you,
Cathy Adams, for FONVCA

-----Original Message-----

From: Natasha Letchford
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2013 2:59 PM
To: cathyadams@shaw.ca
Cc: 'FONCVA@foncva.org'; James Gordon
Subject: RE: FONVCA/shirtsleeve meeting

Hi Cathy,

Jim has passed on your email to me as he will be away from the office for a bit. In reviewing Council's schedule, the best date for a meeting with FONCVA is Tuesday March 26 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm in the Committee Room. The District will be happy to provide dinner. Can you please let me know how many people from FONCVA will be attending. Also, if there are specific topics you wish to discuss, please let me know those too so as to allow sufficient time for preparation.
Thanks - looking forward to hearing back from you, Natasha

Natasha Letchford, CMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk
District of North Vancouver

-----Original Message-----

From: James Gordon
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2013 8:26 PM
To: Cathy Adams
Cc: James Gordon; DNVCouncil; FONVCA@fonvca.org; Louise Simkin; Jennifer Ficocelli; Linda Brick; Louise Horton
Subject: Re: FONVCA/shirtsleeve meeting

Hi Cathy.

You have the process exactly right. We are working on a few possible dates as we speak. I will get back to you with those in the near future.
Jim

On 2013-01-22, at 8:07 PM, "Cathy Adams" <CathyAdams@shaw.ca> wrote:

Hello Jim

Usually how this works is - a date gets set, and that is usually some weeks off. The date is set according to Council's availability, and FONVCA just goes with that.

Once FONVCA members get a confirmation on the meeting, we will discuss what discussion topic we would like to propose. And often Council also has a topic. Right now, I think there are a couple of ideas "percolating" for FONVCA, but we have not specifically discussed and decided.

So the discussion topics are set well ahead of time, but that will be "next steps".

Thanks for handling this for us, looking forward to hearing back from you.
Cathy

At 03:29 PM 21/01/2013, James Gordon wrote:

Good afternoon Cathy.

Council has received your request and will discuss it at an upcoming meeting. In the interest of making the most out of every meeting, an idea of the potential topics would be helpful to provide some focus and so that Council can come prepared. Let me know and I will pass that along.

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James A. Gordon
Manager of Administrative Services
and Municipal Clerk
District of North Vancouver
355 West Queens Road
North Vancouver, BC V7N 4N5
604.990.2207 Direct

-----Original Message-----

From: Cathy Adams [<mailto:CathyAdams@shaw.ca>]
Sent: Monday, January 21, 2013 9:26 AM
To: DNVCouncil
Cc: FONVCA@fonvca.org; James Gordon
Subject: FONVCA/shirtsleeve meeting

Dear Mayor Walton and members of Council

On behalf of FONVCA, I am asking you to consider the idea of holding a shirtsleeve meeting with FONVCA members in the near future.

The last one held was October, 2010 - so it has been awhile! Whenever these meetings are held, there is always agreement around the table of the value of meeting on this type of informal basis, so we at FONVCA feel the time is overdue to hold one. If you agree, let's organize it!

We have not discussed possible discussion topics, but it's always easy to come up with one or two. And there may be a topic that you as council would like to put forward, as well.

I would appreciate either the Mayor or someone on staff getting back to me - usually someone in the clerk's office takes care of setting it up for us.

Cathy Adams,
on behalf of FONVCA

Subject: FONVCA/shirtsleeve meeting March 26th

From: Cathy Adams <CathyAdams@shaw.ca>

Date: 08/03/2013 9:22 AM

To: James Gordon <gordonj@dnv.org>, Natasha Letchford <letchfordn@dnv.org>

CC: "FONCVA" <FONCVA@foncva.org>, Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

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District of North Vancouver

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>>

>> Jim

>> James A. Gordon

>> Manager of Administrative Services

>> and Municipal Clerk

>> District of North Vancouver

>> 355 West Queens Road

>> North Vancouver, BC V7N 4N5

>> 604.990.2207 Direct

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>> To: DNVCouncil

>> Cc: FONVCA@fonvca.org; James Gordon

>> Subject: FONVCA/shirtsleeve meeting

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>> Cathy Adams,

>> on behalf of FONVCA

>

Attachments:

[shirtsleeves_meeting_with_Council_March_26_2013-p21121.pdf](#)

