Subject: FW: Fee increases Date: Mon, 19 Aug 2002 10:46:18 -0700 From: Ernie Crist <ernie\_crist@dnv.org> To: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

> -----Original Message-----

- > From: Ernie Crist
- > Sent: Monday, August 19, 2002 10:45 AM
- > To: 'mmillerchip-@nsnews.com'
- > Subject: Fee increases
- >

> Dear Editor:

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> The North Vancouver Rec Commission is once again increasing its fees. The > increases will become effective in Sept 2002 and follow hefty increases

> including a 54 % increase for Seniors in 2000.

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> These increases are taking place at a time when the Commission is moving

> farther and farther away from the concept of providing services to extend

> maximum health benefits to the maximum number of people at minimum cost.

> An example is the allocation of swimming lanes in pools. Wile adults,

> frequently urged to exercise by their doctors are crammed into 2 lanes,

> individual lessons are frequently provided at a one lane one client basis.

> The one client, one lane approach has allowed the Commission to build up

> a large bureaucracy. While only a few individuals taking lessons may

> occupy 4 lanes, the many adults are forced into 2 lanes with the result

> that they simply leave the pool area. This policy is completely contrary

> to the concept of accommodating a maximum number of people to achieve

maximum community health benefits and encouraging adults to swim and
exercise. It is but one example of the growing lack of accountability by

> the Commission and the political leadership in the District to those who

> are subsidizing the Commission to the tune of \$6 million through their

> taxes annually. It is but one example of the fact that the Commission is

> mismanaged and is totally out of control. The two District Council

> representatives to the Commission did not even inform the District Council

> of the Rec Commission's decision to increase fees.

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> In light of the importance of public recreation as an integral part of

> preventive community health care, the matter should at least have been

> brought to the attention of District Council - indeed it should have been

> part of a public debate as was done in the City of North Vancouver.

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> It is but one more example of the fact that in the District it is the > piper who determines the tune rather than he who pays.

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> Ernie Crist,

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> Councillor District of North Vancouver

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