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Subject: FW: A Task for the upcoming District election in Nov- 2002.

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     To: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>,
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> Subject:
             FW: A Task for the upcoming District election in Nov- 2002.
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> THE TASK OF THE HIGHEST PRIORITY FOR THE ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT OF NORTH
> VANCOUVER IN THE UPCOMING MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN NOVEMBER 2002.
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> The Task of the residents of the District of North Vancouver in the
> upcoming Civic election in November 2002 is to oust the present CCA
> endorsed District Council. "CCA" stands for "Concerned Citizens
> Association". The CCA, formed prior to the last election, represents the
> special interests of a group of homeowners mainly residing in the Deep
> Cove Area of the District. During the 1999 Civic election, the CCA
> endorsed and elected every single member of the present District Council
> except one.
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> During the 1999 election campaign, the CCA distributed large quantities of
> misleading material. Its sole purpose was to prevent the implementation of
> the recommendations of the North Vancouver District Waterfront Task Force
> to restore public control and citizens' access to the District owned
> foreshore.
> The CCA is now preparing for the District municipal election this coming
> Fall. In addition to having a full slate of Councillor candidates, there
> may be more than just one Mayoralty candidate from its ranks. This
> would be a case of "tweedledee and tweedledum". Either way the CCA would
> retain control of District Council. Indeed this might be to the advantage
> of the CCA since it might create competition as to who can serve the CCA
> better.
> The CCA entourage, currently in control of Council, has tried hard to
> silence the one voice exposing their performance with every dirty trick
> listed in the book. Should the CCA succeed in sweeping the next Council
> in the upcoming Fall election completely, one of the first casualties will
> be public participation in the planning process. Fonvca WHCIH STANDS FOR
> FEDERATION OF NORTH VANCOUVER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS will be relegated to
> the sidelines. It will also mean goodby to some of the more effective
> Citizens Committees which have been a thorn in the side of Council and
> the bureaucracy.
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> To meet the challenge of the heavily financed CCA in the municipal
> election this coming November, the people of the District will have to
> form their own civic organization. This is a task of the highest priority.
> Such an organization must have a full slate of candidates and it must
> include a Mayoralty candidate representing the genuine interests of the
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> community. Failure to do so will result not only in the re-election of the
> present Council but will also result in risking all that which makes the
> District of North Vancouver one of the most desirable places to live.
> THE CCA ENDORSED COUNCIL IS ESSENTIALLY A PRO DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIAL
> INTEREST COUNCIL.
> I) After its 1999 election, the first act of the CCA Council was to
> ENSURE THAT THE recommendations contained in the Waterfront Task Force
> report would be scuttled. These recommendations called for the
> construction of a public walkway over a period of 50 years extending FROM
> MAPLEWOOD TO DEEP COVE MORE OR LESS. As part of this process it also
> called for the gradual elimination of private encroachments on the
> DISTRICT owned WATERFRONT BY ADJOINING PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS.
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> In their election material, distributed to all District residents, the CCA
> stated that implementation of the Waterfront Task Force recommendations
> would result in a wall of high-rises along the waterfront similar to West
> Vancouver. To mislead the public, the CCA, in its election material sent
> to every household in the District, superimposed a photograph of West
> Vancouver's waterfront high-rises on the Deep Cove waterfront with a
> warning that, this is what the community must expect if it votes in favor
> of this plan or fails to elect the CCA endorsed slate.
> This was a monstrous distortion of facts. In reality the exact opposite is
> true. The recommendations of the Citizens' Task Force would not only
> guarantee public access to foreshore lands belonging to the public but
> would also prevent construction of A WALL of MONSTER HOMES on the
> waterfront.
> 2) Indeed, since the CCA victory in November of 1999, there has been a
> lineup of waterfront property owners requesting variances to enlarge
> their homes contrary to several existing District policies. The threat of
> a "wall" on the foreshore is indeed coming true but not because of a
> public walkway, as recommended by the Waterfront Task Force, but because
> of the present CCA endorsed Council agreeing to any and all applications
> from private property owners to enlarge their homes.
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> The CCA also claimed that to restore public rights to the waterfront
> would result in near bankruptcy for the District. This too was a monstrous
> lie. Any possible acquisition of land coming on the market for a walkway
> over a 50 year period would only be temporary as only a narrow strip would
> be used for a public walkway. The rest of the property would be resold.
> There would be, in fact, little or no expense to the taxpayers.
> 3) During its campaign, the CCA promised fiscal responsibility but, in
> reality, its Council has raised property taxes for homeowners higher and
> faster then any previous Council. But this is not all. In addition to the
> highest tax increases on record, the CCA endorsed Council also robbed
> the Heritage Fund to the tune of millions of dollars annually. On top of
> this, they used up a large portion of the District's reserve funds set
> aside in previous years to rebuild the District's infrastructure. This is
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> the measure of their fiscal responsibility.
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> 4) While the CCA endorsed Council has created fiscal havoc, some CCA > endorsed members of Council were reimbursed by senior staff for expenses > not only contrary to Council policy but also without Council's > knowledge.