7.1 KB

[FONVCA shirtsleeve March 2013 topics-2.doc](#)

28.0 KB

Meeting Rules & Procedures:

1. One speaker at a time, as and when acknowledged by the Chair.
2. Questions and responses limited to one and two minutes each respectively. Rebuttal(s) only with permission of the Chair.
3. All answers and questions are "Off the Record". No minutes will be kept, but notes may be taken for personal use, i.e. when discussing the issues with Community Associations.
4. Participation is limited to one member from each community association. Additional members may be present as observers.
5. Equal time will be given to each Council member and community group in an order as chosen by the Chair. Questions and responses are limited to one opportunity per person per subject. The chair reserves the right to limit or discontinue protracted or repetitive discussion on any subject.
6. Discussion will be about issues, not individuals. No negative remarks or inferences to be made about anyone not present.
7. Community Association members will limit their discussion to District-wide/Broad impact issues. Members of Council will refrain from expounding at length on their favourite theme(s).

5:00-7:00pm



FONVCA/District Council

Shirtsleeve Meeting – March 26th, 2013

Discussion Topics

Proposed – in the form of a question to Council:

Encroachments on the Waterfront – an update on the state of the current policy, is requested.

Proposed discussion topics:

- 1. Sewage treatment plant** – specifically the issue of amortizing it over 15 years, versus the 40-50 year lifetime of the facility. A longer term would ease the tax increases. Discussion of various options for different treatment types (eg. quality of targets, planned inflow characteristics, and means to achieve secondary treatment).
- 2. Renewal of Recreation facilities** – and the Recreation Commission Agreement and governance of recreation facilities
- 3. Park users** – the issue of “We pay, you play”/District residents pay for parks that are heavily used by non-residents, with no recovery of costs

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Local Government Department	Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development
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LGD Home

Sunday, March 17, 2013

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The Division works with a wide range of partners to develop communities with the capacity to manage change and provide quality, affordable service to all British Columbians.

The Division offers a range of programs to serve communities by:

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- developing local government [legislation](#);
- facilitating community and regional [planning](#), fostering positive [inter-governmental relations](#) and [resolving differences](#) between local governments;
- providing information and advice to protect the [financial](#) viability of and good governance of local governments; and,
- offering [financial support](#) for: communities; infrastructure planning and construction; [growth management](#); and local government [restructure](#).

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Local Government Statistics

2011

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- Policy & Research
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- Legislation
- LGMA
- MFA
- Statistics
- UBCM

2011 British Columbia Local Government Statistics schedules are available in MS-Excel for downloading from our Web site. If you open MS-Excel along with your browser, you can view any of the schedules before saving them to your hard drive.

The Statistics schedules consist of data provided to the ministry by local governments in annual financial reporting forms. While the ministry does perform checks of the data, we do not guarantee its accuracy or validity. Users should contact local governments directly if confirmation is required.

Beginning in 2008, the schedules have been amended to reflect Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) for local governments, thus some reports may differ from previous years.

Schedule	Municipal	Regional District
* click on an icon to open a file		
Legal name, incorporation date	 Name_Incorp_2011 (49KB)	 Name_Incorp_2011 (49 KB)
General Statistics	 Sch201_2011 (44 KB)	
Financial Assets	 Sch301_2011 (41 KB)	 Sch801_2011 (20 KB)
Liabilities	 Sch302_2011 (42KB)	 Sch802_2011 (21 KB)
Summary Statement of Financial Position	 Sch304_2011 (55 KB)	 Sch804_2011 (21 KB)
DCCs and Building Permit Information	 Sch305_2011 (40 KB)	 Sch805_2011 (20 KB)
Revenue	 Sch401_2011 (42 KB)	 Sch901_2011 (21 KB)
Expenses	 Sch402_2011 (44 KB)	 Sch902_2011 (21 KB)
Changes in Net Financial Assets	 Sch404_2011 (42 KB)	 Sch904_2011 (21 KB)

Non-Financial Assets	 Sch502_2011 (42 KB)	 Sch1002_2011 (21 KB)
Long-Term Debt & Debt Charges	 Sch601.1_2011 (38 KB)	 Sch1101.1_2011 (20 KB)
Liability Servicing Limits	 Sch602-1_2011 (39KB)	
Analysis of Authorized Debt	 Sch603_2011 (39 KB)	 Sch1103_2011 (21KB)
Home Owner Grant Analysis	 Sch705_2011 (43 KB)	
Taxes Imposed and Collected	 Sch706_2011 (45 KB)	

Return to [Financial Statistics](#).

