

Subject: Response to letter from M. Lindsay

Date: Fri, 22 Mar 2002 09:10:34 -0800

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Dear M.Lindsay:

Subject: Your material re Olympics etc.

Thank you very much for your correspondence on the above subject. I found it very informative and I will certainly be mindful of the points you have raised if and when this item is further debated. I agree with much you have stated.

While I appreciate the healthy enthusiasm demonstrated by the pro Olympic Lobby I must state categorically that they are, in my opinion, totally unaware of the enormous undertaking not to speak of the staggering cost that would be involved, including to municipalities. One of the most crucial points is transportation. Our car oriented society is simply unaware of the radical change in thinking required to handle the transportation needs to accommodate such an event.

When I hear people say that they will widen the Sea to Sky highway to accommodate the Olympics I can only wonder at the level of their naiveté or their total lack of responsibility. The bottom line is that the present transportation system is hopelessly inadequate to address the needs of such a venture. The point to be reiterated is that any attempt to solve the problem of transportation to Whistler via the Sea to Sky highway is doomed to fail and will lead to disaster.

It is truly amazing that some of the politicians, including local politicians, who have joined the bandwagon of the 2010 Olympics Lobby have consistently voted against any and all mass transit solutions to radically improve transportation, including an expansion of light rail extension to North Vancouver and beyond to mention just one aspect.

I have made numerous motions towards this end but the present North Van District Council did not even second such initiatives for discussion much less pursue them. This despite the fact that Light Rail has proven to be the single most effective, cheapest and environmentally safe mass transit system in the world's cities. In addressing the crucial aspect of transportation I am not even speaking about all the other aspects of such a venture such as the staggering cost of creating the required facilities. It is my opinion that this society is not ready for such a step and simply could not handle it. The upshot would be nothing short of a public relations fiasco not to speak of the financial fiasco which would make Atlanta pale in comparison.

Thank you for sharing your concerns

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist



[Part 1.2](#)

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