

Subject: Refusal by the District to clarify an alleged violation of District policy by Councillor Crist.

Date: Mon, 15 Aug 2005 09:27:42 -0700

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

To: "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>

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

Mayor Harris:

You will undoubtedly recall that the RCMP, following a complaint, by what in all likelihood was an ex District employee, conducted an investigation into alleged wrongdoing on my part when I purchased a vehicle from a Car Dealership located in the District of North Vancouver.

YOU HAVE BEEN MADE AWARE that the investigation cleared me of all wrong doing regarding this matter.

However, in a follow up report, the RCMP indicated that, notwithstanding, I violated existing District policy regarding such matters. The meaning of this and how the RCMP could come to such a conclusion was never explained. I can only assume that the Burnaby RCMP Detachment which conducted the investigation was told something to that effect by a District official and has taken it as gospel truth without investigating it.

For years I, as well as private citizens, attempted to change the District property lease policy and put it on a more businesslike and more transparent basis. A staff report to that effect showed that the existing District policy is anything but uniform and businesslike. This applies also to a property, adjacent to the car dealership in question, which is receiving a lease for a District owned property that is far below market.

I assume that, in an attempt to divert attention away from this, my exposure of this unjustified lease agreement was said to be in violation of District policy when, in fact, I merely did my duty in pointing out what, in my opinion, is an unjustified subsidy to a private company at the expense of the taxpayers at large and, as such, is also in violation of the Municipal Charter and our oath of office, including yours. I along with other citizens, brought the matter of this particular lease to the attention of Mayor and Council, including yourself, as well as staff on more than one occasion. The matter was shrugged off by a senior staff stating "we cannot kick this lessee out since she has been with us for many years".

When I asked our CAO whether, in his opinion, I was in violation of any District policy he stated that he had absolutely no knowledge to that effect and that the necessary steps to correct any misunderstanding should be made. However, when I subsequently pressed the CAO to give me something in writing and clarify this issue once and for all he refused. My request to the RCMP to give me any particular details to this effect were also dismissed by stating that this was outside the jurisdiction of the RCMP. If this is so, then why make such statement in the first place.

I can only assume that the reason the District refused to clarify this matter is because this issue is an embarrassment to the District, including its Management, and is being swept under the rug at the expense of my reputation.

However, I must now insist that you, as chief executive officer and within the powers of your office clarify this matter and make it public. I must insist that my name be cleared.


Failure to do so will be a serious breach of etiquette on your part and is, in fact, a serious violation of your oath of office and of the positive workplace policy.

I expect clarification as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

 winmail.dat	Name: winmail.dat Type: application/ms-tnef Encoding: base64
--	---