

Subject: FW: NOTICE OF MOTION - REPORT COUNCILLOR CRIST

Date: Thu, 10 Jun 2004 16:43:35 -0700

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

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

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

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

Sent: June 10, 2004 3:35 PM

To: Ernie Crist

Cc: Agnes Hilsen; FONVCA (E-mail); Cagebc@yahoo.com; James Ridge; Mayor and Council - DNV; Senior Management Committee

Subject: Re: NOTICE OF MOTION - REPORT COUNCILLOR CRIST

Dear Councillor Crist,

I generally agree with the thrust of your motion. Similar to the Canadian health care system, our local NV Rec. Commission appears to be a bottomless pit that no amount of money can ever fill. Last year alone, for example, the Griffin Rec. Centre recorded nearly 700,000 customer visits to the facility. When you consider such a huge number of visits and the revenue that must be generated annually (assuming the vast majority of these visits were paid for by either registration in a specific program or a general membership fee) it is hard to believe that the facility cannot be entirely self-sustaining with more than enough money for maintenance, capital renewals, and even possible future expansion. Indeed, the municipality owns the building and the land it sits on so there is no rent or property taxes to pay. Perhaps not every other Rec. Centre is as successful in the number of visits as Griffin is; however, common sense dictates there must be an enormous amount of bureaucratic waste at the Rec. Commission for the District having to dump an additional \$6 million into the system every year, and yet the Commission still has insufficient funding for its needs. It is unfortunate that any discussion about reorganizing the Rec. Commission becomes politically polarized. For some, the Rec. Commission is a "sacred cow" that must be continually funded, but never questioned. Hopefully your motion will receive support.

Sincerely,
Brian Platts

Ernie Crist wrote:

>NOTICE OF MOTION - REORGANIZING THE NORTH VANCOUVER RECREATION COMMISSION -REPORT
COUNCILLOR CRIST

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>Whereas the District of North Vancouver has enacted a tax increase of 4.95% in its 2004
Budget and

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>Whereas the real tax increase due to additional factors is considerably higher than this
amount and follows on the heel of similar high tax increases over the last few years and

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>Whereas the District of North Vancouver has an obligation to its residents to take all
possible steps to keep tax increases to a minimum without curtailing the level of
services requested by the public and

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>Whereas the District of North Vancouver, as has been demonstrated, can save large sums
of money by reorganizing the North Vancouver Recreation Commission along the Parkgate
model and

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>Whereas the Recreation Facilities located in the District are an important factor in
keeping the community healthy, while due to lack of funding they are deteriorating with
the public risking the loss of these facilities altogether

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>Therefore be it resolved that, Staff be instructed to take the necessary immediate steps

including if necessary dissolving the North Vancouver Recreation Commission in its present organizational form or structure to bring this about and further be it resolved

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>That any money saved from such a reorganization be spent on increased maintenance and or the expansion of facilities as may be warranted and further be it resolved

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>That such a relevant report by staff be presented to Council by no later than October 1, 2004 but prior to the 2005 budget debate.

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