

Subject: RE: Agenda Addenda resolution - Motion - Councillor Crist - Monday, February 3, 2003

Date: Sun, 2 Feb 2003 11:00:24 -0800

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

To: "Angela Trudeau" <angelatrudeau@shaw.ca>, "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>

CC: "FONVCA" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Dear Ms Trudeau:

Thank you for your input.

The points made both by you and Ms James are not relevant. The points at issue were debated at length in the context of the international war crime trials at Nuerenberg (Nuremberg) following World War 2.

You may wish to avail yourself of the documents of these trials and their implications on international law for ANY and ALL levels of government and EVERY individual notwithstanding ANY OTHER FACTOR including the stance by a government, organization or individual.

A WAR AGAINST IRAQ IS ILLEGAL UNLESS IT IS SANCTIONED BY THE UN. Our Prime Minister seems to understand this although politicians of lesser comprehensive ability apparently do not.

The hottest place in hell is reserved for those who in a state of crisis remain neutral.
Dante

Ernie Crist

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

From: Angela Trudeau [<mailto:angelatrudeau@shaw.ca>]

Sent: Saturday, February 01, 2003 2:56 PM

To: Ernie Crist; Mayor and Council - DNV

Cc: FONVCA

Subject: Re: Agenda Addenda resolution - Motion - Councillor Crist - Monday, February 3, 2003

Dear Clr. Crist

I sympathize with the sincere concern expressed by your motion, however I do not support it. You are right, war and peace, and our role in the world community should be the concern of every Canadian. However it is my opinion that the municipal context is not the appropriate forum for this important debate.

As Ms. James has pointed out, the subject of your motion is outside the authority of municipal government. I agree and would add: it is outside this Council's mandate as well. Foreign affairs and world peace issues were not a part of the municipal campaign. Therefore the citizens who elected this Council have not conferred a mandate to act on such matters on their behalf. Unless there is an attempt by Council to engage residents in discussion in a significant way, this motion presumes rather than expresses public support and cannot represent a collective opinion of the citizens of the District of North Vancouver.

Sincerely,
Angela Trudeau

On 2/1/03 8:53 AM, "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org> wrote:

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

From: Ernie Crist

Sent: Friday, January 31, 2003 10:06 PM

To: 'Elizabeth James'; FONVCA (E-mail)

Subject: RE: FW: Agenda Addenda resolution - Motion - Councillor Crist - Monday, February

3, 2003

Dear Ms James;

The Prime Minister of Canada and his government at this very moment are clearly in need of moral support from all Canadians on this question and support from municipalities representing as they do the grass roots of Canada is completely appropriate.

War or Peace is not a question to be debated by any single political jurisdiction but is the concern and responsibility of all Canadians and all democratic jurisdictions. Municipalities have not only the moral right to speak up on such a life and death issue but they have the duty to do so.

The reasons you put forward in your argument against my motion are similar to those put forward during the Cold War when some people objected to a resolution declaring the District of North Vancouver a nuclear free zone. It was a symbolic gesture but in so doing the District of North Vancouver joined tens of thousand of municipalities and cities throughout the world who did likewise.

Then too it was argued by some that this matter was outside municipal jurisdiction. The counter argument was that if anybody can guarantee that the radioactive dust clouds would stop at the District border than the argument that this is not a municipal concern is valid, otherwise it is not. What I am proposing in my resolution is already occurring on a large scale throughout the world including in the US where countless cities have spoken up against this proposed war unless it is sanctioned by the UN .

Thank you again for your response,

Ernie Crist]

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

From: Elizabeth James [<mailto:cagebc@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Friday, January 31, 2003 11:26 AM

To: Ernie Crist; FONVCA (E-mail)

Subject: Re: FW: Agenda Addenda resolution - Motion - Councillor Crist - Monday, February 3, 2003

Dear Clr. Crist:

Apologies, but my opinion remains the same. In fact, I think that for the most part, experience will show that economies for those countries on the winning side receive a boost from a war, rather than the opposite.

With respect to federal contributions to the costs of infrastructure, education and health there is no doubt that these should be increased; in fact, with respect to health, the feds should ante up according to the agreement with the provinces, viz. closer to 50-cents of every dollar.

That said, as is usual with government at all levels in this country, I believe you will agree that, properly spent, there is more than enough money to go around to cover all of our necessities and still have dollars left over to pay off some of the national debt. But, instead, the people allow governments to spend on unaccountable HRDC scams, on Bombardier SkyTrains instead of on more economical transit solutions that would achieve our stated goals; on gold-plated FastCats instead of ferries appropriate to the runs; on gold-plated e-Comm systems that leave citizens unprotected and on gold-plated severance packages to departing bureaucrats who lack any vestige of conscience.

So, rather than this type of motion, I would prefer Council to concentrate on fulfilling its chief mandate - parks and recreation, water, sewers, zoning and by-law regulations, garbage collection etc. If/when it has done that job with efficiency, fiscal prudence and accountability then it can start looking beyond its boundaries. To this point, I don't see/hear District citizens clamouring to have Council speak to the Federal Government about wars.....they want to see our own messes cleaned up first.

Lastly, if members of Council, or individuals and groups within the community feel

strongly enough about the looming war with Iraq they/we are all free to lobby the Prime Minister or our MP's them/ourselves - and I believe that's as it should be.

Sincerely,

Liz James

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