

Subject: FW: Notice of Motion - Softwood Lumber - Report Councillor Crist.

Date: Tue, 2 Apr 2002 12:46:21 -0800

From: Ernie Crist <CristE@dnv.org>

To: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

-----Original Message-----

From: Darryl_Wolf@translink.bc.ca [mailto:Darryl_Wolf@translink.bc.ca]

Sent: Tuesday, April 02, 2002 12:07 PM

To: CristE@dnv.org

Subject: FW: Notice of Motion - Softwood Lumber - Report Councillor Crist.

> -----Original Message-----

> From: David Reid [SMTP:dcwreid@telus.net]

> Sent: Tuesday, April 02, 2002 8:01 AM

> To: Darryl_Wolf@translink.bc.ca

> Subject: Re: Notice of Motion - Softwood Lumber - Report Councillor
> Crist.

>

> Darryl,

> *Perhaps I didn't express myself very well earlier. I'm
> inclined to do that when I'm having fun - and my thinking has crystallized
> since then. I'm not much for doing nothing in the hope that the problem
> will go away.....most of the time it doesn't.....but this is one time
> when we should and suffer short term pain for long term gain. What I
> really mean is.....*

> * We are the people with the huge supply of good quality
> wood - not those people.

> * Take our lumps for now....let the weak go to the wall.....
>don't rescue them....it will force the survivors to
> become super efficient and will keep the price of our
> wood up to economic levels. Every time the government
> "saves jobs" with unwise subsidies it gets us all into
> bigger trouble down the road.

> * Tax log exports - make sure the US consumer knows
> the effect of these tariffs on consumer prices - expend a
> lot more effort on developing other world markets -
> do a lot more custom cutting etc.....

> *but take our lumps for now! It might be better if
> we were imposing export tariffs for now but the US dept of commerce is
> adept at inventing new rules to suit themselves.*

> *David*

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: <Darryl_Wolf@translink.bc.ca>

> To: <hapsburg@telus.net>; <dcwreid@telus.net>; <idegroot@shaw.ca>;

