

Subject: [Fwd: Closure of North Vancouver Mountain Bike trails]

Date: Mon, 07 Feb 2005 13:17:03 -0800

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: Closure of North Vancouver Mountain Bike trails

Date: Mon, 07 Feb 2005 21:16:43 +1100

From: Nathan M <byatch@gmail.com>

To: dnvCouncil@dnv.org, fonvca@fonvca.org, jcuthbert@dnv.org, mmckeonholmes@dnv.org, rwalton@dnv.org, anixon@dnv.org, jharris@dnv.org, lmuri@dnv.org, ecrist@dnv.org

To whom it may concern

My name is Nathan Milburn. I'm a 21 year old student from Melbourne, Australia. Late May this year myself, and a group of 5 friends will be arriving in Vancouver Airport with bikes in tow looking forward to riding some of the world's most popular trails, those of the famous North Shore!

The North Shore has a legendary status world wide, even down here in Australia. The Australian mountain bike community is one of the densest in the world, thanks to our warm weather allowing for year-round riding. But as good as the riding is out here, the common consensus of the riders in Australia is to travel to the mecca of "freeriding" and the location of the legendary trails we constantly watch on videos, see on sports TV stations, amazed by the photos in magazines, and savour the images conjured up by the word-of-mouth reputation that the mountains of Fromme, Seymour, Cypress and surrounding areas create.

We know that there's riding in Whistler, and Squamish is putting a lot of money into developing the exploding tourist potential of mountain biking in their area, but these locations all come secondary to what we REALLY want, and that is to ride the birthplace of the world-wide phenomena of freeriding. And to us, that means Mt Fromme!

Our tickets have been booked months ago. So there's no changing our plans if the unthinkable happens (the trails removed from Mt. Fromme). But the repercussions of stripping the area of such a valuable resource of tourism will be felt around the mountain bike community worldwide, and probably none greater than the Australian contingent.

The status of the "North Shore" is not to be underestimated. The Mountain Biking locations that you are so blessed as to have in your backyard are referred to world wide as the "North Shore", or even just the "Shore", and are instantly recognisable. "Shore" is the buzzword of the Mountain Bike industry. Taken from the Norco Web page is the following quote when referring to their "Shore Hardtail Series": "You can take the bike out of the Shore, but you can't take the Shore out of Norco hardtail mountain bikes."

In addition to the fame and the tourist dollar that North Vancouver enjoys due to it's world class trails, countless manufacturers are based in Northern Vancouver and in Canada, most of whom boast that their bikes are "designed for the North Shore, ridden on the North Shore". The North Shore of Vancouver has a reputation undeniable the world over, the loss of which would cripple the industry, and my personal passion. One of my friends Has even gone so far as to undertake student exchange in Canada, so he could ride the North Shore trails on his weekends and holidays.

There is a good deal of money in mountain biking. Our equipment is expensive, we're constantly buying new gear, and we have a lot of disposable income. Please preserve our reason for travelling to North

Vancouver so we can use our tourist dollars we've saved up for months so we can ride the best trails on the planet, which we consider you so lucky to have in your own backyard.

Sincerely,

Nathan Milburn
Melbourne, Australia