

Subject:

Date: Sat, 18 Sep 2004 00:10:53 -0700

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

To: <dhunter@telus.net>

CC: "FONVCA \ (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Dear Mr. Hunter:

The Library is indeed an important element and the central focus point of the Lynn Valley Core development. I have worked extremely hard to insure that this project would go forward and I have assisted to the best of my ability in the successful negotiation of the minefields along the way which were many.

However, for the price of \$ 41 million unofficially and 34.5 million officially, the people of Lynn Valley deserve more than just a new Library valued at \$ 14 million dollars. The original plan called for a combination Library and a community center of 70,000 square feet at a cost of \$ 20 million more or less which also included the cost of the civic square itself albeit without the commercial building.

However, the Museum and Archives component of 15,000 square feet was eliminated and so was the community space of 15,000 square feet which was part of the original plan.


The real reason for this escalation in my opinion is that the District is using this opportunity as an indirect tool to raise taxes and to supplement its operational expenses in the long run. This may not be apparent to many people as yet but it is to me. I am not exactly new to this District game. At the same time the public is being deprived of the all important community space that is crucial for Lynn Valley.

The whole project in my opinion is utterly irresponsible. Most people would like to believe the best and are taken in by factors such as local community pride. Not many people are as yet aware of the extent of what in my opinion is nothing short of being scandalous.

If you have followed the local press stories you will readily understand that the charges I am making are justified. It is my opinion that the community space must be restored. The Library, however important, is not a community center.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

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