> <sillywolf@hotmail.com>

> Sent: Tuesday, April 02, 2002 6:09 AM

> *Subject: FW: Notice of Motion - Softwood Lumber - Report Councillor Crist.*

>

>

>>

>>

>>> -----Original Message-----

>>> *From: Ernie Crist [SMTP:CristE@dnv.org]*

>>> *Sent: Monday, April 01, 2002 9:20 PM*

>>> *To: FONVCA (E-mail); Mayor and Council - DNV*

>>> *Cc: Directors Team*

>>> *Subject: FW: Notice of Motion - Softwood Lumber - Report Councillor*

>>> *Crist.*

>>>

>>>

>>>

>>> *Crist.*

>>>

>>>

>>> *Hi Darryl:*

>>>

>>> *Thank you for sending me the response of your friend re this matter.*

> *WE*

>>> *already know about the lies and we certainly know about the corruption*

>>> *that*

>>> *goes back to the days when the Empire Loyalists moved to Canada from*

> *the*

>>> *US*

>>> *and were given special privileges and when huge tracts of land were*

> *handed*

>>> *over to the Hudson's Bay and the CPR to mention but two examples. And*

>>> *speaking about corruption, why do you think our Senate is appointed*

> *rather*

>>> *than elected. So what else is new. It is all part of the same corrupt*

>>> *system*

>>> *that needs to be overhauled.*

>>>

>>> *On the Lumber issue the question is whether we at the municipal level*

> *can*

>>> *exert some pressure to do something through the UBCM (Union of British*

>>> *Columbia Municipalities) Convention to help the suffering communities,*

>>> *including the workers and their families, and help get this issue*

>>> *resolved.*

>>> *Your friend seems to think that it is all a waste of time. Maybe so,*

> *but*

>>> *to*

>>> *do nothing will maintain the status quo for sure. It is the same thing*

> *as*

>>> *not voting on election day because "Bell's boobs" are all the same.*

> *The*

>>> *point is that we have the power to change it. There is no law which*

> *says*

>>> *that we have to elect "boobs".*

> > >
> > > *There is one aspect that has already been brought out in this debate*
> *and*
> > > *that is that unlike in the US where the lands are privately owned and*
> > > *logging rights sold to the highest bidder, in BC timber rights are*
> *going*
> > > *to*
> > > *the big monopolies at a 30 % discount.*
> > >
> > > *I hate to admit it but the US has a point when they say that this is a*
> > > *form*
> > > *of subsidy. Hopefully this whole debate will raise the level of*
> > > *understanding which is always the first step to making changes and*
> *moving*
> > > *forwards.*
> > >
> > > *Ernie*
> > >
> > >
> > > > *Darryl,*
> > > > *Both sides have told so many lies about this subject*
> *over*
> > > *the*
> > > > *years that the truth is shrouded - coloured by each groups' self*
> > > > *interest.*
> > > > *Certainly a part of the problem is that some of the Cdn companies*
> *have*
> > > > *failed to modernize. If you listen to big labor then the only thing*
> *that*
> > > > *matters is creating jobs, no matter what the cost. Logic (ie - past*
> > > > *experience) tells me that:*
> > > > *1) Unions will distort the issues in their own self*
> > > > *interest.*
> > > > *2) Governments are almost always extremely*
> > > > *inefficient at running things. If it's public*
> > > > *lavatories they usually have twice as much*
> > > > *staff as they need - you can only pee between*
> > > > *9am and 4pm - there are all kinds of other rules*
> > > > *that call for a beurocracy to administer them.*
> > > > *Forests are run in approximately the same way.*
> > > > *If I have any inclination it's something like the*
>
> > > > *one expressed by Timberwests' boss in todays'*
> > > > *Vancouver Sun Financial section. Ernie Crist -*
> > > > *and for that matter Bells boobs can't do much*
> > > > *more than make ineffective noise!*
> > > >
> > > >
> > > > > >

> >

> > > > > > -----Original Message-----
> > > > > > From: Ernie Crist [SMTP:CristE@dnv.org]
> > > > > > Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2002 10:44 PM
> > > > > > To: FONVCA (E-mail)

>>>>> *Cc: Mayor and Council - DNV; Directors Team*
>>>>> *Subject: FW: Notice of Motion - Softwood Lumber - Report*
> *Councillor*
>>>>> *Crist.*
>>>>>
>>>>> *A MESSAGE FROM ERNIE CRIST:*
>>>>>
>>>>> *I received a request from a District resident to bring the*
> *Softwood*
>>>> *Lumber*
>>>>> *issue to Council's attention. The request was coupled with an*
> *appeal*
>>>> *to*
>>>>> *support the concerns of all those affected by this controversial*
>>>> *issue.*
>>>>> *This*
>>>>> *includes residents and businesses in our community.*
>>>>>
>>>>> *Subsequently, I drew up and submitted a resolution for Council's*
>>>>> *consideration to be dealt with during last night's Council*
> *meeting.*
>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>> *As there was no seconder to add the motion to the agenda last*
>>> *Monday,*
>>>> *it*
>>>>>> *will come before Council on April 2. If the motion is seconded I*
>>> *will*
>>>> *be*
>>>>>> *able to introduce and explain it including why this*
> *controversial*
>>>> *issue is*
>>>>>> *of local concern. It will be an opportunity to also dispel some*
> *of*
>>> *the*
>>>>>> *notions about the role of local government where today to "*
> *think*
>>>> *globally*
>>>>>> *and act locally" is widely accepted as a prerequisite in*
> *providing*
>>>>>> *effective*
>>>>>> *leadership.*
>>>>>>
>>>>>> *This means that to lead in a world where the center of gravity*
> *has*
>>>> *shifted*
>>>>>> *from senior levels of government to civic government, it is*
> *crucial*
>>>> *to*
>>>>>> *also*
>>>>>> *debate such issues at the civic level. Every challenge from*
> *crime to*

>>>>> *culture*
 >>>>> *and from employment to housing, and from environment to*
 >>> *transportation*
 >>>>> *occurs in the streets, homes and workplaces of our cities. Gone*
 > *are*
 >>>> *the*
 >>>>> *days*
 >>>>> *where 90 % of Canada's population was living in rural enclaves*
 > *with*
 >>>> *only*
 >>>>> *10% living in cities.*
 >>>>>
 >>>>> *Today it is the cities with their huge population concentrations*
 >>> *where*
 >>>> *all*
 >>>>> *the staggering problems of a modern society have to be*
 > *addressed.*
 >>>> *Indeed*
 >>>>> *this message is constantly driven home to the delegates*
 > *attending*
 >>>>> *Federation*
 >>>>> *of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and or (UBCM) Union of British*
 >>>> *Columbia*
 >>>>> *Municipalities Conventions also attended by members of both*
 > *Federal*
 >>>> *and*
 >>>>> *Provincial governments. In summary this issue is of importance*
 > *first*
 >>>> *and*
 >>>>> *foremost to the local communities in this province where the*
 > *effects*
 >>>>> *of*
 >>>>>> *the*
 >>>>>> *global economy are felt directly and instantly.*

