

Subject: RE: No Blue Box Pick-Up

Date: Sun, 11 Jan 2004 08:25:46 -0800

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

To: "Terry R." <terry.r@shaw.ca>

CC: "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>, "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <Cagebc@yahoo.com>

Dear Sir:

I experienced similar problems in my neighborhood. However, on balance, the service is fair if not excellent. It is also fair to mention on behalf of those who are knowledgeable on the question of recycling and waste management and those who are not, that we in Canada are about 30 years behind the rest of the developed world.

Whereas in most countries, in fact in all developed countries that I know of, the consumer gets reimbursed for the value of recyclable materials he puts into the Blue Box or drops off outside the store, as the case may be, in B. C. the consumer not only pays when he purchases the recyclable material in the form of packaging but he also pays when it is being taken away through the Blue Box. Government legislation compelling the manufacturers to accept recyclables into the production of new products and which is the key element is lacking.

The result is that the public not only pays twice for the same thing but it also pays for the huge bureaucracy that goes with it. And the public also pays for the glossy brochures telling it what a fabulous deal they are getting. For the last twenty years and ever since I participated in an international conference in Berlin paid for by the taxpayers, I have attempted to get this changed at either the provincial and/or federal level, but it is like talking to the proverbial wall. I even wrote a lengthy report on the subject but to no avail.

I also submitted more than just one resolution to my own Council on the subject but I might as well have talked about a certain crater on the back side of the moon. Nothing will change and nothing can change since the public is either apathetic, not aware and/or not concerned about being double dipped and/or double duped or both. And since the press is also silent, since they would rather print stories about murder and mayhem and/or are equally backward, nothing can change and nothing will change. One might think that the fact that some States in the US are importing Canadian Waste by the truck full would get their neurons moving but not a chance. Why upset the status quo when mediocrity has and continues to serve us so well?.

None of this has anything to do with the fact that your Blue Box was not picked up during the snow storm of course. On the other hand I thought you may wish to know what happens to your recyclable material and put things into perspective.

My apologies for going into a rant.

I will pass your complaints and my response to you on to the powers that are and who are getting paid handsomely for the "marvelous" job we are doing. I will also send a copy of this to "The Federation of North Vancouver Community Associations" (FONVCA). They have also a Web site, should you wish to find out more about the efforts of some of the more civic conscious persons in our community.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention .

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist, Councillor

District of North Vancouver.

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

From: Terry R. [<mailto:terry.r@shaw.ca>]


Sent: January 10, 2004 5:23 PM

To: Richard Walton; Alan Nixon; Maureen McKeon Holmes; Don Bell2; Ernie Crist; Janice Harris; Lisa Muri
Subject: No Recycle Pick-Up

Mayor and Council,

For over two weeks now we haven't had any recycle pick-up service, apparently because of one day of snow. Answers repeatedly given to us were to keep the blue box out, they will be coming, they are in the area, Saturday at the latest etc., etc., etc. We're still waiting.

Other services such as Canada Post, Dairyland. and garbage collection managed to complete their routes without problem. We understand a day or two delay, considering the recent weather, but this is totally unacceptable. Even on clear days it's hit and miss. Is it too much to expect reliable service?

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