

Subject: FW:

Date: Tue, 10 Jun 2003 10:44:42 -0700

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

To: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <cagebc@yahoo.com>

A MESSAGE FROM ERNIE CRIST


> THIS IS THE REVISED MESSAGE - MY APOLOGIES FOR THE PREVIOUS GOOF UP - I HAD PRESSED THE "SEND" BUTTON BY MISTAKE.

> On June 9 I presented a motion to Council requesting clarification from staff regarding information on the West Nile pamphlet issue. Council previously committed to pay \$ 10,000 for the printing and distribution of 36.000 pamphlets in the Distrit, even though it is outside our responsibility. My main concern however was that staff had committed the District to pay for it without checking with Council first.

> It is like committing your boss to spend money before he said it's OK. This is not the first time this has happened. I remember on one occasion when we were asked to spend a considerable amount of money for the repaving of a lane, but when I went to check it out, low and behold, it had already been done. Not exactly a very respectful attitude by staff and I would say one that would not be tolerated in a private corporation. Clearly there was no concern by those responsible that there would be any repercussions.

> However, I have additional concerns. By paying for what is esssentailly a Health Region responsibility, the Council has created a precedent. If we accept responsibility for such requests once, regardless of merit, it will be difficult to not also pay for similar requests the second and third time etc.

> I did not get a seconder to my motion of course. Still the issue was sensitive enough that another Councillor voiced concern as well. The Mayor too was obliged to state that the matter will be dealt with further. The point is that, if I had not raised the issue, there would be no record of any wrongdoing. It is yet another case of Councillor Crist being an " SOB " but I suppose it is the price I had to pay. At least the Mayor did not accuse me of being "anti staff" as he has done in similar instances in the past.

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