

**Subject: Paving the way for the future?**

**Date:** Mon, 22 Sep 2003 01:22:05 +0100 (BST)

**From:** Elizabeth James <cagebc@yahoo.com>

**To:** The Editor <newsroom@northshoreoutlook.com>, Mayor and Council <council@dnv.org>, Cathy Adams <cathyadams@canada.com>, Eric Andersen <eric\_g\_andersen@hotmail.com>, Maureen Bragg <m.bragg@shaw.ca>, Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>, Allan Orr <allandorr@shaw.ca>, Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>, Bill Tracey <wrtracey@telus.net>

**CC:** fonvca@fonvca.org

19 September, 2003

Dear Editor:

If Don Fiorvento and MLA Dan Jarvis have all their information correct, one can only marvel at how easy it is for some groups to get action and taxpayer dollars, when even an elected Council and its committees have trouble getting the attention of, let alone money from, senior levels of government.

The Seymour Local Plan Committee representing many thousands of volunteer hours, has spent years trying to accommodate the ideals and aspirations of all area residents. Along the way, in a sincere effort to be good neighbours, the SLPC diligently took into account the rumoured Squamish and Tseil-Waututh 2,000-unit plans for their lands. Moreover, because they did that, committee members had to fend off brickbats from some of their own taxpayers who wanted a higher than 0.5% growth rate for the area.

Along with other Seymour residents, SLPC members have endured long-standing problems with the bridge-head, and lobbied Council and Victoria for "solutions". A solution could have been found - but not with this development added to the equation. The prediction is that no amount of fiddling with the bridge-head will ameliorate congestion to be caused by introduction of thousands more vehicles per week into Seymour - vehicles from Lions Bay to Burnaby and Vancouver.

Residents East of Seymour will sure need to keep their fingers crossed and keep on praying that no life-threatening emergency will happen their side of the highway when traffic is too congested to to allow access for Eastbound emergency vehicles.

MLA Jarvis and developer Sheldon Scott are excited about turning bays, signals, highway widening and a host of other traffic improvements. Well I'll be darned. No wonder TransLink suddenly decided to give us back a little of our tax money!

As for Mr. Scott's boast that the Squamish Seymour development will "be bigger than anything in the Fraser Valley." Wow! Has anyone seen the traffic at 200th and Fraser Highway lately? Three lanes, all directions, wall-to-wall cars. Who plans to anchor the site, more Wal-Mart?

Good neighbours don't do things like that, Mr. Scott - especially when they claim to be protectors of the environment.

How about Seymour residents send MLA Jarvis an interim message - as a hint prior to the next election? Something akin to the messages West Vancouver sent to South Park Royal, "The District doesn't want Big Box developments," open-air or otherwise.

After all the constraints Council imposed on the Holiday Inn, what an entrance to beautiful Seymour!

Sincerely,

Liz James,  
*Coalition for Accountability in Government Enterprises*  
Box 16090, 3017 Mountain Highway,  
NORTH VANCOUVER, B.C. V7J 2P2  
[604] 988-2066  
[cagebc@yahoo.com](mailto:cagebc@yahoo.com)

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