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25 Sep 2014 The Vancouver Sun

Bylaw system is broken

Documents- only setup makes for a natural lack of justice

Re: Bylaw ticket system ignores fairness, Column, Sept. 20

Thank you for publishing Ian Mulgrew's excellent article. Vancouver must balance the benefits of administrative efficiency with the fundamental legal principles of judicial fairness. Vancouver's strict documents- only setup with no city staff to answer questions is not right.

My recommendations to city staff before and after implementation of the new system were ignored. The stonewalling and obstinacy by Vancouver's executive staff was unacceptable to all the adjudicators of Apex Dispute Resolution. On March 27, we offered to terminate our contract with the City of Vancouver, which was accepted on April 15.

It was no surprise city manager Penny Ballem responded to our concerns in a letter dated June 5, basically justifying the system with no changes and no acknowledgment of Vancouver's lack of procedural fairness and natural justice.

ARNY WISE

Principal, Apex Dispute Resolution

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