

Subject: [Fwd: FW: COUNCILLOR CRIST'S MOTION RE "CONFLICT OF INTEREST" FREE ANNUAL RECREATION COMMISSION PASSES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS.]

Date: Sat, 10 Jan 2004 18:22:29 -0800

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: FW: COUNCILLOR CRIST'S MOTION RE "CONFLICT OF INTEREST" FREE ANNUAL RECREATION COMMISSION PASSES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS.

Date: Sat, 10 Jan 2004 17:21:56 -0800

From: Ernie Crist <ernie_crist@dnv.org>

To: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

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

> From: Ernie Crist

> Sent: January 8, 2004 2:03 PM

> To: Nathalie Valdes; James Ridge

> Cc: 'cagebc@yahoo.com'; Mayor and Council - DNV; Senior Management Committee; 'kost@triumf.ca'

> Subject: RE: COUNCILLOR CRIST'S MOTION RE "CONFLICT OF INTEREST" FREE ANNUAL RECREATION COMMISSION PASSES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS.

>

> Dear Mr. Ridge:

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> I protest in the strongest possible terms that Councillor Harris involved District Staff to convey a political and personal message to me and the public. I request that she desist from doing so in future and that this be conveyed to Staff.

>

> Thank you,

>

> Ernie Crist.

>

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

> From: Nathalie Valdes

> Sent: January 8, 2004 12:09 PM

> To: Ernie Crist

> Cc: 'cagebc@yahoo.com'; Mayor and Council - DNV; Senior Management Committee; 'kost@triumf.ca'

> Subject: RE: COUNCILLOR CRIST'S MOTION RE "CONFLICT OF INTEREST" FREE ANNUAL RECREATION COMMISSION PASSES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS.

> Importance: High

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> The following e-mail message is relayed to you at the request of Councillor Janice Harris:

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> "Subject: Councillor Crist January 7, 2004, e-mail

> Re: "CONFLICT OF INTEREST" FREE ANNUAL RECREATION COMMISSION PASSES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

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> I am formally requesting Councillor Crist to cease and desist from writing defamatory comments about my character and e-mailing them not only to myself, but also to public organizations and District staff.

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> Nothing short of a full written public apology is appropriate in this case."

>

>

> Sent on behalf of Councillor Janice Harris

> January 8, 2004

>

>

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

> From: Ernie Crist
> Sent: January 7, 2004 12:47 PM
> To: FONVCA (E-mail); 'Cagebc@yahoo.com'; Mayor and Council - DNV; Senior
Management Committee
> Subject: COUNCILLOR CRIST'S MOTION RE "CONFLICT OF INTEREST" FREE ANNUAL
RECREATION COMMISSION PASSES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS.

>
> A MESSAGE FROM ERNIE CRIST
>

> I recently submitted a motion on District Council regarding free annual passes
which the North Vancouver Recreation Commission extends to elected officials who serve on
the Commission as appointed members of Council. The point of my motion was to seek a
legal opinion as to whether members of Council, who have accepted such free passes for
themselves and/or members of their families, are in a conflict of interest situation and
should subsequently excuse themselves when Recreation Commission matters come before
Council and/or whether they should forfeit the offer to receive free passes from the
Commission.

> The conflict of interest guidelines clearly state that no member of Council may
accept any gift from any organization, corporation or individual but if they do, they
must declare their conflict and excuse themselves when an item pertaining to such an
organization or individual comes before Council. In the course of this debate, I informed
Council that when I first got elected more than twenty years ago and when I served on the
Commission I had myself accepted such a free pass.

> I also stated that I soon realized the pitfalls for doing so and I stopped.
Indeed as I served on the Commission for 6 years, I was entitled to a lifetime free pass
from the Commission but I declined this as well. I have since been a fully paid up
regular user of the Rec facilities. I am simply stating this to clarify the record.

> However, it was during the debate on seeking a legal opinion, that Councillor
Harris made a big point that I had also accepted a free pass from the Commission in the
past. This comment had, of course, nothing to do with the motion before Council and was
clearly geared to detract from the issue on hand. However it was typical of this
Councillor who is famous for her hostility towards me.

> The reasons for this go back many years when Ms Harris was first elected. As a
result of family political connections she encountered serious difficulties in being
endorsed by the Save Lynn Canyon Park Committee. Being endorsed by this Committee was
crucial in her election bid. >

> Janice Harris, whom I hardly knew, called me and complained and in tears about
this discrimination and asked for my help. I agreed and got in touch with the executive
of the Save Lynn Canyon Park Committee. I informed them that I considered this
discrimination against Ms Harris to be an unacceptable case of witch hunting and red
baiting. The Chair of the Committee agreed and Ms Harris who claimed to be an
environmentalist was subsequently endorsed by the Save Lynn Canyon Park Committee and was
elected to Council.

> However, since that day Ms Harris has displayed a near pathological hostility
towards me. Whether this is a question of twisted guilt, embarrassment that she had to
come to me for help, jealousy or simply ignorance or a combination of all of the above
is difficult to say. It does constitute, however, an interesting psychological, albeit
curious, study of human behavior. I rest my case.

> Ernie Crist
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