

Subject: Fwd: Re: FW: elevated walkway in Capilano.

Date: Fri, 23 Apr 2004 00:51:50 +0100 (BST)

From: Elizabeth James <cagebc@yahoo.com>

To: fonvca@fonvca.org

Date: Fri, 23 Apr 2004 00:48:01 +0100 (BST)

From: Elizabeth James

Subject: Re: FW: elevated walkway in Capilano.

To: Ernie Crist , lmuri@dnv.org, james_ridge@dnv.org

22 April 2004

Dear Clr. Crist:

Words fail me as the details of the CSB issue unfold - or rather, words don't fail me but I hesitate to begin a letter to Council because, once started, who knows where I would stop!

I find it absolutely unacceptable that a long-standing business in this - or any other - municipality (a) pretends not to know what the permit process is; (b) blithely constructs walkways in trees; and, having done so, that (c) District Council lets them get away with it!

To be blunt, if the people at CSB truly don't have any clue about normal municipal practices, they're too stupid to be in business. Since we know *that* is not the case, and since we know from the News that CSB received many letters on the subject of permits/due process, then we have little option but to believe they *knowingly misled* Council. There is a word for that - a very short word.

In my opinion, there is little doubt that CSB proceeded as they did with the intention of beating out any business competition from Greenheart. "We are the first in North America," they crow. Corporate citizens like this we don't need.

IF COUNCIL ALLOWS THIS COMPANY TO GET AWAY WITH WHAT THEY DID WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT PENALTY, THEN WHY DON'T WE ALL JUST HAVE OPEN SEASON AND DO AS WE DAMN WELL PLEASE IN THE DISTRICT?

I say this because, if any citizen in this municipality sees the precedent established by Council's decision and, themselves, get fined or otherwise penalized for performing unpermitted work, it is my opinion that they would have every right to sue the District for discriminatory practices.

In fact, given the available funds, I would be in court right now challenging this decision - and if Greenheart decides to protest this discrimination through legal channels, I will be one of the first to throw a donation in the pot to cheer them on.

Every time I do my damndest to "look for the positive" in this Council, to reach for the high standards Mr. Ridge is trying to set, every time I think, "Well, we weathered this scandal, Council will get it this time," they 'go one better.' It seems to me that some on council will not be satisfied until they end up in court - bigtime.

In that regard, those Councillors who voted the decision to let CSB off the hook on due process, better go down on their knees and pray there are no serious accidents on these unpermitted walkways!

Many thanks to you and to Clr. Muri for knowing - and voting - right from wrong.

Yours truly,

Liz James

[604] 988-2066

PS: It seems to me that, when operators want to erect new rides on the Playland [PNE] sites, they really have to 'go through the hoops' on provincial and WCB regulations. Is this being done at CSB; or do they *misunderstand* those regulations, also?

<ernie_crist@dnv.org> wrote:

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

From: Ernie Crist
Sent: April 22, 2004 12:37 PM
To: 'Zakary Molls'; Mayor and Council - DNV
Cc: Senior Management Committee
Subject: RE: elevated walkway in Capilano.

Dear Ms Molls:

Thank you for your input and for your kind words. I am in principle opposed to all canopy walkways. However, notwithstanding my reservations you may rest assured that I will consider the "Greenheart Project" if and when it comes before Council on its own merit and without bias.

As for your concerns that the District might be a "small town Council who doesn't understand how business is done"? - this perception is shared by many residents in the District. Clearly the public will have to pay more attention to their own local government.

Thank you again.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

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

From: Zakary Molls [mailto:zakary@telus.net]
Sent: April 22, 2004 11:09 AM
To: Mayor and Council - DNV
Subject: elevated walkway in Capilano.

Dear council members,

I have just completed reading the article in the North Shore News about the approval of permits for the elevated walkway at the Capilano suspension bridge. I noticed the article failed to mention that your council has been in negotiations with Greenheart for the last four years to develop a canopy walkway in the Lynn Valley park. Is this walkway still in development? I know that the district has made the company submit environmental impact studies, parking studies and have all the permit applications completed up front at a cost to the company of well over \$50,000. They presented these studies to us at the Lynn Valley Association meetings. Nancy Stibbard was well aware of these negotiations before she set out to develop her own walkway without obtaining the permits and I am disgusted with the council that you would show such bad faith with allowing her to continue her development of an unsound, environmentally substandard walkway simply because she was scared of having any competition. I hope at least, that you will hold her accountable to the same requirements for impact studies and not simply fine her \$1000 for sneaking in the back door. I would like to thank councillors Muri and Crist for speaking out against this blatant violation of district policy and I hope that they will bring forth the issue that the council needs to deal with the fact that they have created a situation in which they have allowed a private company to undermine the development process that has been in negotiations, in

good faith, between the District and Greenheart. I have only lived on the North Shore for five years but I would like to believe that this is not some small town council who doesn't understand how business is done.

Yours truly
Martha Molls

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