

Subject: Re: [Fwd: Help Request for North Saanich BC]

Date: Sat, 15 Feb 2003 15:50:54 -0800

From: Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

To: vivianassoc@shaw.ca

CC: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

Hi Vivian,

I will try and respond to your questions (inserted below). Note that the FONVCA web site should answer most of them (www.fonvca.org) - but here goes. Brian - please add anything else you want.

Corrie

Brian Platts wrote:

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

Subject: Help Request for North Saanich BC

Date: Sat, 15 Feb 2003 13:21:13 -0800

From: Vivian Associates <vivianassoc@shaw.ca>

To: fonvca@fonvca.org

CC: 'Geoff Orr' <orrcan@shaw.ca>, 'Alex Marr' <amarr4u@shaw.ca>

First, let me congratulate you on your website. (www.fonvca.org) The Mayor of North Saanich on Vancouver Island has suggested that the various community organizations either amalgamate or form some sort of an umbrella group or federation so that Council can better communicate with citizens and associations. A gentlemen at the meeting was from North Vancouver and suggested FONVCA as a possible model. Could you answer some questions?: 1. Are there any members, directly, or is the FONVCA strictly an umbrella group?

FONVCA is an umbrella group - all attending members are representatives of their respective community association. A maximum of two representatives can be at the table - and only one can participate in voting. Any other member or non-member is free to attend since these are meetings fully open to the public.

2. Does the FONVCA have a budget for communications, notices of meetings, newsletters etc. and if so, how is the money raised? Direct fees to members of associations? A *pro rata* share of the fees of individual associations, District subsidy (beyond meeting space)?

FONVCA has no budget. Misc. costs (such as web sit hosting, web nane registration etc are covered by nominal voluntary contributions of about \$10/yr/association). Notice of meetings are posted on the web site and emailed to all members (with previous month minutes). The District provides the monthly meeting space free of charge. 3. Do individual association members retain the right to make submissions to Council?

Individual Association members retain the right to make submissions to Council if the particular association bylaws so allow. FONVCA mandates that the full autonomy of each member association be retained. 4. How do you define the term "consensus"? Can a single member association veto any policy proposal or recommendation going to Council? Consensus is established when there are no members attending the meeting have any objections. A single association member present at the meeting can thus veto any vote. Surprisingly this has not yet happened in over 10 years! We always seem to be able to work things out.

Any other advice for us would be appreciated.

- Keep rules simple.
- Establish respect for all attending.
- Let peer pressure be the mechanism to follow established guidelines.
- Rotate the Chair to give all associations the experience
- Have some fun associated with each meeting.

-Have regular meetings with council to build up trust. Thanks. Peter Vivian
Director
North Saanich Residents Association

Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>