>>>>>>
 >>>>>> *Ernie Crist*

>>>>>>
 >>>>>>
 >>>>>>

>>>>>> *-----Original Message-----*
 >>>>>> *From: Pat Munroe [<mailto:pat.munroe@shaw.ca>]*
 >>>>>> *Sent: Monday, March 25, 2002 6:04 PM*
 >>>>>> *To: Ernie Crist*
 >>>>>> *Subject: Re: Notice of Motion - Softwood Lumber - Report*
 > *Councillor*
 >>>>>> *Crist.*

>>>>>>
 >>>>>>
 >>>>>>
 >>>>>> *Ernie,*
 >>>>>>
 >>>>>> *The issue of pricing for softwood lumber should be clarified.*
 > *The*


> > > USA
> > > > > softwood industry is saying that the Canadian producers are
> getting
> > > an
> > > > > unfair price advantage by having their prices reduced by a
> > government
> > > > > subsidy.
> > > > >
> > > > > This price subsidy, which the USA industry alleges, makes the
> price
> > > of
> > > the
> > > > > Canadian product unfairly low and contrary to the agreement
> between
> > > the
> > > > > two
> > > > > countries.
> > > > >
> > > > > The reason that there is the allegation of a government subsidy
> is
> > > that
> > > > > the
> > > > > system of ownership of trees for logging in BC & Canada differs
> from
> > > that
> > > > > in
> > > > > the USA.
> > > > >
> > > > > In the USA the logging rights are private and are sold on the
> open
> > > market,
> > > > > whereas, in BC & some parts of Canada the trees are on
> government
> > > owned
> > > > > lands and the rights are granted by the government to logging
> > > companies.
> > > > > These rights are held through a tenure system which is part of
> our
> > > > > colonial
> > > > > heritage.
> > > > >
> > > > > The system in the USA means that all companies can bid on the
> > logging
> > > > > rights. In Canada there is not the same competitive approach and
> the
> > > price
> > > > > paid to the government for the logging rights is up to +/-30%
> lower
> > > than
> > > > > in
> > > > > the USA.
> > > > >

>>>>> *It is because of this that the USA wants a +/- 30% tariff on*
>>> *imported*
>>>>> *Canadian softwood. That is, to put it on a level price playing*
>>> *field.*
>>>>>
>>>>> *The tariff monies are then paid to the USA logging companies.*
>>>>>
>>>>> *In this way, international companies like Weyerhaeuser can*
> *collect*
>>>> *money*
>>>>> *in*
>>>>> *the USA for softwood which they and other companies operating in*
>>>> *Canada*
>>>>> *are*
>>>>> *charged in tariffs. So they do not really lose. In fact they can*
>>> *have*
>>>> *a*
>>>>> *gain.*
>>>>>
>>>>> *Their gain can come because smaller non-international Canadian*
>>> *logging*
>>>>> *companies exporting to the USA cannot compete. With the +/-30%*
> *added*
>>>> *to*
>>>>> *their export price they are unlikely to have buyers in the USA*
> *and*
>>>>> *therefore, must lower their prices. Since their costs won't*
> *allow it*
>>>> *they*
>>>>> *are*
>>>>> *threatened with going out of business.*
>>>>>
>>>>> *Companies like Weyerhaeuser can then buy them out at distress*
>>> *prices.*
>>>>>
>>>>> *The problem is that the Canadian costs apparently are too high.*
>>> *That*
>>>> *is*
>>>>> *to*
>>>>> *say, they can only be competitive if there is no tariff. The*
> *tariff*
>>>> *would*
>>>>> *not be there if the logging companies paid a higher price to the*
>>>>> *government*
>>>>> *for the logging rights.*
>>>>>
>>>>> *Why are our costs so much higher than the USA? That is what we*
>>> *should*
>>>> *be*
>>>>> *looking at.*
>>>>>
>>>>> *But, more importantly, why are our governments not collecting*

