

**Subject: [Fwd: FW: Response to a letter from the North Vancouver Cruisers Summer Aquatic Club.]**

**Date:** Sun, 27 Feb 2005 14:03:21 -0800

**From:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

**To:** Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

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**Subject: FW: Response to a letter from the North Vancouver Cruisers Summer Aquatic Club.**

**Date:** Sat, 26 Feb 2005 21:13:51 -0800

**From:** Ernie Crist <ernie\_crist@dnv.org>

**To:** Senior Management Committee <managecomm@dnv.org>, fonvca@fonvca.org, Cagebc@yahoo.com, prestash@shaw.ca

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**From:** Ernie Crist

**Sent:** Saturday, February 26, 2005 9:06 PM

**To:** Nathalie Valdes

**Subject:** Response to a letter from the North Vancouver Cruisers Summer Aquatic Club.

Dear Mr. Edwards;

The Council of the District of North Vancouver [over the years and most recently](#) submitted resolutions and requests to the UBCM, the FCM and has sent letters to the Ministers of Health at the Federal and Provincial level as well as to the Prime Minister of Canada and the Premier of British Columbia requesting support for a preventive health and physical fitness support concept which has been in existence in most of Europe for many years. It is to make expenses and fees for genuine bona fide exercise programs as is available in our public and private recreation facilities tax deductible. Such a program could easily be expanded to include your suggestion as outlined in your letter except it would be much broader.

The rationale is as follows: 40% of all Medical Doctor visits in Canada are stress related. That is one side of the ledger. On the other hand, for every One Dollar society invests in exercise and preventive health care, including supervised exercise programs, we save Seven Dollars in actual health care costs.

At a time when our health care system is strained to the limit and is in danger of being overwhelmed and at a time when exercising has become a national priority, it stands to reason that our government would save huge amounts of money by implementing the proposal made by the Council of the District of North Vancouver which, as I said, is common place in many parts of the developed world.

Implementing such a program would be the first step on the road to not only saving huge sums of money but would also raise the general well being of Canadians both young and old.

The second step of this same program would be for members of the medical profession to actually prescribe patients who would benefit from such supervised programs to visit such facilities to exercise so it would be part and parcel of an integrated preventive Health Care and physical fitness concept.

The motion which was submitted by the City of Port Moody in October of 2004 is based on motions passed by the District of North Vancouver for the last 12 years and submitted at every possible level. Indeed I was on the same Radio show as the proponents of the Port Moody suggestion which, in turn, is based on the idea of a parent residing in the Port Moody area. The idea outlined by the Council of the District of North Vancouver was written about in the press including in the Vancouver Province. Residents calling in during the radio show were critical of the Port Moody idea since it was too narrow and deemed in the main to be of benefit for the rich whereas the District model which is much wider in scope, was largely supported. I mention this in passing and for your information.

While I salute the Port Moody effort, I most sincerely believe that it must be broader to gain public support and be fully effective. This society needs to go further than the narrow suggestion made by the City of Port Moody and I urge you to do everything in your power to support the efforts of the Council of the District of North Vancouver. Copies of the resolutions submitted as well as letters by DNV Council are available through our Municipal Clerk Agnes Hilsen.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist