

Subject: RE: No salary increase just yet.

Date: Tue, 21 Jun 2005 22:56:10 -0700

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

To: "Ric" <eric.purdy@shaw.ca>

CC: "DNVCouncil" <DNVCOUNCIL@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>, "James Ridge" <James_Ridge@dnv.org>, <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Dear Mr. Purdy

I thank you very much for your kind words. When I could still afford to pay for ads in the local paper to advertise my own web site, the ad always concluded with the same message " The Struggle continues" and that is the way it is. In the final analysis it is public awareness and the degree of public participation in municipal affairs that will determine the quality of Council and the quality of life on the North Shore. You are absolutely right that the salary issue is secondary. Money in itself will not help people become passionate about their own community.

This is the one thing that is important. Indeed this is how I got involved in Municipal affairs 30 years ago. It was to challenge the then Mayor who only allowed people of his choice to address Council on issues of concern rather than as a right extended to every citizen regardless of his/her status, colour or political complexion. The right to address Council if only for two minutes was won after a bitter fight. It was won with the support from churches, unions, individuals and community groups etc, and indeed even from some members of the then Council. This right which is now established all over the region, more or less. It has done much to give people confidence that they CAN influence and even beat City Hall if necessary and get things off their chest. One victory at a time but the public is always the key player.

Thank you again,

Yours truly ,

Ernie Crist

From: Ric [<mailto:eric.purdy@shaw.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 5:01 PM
To: Ernie Crist
Cc: DNVCouncil
Subject: RE: No salary increase just yet.

Dear Mr Crist

Thank you for such a quick response to my e-mail to the Mayor of June 20/05.

I should tell you that I have e-mailed my MLA for W.V.-Capilano on two occasions last fall regarding items found in Michael Smyth's columns in The Province and I did not get the courtesy of an acknowledgement from him or his staff, much less an answer to my questions. I have also e-mailed our erstwhile friend Don Bell on E.I. and immigration questions to no avail. Surely he's not back there in the hopes he can last six years to get the golden pension.

The aforementioned is meant to reinforce my thoughts that you don't have to be paid a lot to do your job. We've all heard of Enron and the big bucks their leaders got. One of Canada's largest retailers has gone through two CEO's in 4 years. As a shareholder I see their salaries, bonuses and stock options and then I see their severance when they get booted out after a couple of years. It's obscene!

I note you didn't address some of my questions which I would have

liked. Instead you gave me the impression that what you had to say was far more important. I read again what I wrote to see why you thought I seemed to disdain your contributions. I never said that and I'm sorry you took it that way. My reference to you was purely to make one of my points because of what you were quoted as saying.

Since you are not running again I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for your many years of service to our community. I'm aware of some of the things you've fought very hard for and it must be draining at times but I trust it's been many times more rewarding for you.

It would be nice to see you keeping council on their toes in the occasional letter to the editor.

Good luck!

Yours truly
Eric Purdy

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

From: Ernie Crist <mailto:ernie_crist@dnv.org>
Date: 06/20/05 16:50:17
To: Ric <<mailto:eric.purdy@shaw.ca>> ; DNVCouncil <<mailto:DNVCOUNCIL@dnv.org>> ; James Ridge <mailto:James_Ridge@dnv.org> ; Senior Management Committee <<mailto:managecomm@dnv.org>>
Cc: fonvca@fonvca.org
Subject: RE: No salary increase just yet.

Dear Mr Purdy:

With respect, it would appear you missed the point. The point is that if you pay more you will attract more qualified people. Now, in fairness, this doesn't necessarily follow. However, hopefully it will attract people of a higher calibre to run for local government than is generally the case in the District of North Vancouver. In other words "you get what you pay for" I believe, is the saying. More to the point hopefully the people will know the difference.

To put it another way, it is unlikely that had District Council had a better understanding of basic business principles that you as a taxpayer would have had to suffer the endless list of fiascos you had to suffer as with Northlands, Canlan, the loss of the District Heritage Fund worth hundreds of million of dollars, the Infrastructure Reserve Fund fiasco worth \$ 91 millions dollars, the serious shortcoming pointed out in the KPMG Report and the recent Lynn Valley Library fiasco, to mention but a few. Incidentally did you know that the District is subsidising the City of North Vancouver? Is this being done with your permission and if so when did you approve this?

Also, it would appear that the low pay for elected officials is one of the reasons why the public pays so little attention to local politics. This being a purely materialistic society it would appear in the eyes of the majority of people, that local politics could not possibly be important since it does not pay. And since in this Society everything is measured by dollars and cents, including positions, it would appear that to give the elected official a higher pay will pay dividends. Of course you are right in one sense, if the public continues to be totally disinterested in local affairs (30% voter turnout) and pays more attention to the proverbial flea plague in Somalia then what is going on in your own community will not change regardless.

As for my own position, let me put it this way, I have for years argued for a better compensation for the reasons outlined above. This latest initiative is indeed the result of my efforts. As I am not running again, nobody can accuse me of doing this for my own personal benefit. But even if I did, so what?

As for my own contribution of which you seem to be disdainful, allow me to say this. At least you were made aware that these things happened.

Also, at least I know the difference between a budget and a blueberry bush. That is because I was trained. It would appear that you also do not know that I have more initiatives to my credit then the rest of Council including the Mayor put together. This is another way of saying, Mr. Purdy, who will tell you that you have been cheated after I am gone and tell you about all the things that could be done better than they are being done IN your own backyard. This is just bye the bye of course.

Thank you,

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

regardless. From: Ric [<mailto:eric.purdy@shaw.ca>]
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 1:56 PM
To: DNVCouncil
Subject: No salary increase just yet.

Madam Mayor

It is reported in the North Shore News that you and your council are in line for a raise. If these figures the paper reports are correct then I most strongly object.

The C.P.I. has gone up 124.26 since 1993 and 117.32 since 1997. With those figures alone your proposed salaries cannot be justified.

Some other reasons why these figures can't be accepted are;

-- council is squandering money. My General municipal taxes have gone up slightly over 40% since 2000 yet the C.P.I. 112.1. Were is this all going? Too many highly paid chiefs and not enough Indians I'd say.

-- I've lived in this house since 1966 without new sewers been put in yet there has been a 35% increase in sewer maintenance and drainage since 2000.

-- I know you pass the buck on the GVTA and I think it's disgusting that you do so. It is a cop out to say you haven't the authority to do anything when it affects your electorate so.

-- you have on your hands one fine mess with the assessment and the resulting tax loss from the waterfront property. I'm from Missouri. I want to see what you get done on this before you and council get any raises in pay.

I don't care what other local governments get paid. I'm not one to keep up with the Jones. I just want value for my dollar and I'm not getting it.

It's beyond me why Crist would use the monkey/peanut thought. After all he's been seeking election for evermore and you all knew what was there and must have been satisfied else why did you run.

I get so tired of hearing about how the mayor is essentially the CEO of a corporation with an annual budget of more than \$100 million. Most corporations that raised the prices to their customers by 40% in 6 years would have folded and the CEO and the board of directors would be eating peanuts somewhere.

Your's truly

Eric Purdy
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