

Subject: Unauthorized Trail Construction

Date: Sun, 07 Sep 2003 14:24:37 -0700

From: Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

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CC: fonvca@fonvca.org

Your Worship & Members of Council,

At the July 28/2003 Council meeting, under Any Other Business, and without any possible prior notification to the public, council approved a policy which would, in essence, allow the search of both vehicles and persons believed to be in possession of trail building tools.

I believe this policy (which currently is without force as it has not been put into a bylaw) goes beyond the authority of the District. Although I support the goals of this policy I fear it treads upon our basic rights of access to public properties as well as the Charter of Rights - "Everyone has the right to be secure against unreasonable search or seizure".

Some hikers carry, what some would construe as trail building equipment, tools for their journey. Others do the public a great service by maintaining the existing legal trails. It thus behooves council to take a different approach to achieving the goal of preventing illegal trail construction - one which maintains basic rights of its citizens and does not discourage legal activities. I trust staff will come forward with the appropriate amendments before a bylaw is put to council.

Yours truly,

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