

**Subject: [Fwd: Re: Liability Insurance For Block Parties]**

**Date:** Wed, 17 Sep 2003 22:29:08 -0700

**From:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

**To:** Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

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**Subject: RE: Liability Insurance For Block Parties**

**Date:** Wed, 17 Sep 2003 22:20:32 -0700

**From:** Don Bell2 <belld@dnv.org>

**To:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>, Don Bell2 <belld@dnv.org>, Alan Nixon <Alan\_Nixon@dnv.org>, Ernie Crist <ernie\_crist@dnv.org>, Janice Harris <Janice\_Harris@dnv.org>, Lisa Muri <lisa\_muri@dnv.org>, Maureen McKeon Holmes <Maureen\_McKeonHolmes@dnv.org>, Richard Walton <richard\_walton@dnv.org>, DNVCouncil <DNVCOUNCIL@dnv.org>

**CC:** Richard Zerr <Richard\_Zerr@dnv.org>, Judy Short <Judy\_Short@dnv.org>, FONVCA <fonvca@fonvca.org>, John McPherson <John\_McPherson@dnv.org>

Brian,

I am aware that insurance rates, limits and associated liability risks for the municipality have changed affecting events like community parades, but I was not aware that they had affected events like neighbourhood block parties. I certainly agree with your statement that "These perfectly safe annual events contribute to building strong, healthy communities where people know and care about their neighbours."

Neighbourhood block parties, community parades and local community celebrations are an essential part of the feeling of "community" that many residents state as the reason they choose to live here. We should be finding ways to encourage rather than discourage these type of activities, which often include a great deal of volunteer time.

By copy of this e-mail I am requesting staff prepare a report outlining what changes in fees have occurred, the reasons for them and the total amount of additional cost and/or revenue involved. I anticipate placing this on an upcoming public Council agenda for discussion and review.

Thank you for your concern about this matter.

Mayor Don Bell

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

**From:** Brian Platts [mailto:bplatts@shaw.ca]

**Sent:** September 17, 2003 3:38 PM

**To:** Don Bell2; Alan Nixon; Ernie Crist; Janice Harris; Lisa Muri; Maureen McKeon Holmes; Richard Walton; DNVCouncil

**Cc:** Richard Zerr; Judy Short; FONVCA

**Subject:** Liability Insurance For Block Parties

## Federation of North Vancouver

### Community Associations

Mayor & Council:

**RE: Liability Insurance For Block Parties**

The *Federation of NV Community Associations* would like to draw your attention to the matter of the District charging a liability insurance fee for residents holding block parties.

For many years District residents have organized neighbourhood block parties where for a few hours a local road is closed and families get together for a barbecue and social interaction. These perfectly safe annual events contribute to building strong, healthy communities where people know and care about their neighbours. Without any consultation a change in policy this year resulted a \$50 liability insurance fee for block parties under 50 people and \$100 for gatherings over 50 people. According to the Engineering Department, this new policy has resulted in 50 percent fewer block party permits being issued this year. Is this really a productive policy if the result is to discourage residents from gathering together to socialize on their own streets?

FONVCA believes that rather than putting up obstacles like liability insurance in the path of residents wanting to organize social events, the municipality ought to encourage and assist residents in every way possible to hold block parties and thereby create and preserve healthy neighbourhoods. We therefore urge you to review this matter and remove the provision requiring liability insurance for neighbourhood block parties.

Sincerely,  
Brian Platts

***Federation of N.V. Community Associations***

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