

Subject: Response to letter from Mr. Barry O'Neill, President Cupe BC Division

Date: Wed, 25 Feb 2004 14:36:44 -0800

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Dear Mr. O'Neill:

Thank you for your letter re the future direction of transit in the Lower Mainland and Translink's 10 Year plan and 3 year Financial Strategy.

District Council spent considerable time on this subject and after a great deal of debate moved that the present plan for Translink should not be supported.

My own feeling is that while the cost to the taxpayers in North Vancouver is estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$ 300 million the benefits would be a mere \$ 40 million. The Translink Plan does not even remotely address North Shore transportation needs. Given the geographic reality, we on the North Shore are very vulnerable. This is accentuated by the upcoming 2010 Olympics.

There was considerable input from various local groups and community activists during the Council debate. However, North Shore Cupe was not involved. It did not provide any kind of input. I mention this since in my opinion CUPE could provide an important perspective on this and other community issues that go beyond the mere privatization issue. To put it bluntly North Shore CUPE seems to be dead and that is a shame.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

