

**Subject:**

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The Editor


I wish to add my voice in congratulating Mr. Jeremy Dalton for his attempts to determine the whole truth surrounding the "Northlands" Scandal in the District of North Vancouver.

Mr. Dalton has provided an outstanding public service to this community by taking legal action against those determined to sweep the matter under the rug. His efforts will hopefully also shed light on the exact date when Mayor Bell was first made aware of the alleged theft of District money and assets by an employee of Don Mac Holdings. Mayor Bell claims he did not know about the scandal until November 19 which is 3 days after the election in November 2002. All subsequent attempts on my part to have a forensic audit conducted were defeated by Council.

However, as early as October 16 District staff were aware of the alleged theft by Ms Hammonds, an employee of Don Mac Holdings. On or about the same time, however, Council, in good faith, was debating the pros and cons of a staff recommendation that an existing contract with Don Mac Holdings be renewed for another five years. Councillors were not made aware of this vital information which, in itself, is a serious breach of ethics and in the private sector would have led to immediate dismissal of the culprits.

Mr. Dalton's efforts to pursue the matter through the legal system is of particular importance since any attempts to do so through Council channels on my part resulted in discrimination and punishment for "revealing in camera information" and as one Councillor put it "for preventing Council from moving forward". Appeals to members of the North Shore legal profession for help, with the exception of Mr. Dalton, also fell on deaf ears. Even attempts to involve the Inspector Of Municipalities resulted in nothing more than excuses or were ignored altogether. Mr Dalton will need full public support for his efforts. This community must show that it cares. As I have stated all along, the Himalayan size mismanagement in the District can only be terminated by those ultimately in charge and effected by irresponsible government, namely; the public themselves.

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