Please send any comments or questions to lgde@gov.bc.ca.

Fighting Mega-Disasters

Research and policy systems capable of managing risk of catastrophic consequence

What role do groups like the Centre for Natural Hazard Research, SFU, play?

****REGISTRATION**
IS FREE**

e-mail bert.struik@nrcan.gc.ca

Friday, April 26, 2013

8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Halpern Centre, SFU, Burnaby, BC

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Stakeholders in economic security, sustainability, safety and security.

Examples: city managers, critical-infrastructure managers, insurers, researchers, geotechnical engineers, risk and emergency

PURPOSE

Bring together diverse group to discuss concepts & practices in managing mega-disasters.

FORMAT

Informal presentation with lots of discussion time;
Poster space & viewing time;
Refreshment breaks and sandwich lunch for sharing ideas.

PRESENTATION / POSTER PROPOSALS

Include a title, list of authors and their affiliations, and abstract (<250 words).
E-mail proposal to martyz@sfu.ca by April 5, 2013.

To register, e-mail
bert.struik@nrcan.gc.ca

Further information available at:
www.sfu.ca/cnhr/workshops

SPONSORS



Centre for Natural Hazards
Research, SFU

Canada Natural Resources Canada

CONTACTS

Bert Struik
NRCan, Vancouver
bert.struik@nrcan.gc.ca / 604-375-6413

Marty Zaleski, SFU Centre for Natural
Hazards Research
martyz@sfu.ca / 778-389-6420



Deepwater Horizon Explosion and Oil Spill, April 2010



New Orleans 2003



Sendai earthquake, tsunami, nuclear reactor meltdown 2011

REGISTRATION

Contact bert.struik@nrcan.gc.ca

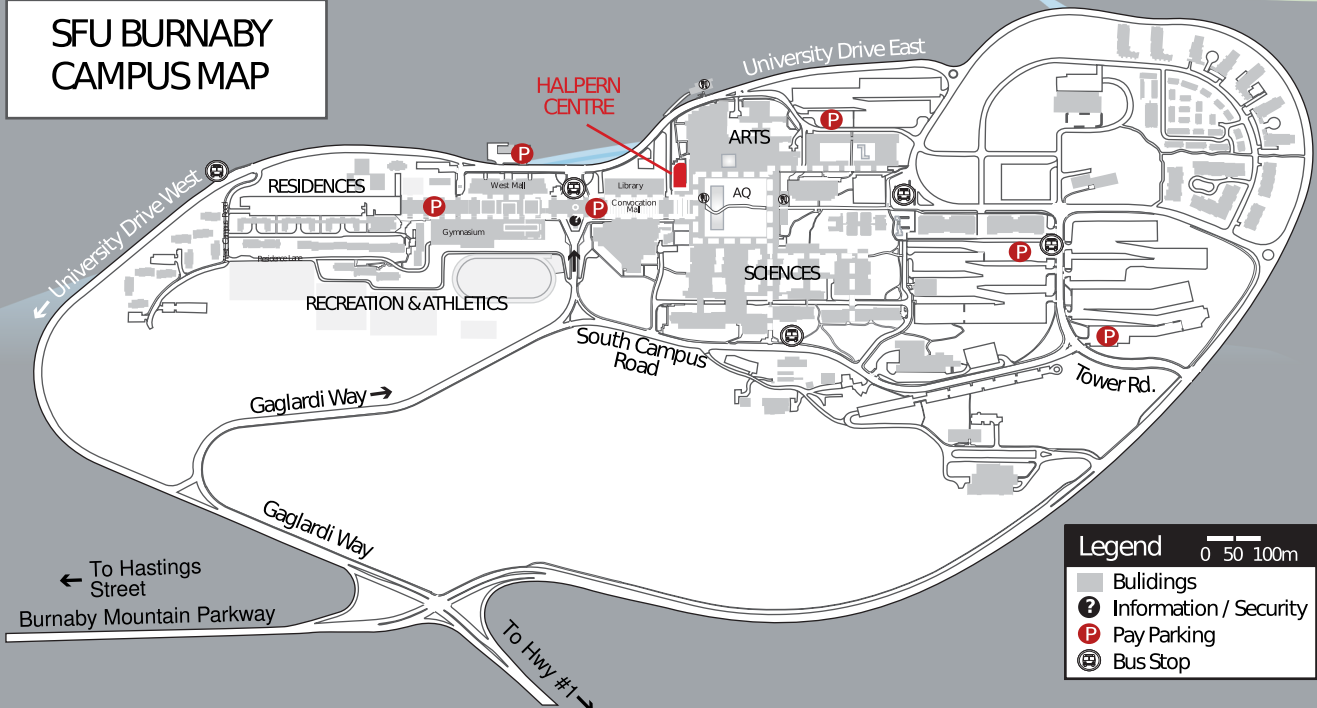
Before April 17, 2013 to reserve one of the limited spaces