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> 5) Some members of senior staff too reimbursed themselves for expenses > that were contrary to policy. After an outside investigation was > conducted, a request by Councillor Crist to divulge the names of the > culprits was refused.

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6) After an investigation revealed that some District Staff had
 committed theft of time and material, the CCA endorsed Mayor Bell accused
 Councillor Crist, who had exposed this, of being anti staff. This was done
 not only in camera but also in public.

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> 7) In what was clearly a violation of the basic tenets of civic democracy,
> the CCA endorsed Council refused to allow Councillor Crist the only none
> CCA endorsed member of Council to introduce and explain a motion unless
> it was first seconded by a member of the CCA endorsed Council. They
> routinely violated democratic principles in an attempt to gag the one
> voice of opposition on Council. Manipulation of democratic procedure and
> endless provocations against this Councillor have been the order of the
> day.

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> 8) While funding for essential programs such as construction of sidewalks > and other infrastructure has been cut, Council has and continues to > subsidize the City of North Vancouver. This applies both to recreation and > playing fields. The amount is huge. The City is building the high-rises > and the District is building the playing fields. This at a time when > there is no money to keep District streets clean and tidy.

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> 9) Public information requests about the spending of taxpayers' money > such as the amount of money spent for the closure of the landfill, for > example, have been met by bureaucratic stonewalling, or have been ignored > altogether.

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> 10) Costly and time consuming plans such as the Seymour and Lynn Valley > Community Plans, after a long public consultation process, were either > abandoned or changed in favor of pro development plans. This was done > despite public protests. The Lynn 'valley Community Plan, for instance, > instead of producing a pedestrian oriented Town Center as promised is in > reality, nothing more than a huge densification of the Lynn Valley Core > without any of the promised amenities. The only beneficiaries are the > developers.

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> 11) The true colors of the CCA endorsed Council have been revealed by sapplying two different rules for those occupying publicly owned land with structures like garages and carports. The District has a policy for such occupations which stipulates that anyone leasing municipal land must pay an annual fee based on a set formula. This policy, however, is being

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> selectively enforced in Deep Cove, where most of the CCA supporters
> reside. The majority of the people occupying publicly -owned land in that
> area have been paying either nothing or but a fraction of the value
> specified in the policy. Adding insult to injury, the CCA endorsed
> Council is proposing to "grandfather" these leases so that the current
> owners will never pay the full rent.
> 12) The bias for the use of District owned land is also true in other
> areas. The CCA endorsed Council has defended the unequal application of
> District Bylaws for measuring building footage on steep slopes. It
> defended two different rules - one for the community at large and another
> for the areas East of Seymour where most of the CCA supporters reside.
> Only after enormous public pressure did Council eventuallly back down on
> this discriminatory bylaw.
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> For the sake of civic democracy, for the sake of fairness to all citizens
> regardless of where they live in the District, for the sake of fiscal
> prudence and standard business principles, for the sake of defending
> neighborhood participation in community planning and for the sake of
> defending District livability, the CCA endorsed Council must go.
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> The people of North Van District need a new Council. This entails the
> formation of a civic party to fight the CCA on equal terms. It requires a
> complete slate of dedicated Councillors as well as a suitable Mayoralty
> candidate with executive ability and integrity. The time to start this
> process is now. The CCA is working hard at it already.
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> If people can unite to accomplish evil purposes then so can people unite
> to accomplish good purposes.
> Leo Tolstoy.
> Ernie Crist.
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Part 1.2 Part 1.2 Encoding: base64