

**Subject: FW: Request for 5 minute delegation in response to Mayor Bell's allegations made at a public meeting of Council in June of 2003**

**Date:** Sun, 24 Aug 2003 14:27:04 -0700

**From:** "Ernie Crist" <ernie\_crist@dnv.org>

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

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

> From: Ernie Crist

> Sent: Saturday, August 23, 2003 11:57 AM

> To: Agnes Hilsen

> Subject: Request for 5 minute delegation in response to Mayor Bell's allegations made at a public meeting of Council in June of 2003

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> Ms Hilsen:

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> THIS IS A REQUEST TO APPEAR BEFORE COUNCIL AS A 5 MINUTE DELEGATION TO CLARIFY MATTERS PERTAINING TO MAYOR DON BELL'S ALLEGATIONS IN THE MATTER OF CENSURING COUNCILLOR CRIST

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> At a Council meeting in June 2003, and according to the existing transcript of this meeting Mayor Don Bell stated in public that the rationale for Council's decision to censure Councillor Crist, effective on or about February 15, 2003, had been the result of a previous censure based on allegations made by a member of staff against Councillor Crist in May 2001. The allegations made against Councillor Crist in May of 2001 remain to this day allegations only.

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> However, following the election of a new Council in Nov 2002, Councillor Crist was appointed Acting Mayor for the months of January and February 2003. This action by the new Council effectively terminated the previous existing sanctions.

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> Notwithstanding, after being appointed Acting Mayor for January and February 2003 Councillor Crist, after serving in that capacity in January and the first part of February 2003 was again censured but not, as claimed by Mayor Don Bell in June 2003, for an incident in 2001 but for exposing the Northlands Scandal beginning in October 2002 and continuing to this very day.

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> According to Council minutes of January 27, 2003, Council's decision to terminate Councillor Crist's Acting Mayor's position on or about February 15-2003 was "for releasing e-mails dealing with confidential matters pertaining to Northlands and for the release of information from Special (Closed ) meetings of Council as reported in the January 9, 2003 OUTLOOK and the January 15, 2003 North Shore News". As a result of which, it was moved and carried "that Councillor Crist not be appointed Acting Mayor for the remainder of his present term of office 2003-2005 due to his violations of confidential requirements of Council and of the Mayor and/or Acting Mayor".

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> My request for a 5 minute public delegation status is based on the following factors.

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> 1) When Mayor Bell made his allegations in public in June 2003, that the reason for my censure effective February 15, 2003 was based on an alleged incident that took place in 2001, I was not present. I had excused myself as a result of a possible conflict of interest situation. In my absence Mayor Bell was at liberty to provide misleading information without any opportunity on my part to challenge the accuracy of his statements.

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> 2) To raise this matter by submitting a motion to be put on a public agenda for debate has been effectively jeopardized since 2000 when Mayor Bell initiated a policy under which any motion submitted by a member of Council must be seconded by another member of Council before it may be explained. This has effectively deprived me of any guarantee of presenting my case in public as would be the case in any credible democratic and/or judicial forum, while Mayor Bell's statements stand unchallenged.

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> 3) The incorrect information presented by Mayor Bell at a public meeting in June 2003 is not only of concern to me personally but also to the community at large. I therefore

request that I be given an opportunity for rebuttal within the existing 5 minute Council delegation Policy and under the same visible conditions.

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> 4) The Mayor spoke for 7 minutes when he made his erroneous allegations in public. I therefore request no less than 5 minutes for rebuttal. As well, Mayor Don Bell's statements were made at a live televised Council meeting and subsequently I request to be given 5 minutes and at a time when the Council meeting is televised live.>

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> 5) Mayor Bell made his allegations at the beginning of the Council Agenda and subsequently I request that I too be accommodated at the beginning of such a televised Council meeting.

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> 6) In an effort to lend credence to his allegations that the reasons for censuring Councillor Crist in 2003 were NOT the result of the events surrounding "Northlands" but were based on allegations made against Councillor Crist in 2001, Mayor Don Bell obtained a legal opinion from the Law Firm of Lidstone, Young, Anderson ostensibly supporting his claim. However, the facts clearly indicate otherwise. The opinion provided by the Law Firm of Lidstone, Young, Anderson made no relevant reference to "Northlands" and/or the legal implications of my appointment as Acting Mayor effective January 2003.

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> Notwithstanding the opinion provided by the solicitors acting on behalf of the Corporation of the District of North Vancouver, the sanctions imposed on Councillor Crist ceased to exist de-facto with the election of a new Council in November 2002 when Councillor Crist was appointed by Council to the position of Acting Mayor for January and February 2003. Any subsequent action by the Mayor was not the result of an event that took place in 2001 but was the result of divulging information pertaining to Northlands in 2003 on the part of Councillor Crist when vital information pertaining to Northlands was kept from the public and for inordinately long periods.

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> Thank you,

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> Ernie Crist

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