Free registration includes:
 continental breakfast
 refreshments
 lunch

Further information at:

<http://www.sfu.ca/cnhr/workshops>

SFU BURNABY CAMPUS MAP



http://www.jurassicparliament.com/blog/Robert%27s_Rules_in_Real_Life/post/Can_you_bust_these_motion_myths/

Robert's Rules in Real Life

Can you bust these motion myths?

article date: Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Josh Billings once said, "It's not what you don't know that's the problem, it's what you know that ain't so."

Can you spot the error in these widespread myths about motions?

- 1) Under Robert's Rules, you have to have a motion on the floor before you can have any discussion.
- 2) Seconding a motion indicates that you support it.
- 3) If you second a motion and later decide you don't like the way discussion is going, you can take your second back.
- 4) If someone offers a friendly amendment to a motion, the chair should ask the maker and seconder if they agree to it.
- 5) If you have made a motion, you have the right to withdraw it at any time.
- 6) The way to kill a motion without actually voting on it is to table it.

See below to check your answers, and be prepared to spread the word about correct use of motions at your meetings. Your colleagues will thank you (maybe)...

ANSWERS TO THE MOTION MYTHS

MYTH 1: Under Robert's Rules, you have to have a motion on the floor before you can have any discussion.

REALITY: In small boards (up to about 12 people) and committees, it is fine to hold informal discussion without a motion on the floor.

MYTH 2: Seconding a motion indicates that you support it.

REALITY: Seconding a motion lets the chair know that at least two people want to discuss it. You may second a motion you strongly oppose if you would like to explain why it's a bad idea.

MYTH 3: If you second a motion and later decide you don't like the way discussion is going, you can take your second back.

REALITY: See above answer. Your second has no importance beyond indicating that a discussion should be held.

MYTH 4: If someone offers a friendly amendment to a motion, the chair should ask the maker and seconder if they agree to it.

REALITY: This practice is completely wrong. It gives the maker and seconder a special kind of “veto power” over amendments to the motion, rights far beyond those of the other members. The maker and seconder have the same rights as everyone else – no greater and no less.

If someone offers a friendly amendment, the chair should ask, “Is there a second?” and proceed to process it like any other amendment.

Another approach is to use “unanimous consent.” If the amendment seems non-controversial, the chair may ask, “Is there any objection?” If there’s no objection from anyone in the group, the amendment is adopted. If anyone objects, however, the amendment must be voted on in the usual way.

MYTH 5: If you have made a motion, you have the right to withdraw it at any time.

REALITY: Once a motion has been made, seconded, and stated by the chair, it belongs to the entire group. If someone wants to withdraw a motion, the group must agree before it can be done.

MYTH 6: The way to kill a motion without actually voting on it is to table it.

REALITY: Under Robert’s Rules, “to table” is used for a very specific purpose, namely, to set something aside for a period of time while other business is taken up. If someone moves to table a motion, the chair may ask, “For what purpose does the member seek to table the motion?” If the answer is “to kill it,” the chair does not allow the motion to be considered.

EXTRA CREDIT QUESTION: What is the correct motion to use to kill a motion without actually voting on it?

EXTRA CREDIT ANSWER: The motion to use is “to postpone indefinitely.” It’s debatable, cannot be amended, and takes a majority vote to pass.