

**Subject:** [Fwd: FW: Save our Pools]  
**From:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>  
**Date:** Tue, 13 Nov 2007 11:00:13 -0800  
**To:** Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

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**Subject:** FW: Save our Pools  
**From:** wendyqureshi@shaw.ca  
**Date:** Mon, 12 Nov 2007 23:51:51 -0800  
**To:** fonvca@fonvca.org

An appeal to all North Vancouver residents - Save our pools.

The North Vancouver Recreation Commission has facilitated a study to “consolidate” our recreation facilities, including swimming pools. The NVRC has not approved this proposal and has sent the responsibility off to CNV and DNV Council.

CNV Council has followed all NVRC directives in the past, DNV Council has not.

It was done in the name of enhanced efficiency and various other motherhood declarations. In reality it is nothing more than an attempt to close facilities or privatise them.

At a time when recreation facilities should be expanded to take care of an increasing population and acknowledge that exercising is an integral part of preventive health care and the “healthy community”, District Council is more than toying with the idea of reducing their number or closing them down. It is also talking about public private partnership which means nothing less than privatisation. The William Griffin Recreation Centre is first on it list.

Our recreation facilities were built with taxpayers' money. With the exception of "Parkgate" they are paid off. They were built after a long struggle. It started with a letter to the Vancouver Sun comparing the North Vancouver District with the Sahara Desert. There was no swimming pool or any other major facility in the District at the time.

Right from the start the North Vancouver Recreation Commission, a joint Body set up by both District and City Councils to oversee recreation activities made it clear that adequate capital would have to be provided each and every year to keep the facilities in a good state of repair just as you would with your home. There was also an understanding that, if anything, funds would have to be increased rather than diminished as time went on.

This was not done. While the City of North Vancouver lived up to its part of the bargain and spent sufficient money to maintain its own facilities and even built a new one, the DNV, instead of spending between \$1-1.5 million annually as recommended by the Recreation Commission, allocated a mere \$600,000. It did so year after year despite warnings that this would result in a steady deterioration of facilities, including pools.

The time has now come to put a halt to this short-sighted if not irresponsible endeavour and raise the level of preventive health care instead. The time has come to encourage people to visit health centres instead of sending them to the doctors if they suffer from stress as 40% of them do.

The time has come to expand facilities not to close them. The District Council is the custodian of our public assets not its liquidator under any other name. Join the fight to keep our recreation facilities. Sign the petition in circulation and tell District Council you are not willing to sacrifice your investment in health for lack of timely and responsible leadership by the District of North Vancouver.

<b>FW: Save our Pools.eml</b>	<b>Content-Type:</b> message/rfc822 <b>Content-Encoding:</b> 7bit
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