

Subject: Fees For Public Meetings Held by the GVRD

Date: Sun, 14 Dec 2003 19:43:52 -0800

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To: mayor.corrigan@city.burnaby.bc.ca, jmhunt@city.surrey.bc.ca

CC: comm_ed@gvr.bc.ca, council@dnv.org, FONVCA <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Federation of North Vancouver

Community Associations

Dear Sirs:

At the November 20th meeting of the *Federation of North Vancouver Community Associations* (FONVCA) a discussion was held on the matter of the public being charged a fee to attend certain forums.

Of particular concern was a November 5th public forum advertised and sponsored by the GVRD with watershed manager, Mr. Bob Cavil, speaking at the "Learning Lodge", a public-owned facility located in the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve. The advertisement specified a fee of \$5.00 for the privilege of citizens to attend. It is FONVCA's view that it is highly inappropriate to charge an attendance fee for GVRD public meetings, held in a public place, with a public employee speaking on a matter of public importance.

The *Federation of NV Community Associations* is an umbrella organization representing 18 residents' groups across the District of North Vancouver. Regular FONVCA meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month for the purpose of sharing information and discussing issues of common concern. We trust that the input provided in this communication will be given due consideration and that in future, such public meetings sponsored by the GVRD will be free of charge to members of the public.

Sincerely,
Brian Platts

Federation of NV Community Associations

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