> *more*
> > > > *from*
> > > > > *the*
> > > > > *logging companies for the logging rights.*
> > > > >
> > > > > *If the cost of logging rights in BC were higher, the revenues*
> *would*
> > > *be*
> > > > > *here*
> > > > > *to give support to health care and other essential services.*
> > > > >
> > > > > *The difference in what we are getting through the government*
> > > > > *royalties/stumpage fees and what we need to get for a level*
> *playing*
> > > > *field,*
> > > > > *is being charged as a tariff and going to the USA and*
> *Canadian/USA*
> > > > *logging*
> > > > > *companies.*
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > > *If all this is so, our governments should be collecting*
> *increasing*
> > > > > *royalties/stumpage fees in the same amount as the tariffs?*
> > > > >
> > > > > *By doing this there would not be any tariff, the companies would*
> > > *have*
> > > > *to*
> > > > > *operate in a more cost-effective manner, and the additional*
> *monies*
> > > > *paid to*
> > > > > *our government could be used for our much depleted health and*
> *social*
> > > > > *programs.*
> > > > >
> > > > > *Pat.*
> > > > >
> > > > > *----- Original Message -----*
> > > > > *From: "Ernie Crist" <CristE@dnv.org>*
> > > > > *To: "Nathalie Valdes" <Valdes@dnv.org>*
> > > > > *Cc: "Mayor and Council - DNV"*
> *<Council@district.north-van.bc.ca>;*
> > > > > *"Directors*
> > > > > *Team" <managecomm@district.north-van.bc.ca>*
> > > > > *Sent: Monday, March 25, 2002 12:04 AM*
> > > > > *Subject: Notice of Motion - Softwood Lumber - Report Councillor*
> > > *Crist.*
> > > > >
> > > > >
> > > > > > *Notice of Motion*
> > > > > >
> > > > > > *Recommendations:*

>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> *That in response to a request by a District Citizen, the*
> *Council*
>>>> *of*
>>>>>>> *the*
>>>>>>> *District of North Vancouver make a strong statement in*
>>> *connection*
>>>> *with*
>>>>>>> *the*
>>>>>>> *Softwood Lumber issue which should include the following*
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> *1) a strong statement of support for the Canadian negotiating*
>>> *team,*
>>>>>>> *our*
>>>>>>> *industry and the affected citizens and their communities with*
>>>> *copies to*
>>>>>>> *go*
>>>>>>> *to the Federal Government, and the Provincial government*
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> *2) An appeal to all BC Municipalities to support this*
> *initiative*
>>> *by*
>>>> *the*
>>>>>>>> *District of North Vancouver as spelled out in 1 mentioned*
> *above*
>>>> *with*
>>>>>>> *copies*
>>>>>>>> *to be sent to the Governor of the state of Washington and*
> *Oregon*
>>>>>>> *including*
>>>>>>> *a*
>>>>>>>> *statement that the recent US decision re the Softwood Lumber*
>>> *issue*
>>>> *is*
>>>>>>> *of*
>>>>>>>> *great concern to all British Columbians and has a direct*
> *economic*
>>>> *impact*
>>>>>>>> *on*
>>>>>>>>> *their BC municipalities and may have long term damaging*
> *effects on*
>>>> *the*
>>>>>>>> *well*
>>>>>>>>> *being of all concerned including US communities benefiting*
> *from*
>>> *the*
>>>>>>>> *export*
>>>>>>>>> *of American products to British Columbia.*
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> *Rationale*
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>> *In a recent letter a District resident appealed to the Council*

> of
 > > > the
 > > > > > District of North Vancouver to show support for the Canadian
 > > > > > negotiating
 > > > > > team, our industry and the affected citizens and their
 > > > communities
 > > > in
 > > > > > British Columbia.
 > > > > >
 > > > > > Mr. Wayne Hunter of 3658 Garibaldi Drive North Vancouver has
 > > > suggested
 > > > > > that, in his opinion, the steps taken by the US authorities
 > are
 > > > not
 > > > > > justified , that they are counterproductive, that they will
 > create
 > > > > > hardships
 > > > > > not only amongst Canadian but also; affected American citizens
 > and
 > > > > their
 > > > > > communities.
 > > > > >
 > > > > > Mr. Hunter in his letter has pointed out that, this is a
 > question
 > > > > that
 > > > > > affects each and every community and is first and foremost a
 > > > > question
 > > > > > of
 > > > > > principle which should be fought for.
 > > > > >
 > > > > > cc North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce
 > > > > >

 Part 1.2	<p>Type: application/ms-tnef Encoding: base64 Download Status: Not downloaded with message</p>
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