

Subject: [Fwd:]

Date: Tue, 20 Aug 2002 12:44:40 -0700

From: Brian Platts <brian_platts@telus.net>

To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: Re:

Date: Mon, 19 Aug 2002 18:32:56 -0700

From: "John Harvey" <joharv@vcn.bc.ca>

To: "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>

CC: "Fonvca" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

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

From: "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>

To: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Sent: Sunday, August 04, 2002 9:17 AM

A MESSAGE FROM ERNIE

I simply wish to bring to your attention a story in the Sunday, August 4 edition of the North Shore News on page 8 and 9 about the Recreation Commission which was debated at Council.

Please provide feedback or comments. Thank you..

Dear Ernie etc,

Just a courtesy moment to give you back only some very brief comments as the matter is a little vast. From my own experiences the Rec Commission has been a staff protectionist empire. They have made some reports that contradict the facts, simply to brainwash City and District residents. Also many Rec Centre participants using the facilities do not wish to share the facilities even though their number participation has been low.

Unfortunately the current set up that does allow citizen appointees from both District and City to be trustee Commissioners has been suspect. Why do they put themselves forward - and then how and what way do Councillors nominate them, when from my experience these people then appear not fully enquire and obtain reports of the Rec Commissions operations ?

One example was a claim by staff that from a proposed full use of sporting recreation, it was not supported due to a shortage of gyms.

When at exactly the same time a William Griffin Gymnasium was taken out of the inventory and turned into a fitness/weight room ! The claim by a staff member that 'junior grizzlies' also needed space, made this change even more of a farce. Especially when 3 mins away from Griffin is 4 rooms at Lonsdale Rec and also of much unnecessary spending thousands and thousands of dollars in competing with Fitness World and Gold's Gym and others who are charging the same apprx \$1 a day just 5 mins away.

There should be no problem of having Rec fitness support in the non business areas ie: Lynn Valley plus East of 2nd Narrows. So when there are approx 15 places available for fitness not including the Commercial people, who are not charging \$20,000 to join like Golf Clubs There should be some common

sense whether the Rec spending is out of control.

Along the line perhaps consideration is that the Joint Rec Commission is to be withdrawn and that both the City and District are to be then responsible for their own facilities and discussion of programs, user fees, amount of usage, maintenance costs etc is taken up by each municipality.

Although I do not always agree with Ernie, we should all appreciate Cllr Crist efforts in publicly keeping the Recreation Commission accountable for the joint \$6,000,000 or so allocation.

Recreation, like the Arts is vast and many areas have to be covered decently to ensure we enjoy life to its fullest if we have some addiction to these areas.

With the departure of Gary Young, it will be interesting to see what transpires.

Although I basically shop in 'Garrison City' and that I live near the Karen Magnusson and that I feel I am in the District as with no highrises around us, I actually on City territory, I have tried a couple of time to get on both the Rec and Arts Commission, But as I guess I stood for City Council in 99, I guess I am to dangerous a person to obtain more exposure to City Councillors and so not appointed. Unfortunately, politics never stop! Hey Ho.' Regards all, John H.