

**Subject: Bylaw 7272 and the CCA**

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The Editor:

The CCA endorsed Council of the District has once again shown its bias in defense of special interests.


When it comes to paying for the use of District land by adjoining residents, we have two laws - one for Deep Cove, more or less, where people pay either nothing or only a fraction of its value and one for the rest of the community where they have to pay 7.5 %. In the Deep Cove area, in particular, many of the homeowners have occupied District land. Some of them have even erected structures without paying in kind.

It is unlikely that any other community would tolerate such discrimination but in the District of North Vancouver this has been going on for years. Many of the lots in question are on the waterfront. They are relatively small and in some cases, started out as boathouses or weekend cottages being turned into regular homes over the years.

As the properties, due to their location, have increased in value so the size of these homes also increased despite the limitations of the lots.

To put the whole issue on a businesslike footing while, at the same time, safeguarding the public interest, the District established a Citizens Task Force to provide long term solutions. This culminated in a set of recommendations spelled out in the District Waterfront Policy which was adopted by Council. In essence the recommendations were to build a public pathway along the waterfront and eliminate all illegal structures.

District land in Deep Cove should be leased on the same terms as in the rest of the community, namely 7.5 % of the annual lease value or the equivalent. But, notwithstanding that the matter came before Council in the form of Bylaw 7272, Council refused to deal with it and referred it back to staff for more studies. The reason for this referral can be none other than to circumvent implementation of Bylaw 7272 dealing with Authorized Occupations and Trespasses of District Owned Lands And Road Allowances by the present CCA endorsed Council intent on continuing to extend special privileges to some at the expense of the rest. The discriminatory policy by the CCA endorsed Council drawing much of its support from this area will continue.

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