

Subject: FW: Lynn Valley Library

Date: Fri, 5 Sep 2003 14:59:05 -0700

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

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

CC: "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>

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

From: Donna & Brian [<mailto:bhutchinson@shaw.ca>]

Sent: Friday, September 05, 2003 2:39 PM

To: Ernie Crist

Subject: Re: Lynn Valley Library

Please feel free to forward this e-mail, thank you

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

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

To: Donna <<mailto:bhutchinson@shaw.ca>> & Brian

Sent: Thursday, September 04, 2003 10:39 PM

Subject: RE: Lynn Valley Library

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Hutchinson:

It is Council's intention to take this issue to counter petition. A counter petition is a mechanism whereby Council will advertise in the local press its intentions to borrow a certain amount of money for a specific project. In this case, \$18 million for the Lynn Valley Town Square project which includes the Library as well as a commercial portion of the proposed civic square. As I have pointed out in my letter to the NEWS the Council has already close to \$ 20 million available to pay for the Library estimated to cost \$ 18 million. If a lesser number than 2, 500 District residents voice their opposition by signing the counter petition, Council may proceed to borrow this money and proceed with the project. However, if 2, 500 or more residents sign the counter petition, Council will be obliged to take the matter to a referendum.

In either case there will be a debate except such a debate will be more comprehensive and the process far more democratic if it goes to referendum. I am personally strongly opposed to the counter petition scenario. I also believe that the money to pay for the commercial portion of the project should either come from the Heritage Fund, since this is in line with existing policies, and/or should be financed by the private sector or a combination of both.

The existing policy pertaining to accessing the Heritage Fund is that it may be used for genuine capital projects provided such projects have the capacity to pay back to the Heritage Fund both principle and interest. Unfortunately and contrary to this policy Council has consistently accessed the Heritage Fund to cover operating expenses which is indefensible. An example of how the Heritage Fund should be used is the Northlands Golf Course except that, here too the Council is using the generated profits not to pay back to the Heritage Fund both principle and interest as stipulated but to cover operating expenses.

Notwithstanding, it is possible that Council, depending on public input prior to attempting the counter petition approach will shy away from pursuing the counter petition approach and go straight to referendum. In any case there will be ample opportunity for public input on the matter. This can be done in writing and later on by addressing Council directly as part of the upcoming 2003-2004 budget discussions.

The next open budget discussion will be on Sept 17 in the Council chambers. An extremely well informed District citizen, when it comes to District finances, is Dr. Corrie Kost, a founding member of FONVCA (Federation of North Vancouver Community Associations). Dr. Kost is a person of the highest integrity and can provide you with valuable information concerning the District's fiscal policies since he has followed them for years as have indeed some other members of FONVCA. Dr. Kost's phone number is 604-988-6615. Mr. Kost's e-mail address is (kost@triumf.ca) You may also wish to get in touch with Ms Liz James from CAGE, BC at (cagebc@yahoo.com)

I would love to send a copy of the above reply to your e-mail to FONVCA but would do so

only if you give me the specific permission to do so.

Thank you,

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

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

From: Donna & Brian [<mailto:bhutchinson@shaw.ca>]

Sent: Thursday, September 04, 2003 10:37 AM

To: Ernie Crist


Subject: Lynn Valley Library

Councillor Crist;

Sir, I have read your opinion regarding the current state of affairs concerning the new library development and the District's intention of seeking another 18 million from taxpayers. How does one go about trying to bring about an end to the fiscal mismanagement that seems to abound in the district without compromising the much needed infrastructure upgrade in Lynn Valley.

Thank you for your time;

Brian Hutchinson

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