

Subject: [Fwd: Re: FW: Youth disturbances at Parkgate]

Date: Tue, 08 Jul 2003 14:58:49 -0700

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: Re: FW: Youth disturbances at Parkgate

Date: Tue, 08 Jul 2003 19:37:52 +0100 (BST)

From: Elizabeth James <cagebc@yahoo.com>

To: Ernie Crist <ernie_crist@dnv.org>, "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

8 July, 2003

Dear Clr. Crist:

Thank you for copying me on this email; I concur with your sentiments.

As I watched recent Council discussion and public input on the mountain-biking issue, I cast my mind back.....

First of all, kids came and said, "We're bored, there's nothing to do, and if you don't want us getting into mischief, we have to have playgrounds;" so the taxpayers paid and playgrounds were built.

And then the kids came and said, "We're bored, there's nothing to do, if you want us to exercise, we need pools and recreation centres;" so the taxpayers paid and pools and rec centres were built."

And then the kids - and their adult organizers and players - came and said, "We're bored, there's nothing to do, it rains on the North Shore and, if you don't want us to get into trouble, you must instal million-dollar artificial turf soccer fields, 'cos that's the only way we can play." So the taxpayers downed their antacids, and the turf fields were built.

Soon the youth came back and said, "We're bored, there's nothing to do; we have these really neat skateboards {roller-blades, inline skates, whatever} and there's nowhere to use them so, if you don't want us on sidewalks and roads, or painting graffiti on buildings, sorry, there's nothing for it, you're just going have to give us the skateboard parks." So taxpayers grit their teeth and built skateboard bowls all over the 'Shore.

But then the youth and adults came back and said, "We're bored, there's nothing to do and we have these really, really expensive bikes and nowhere to ride. We need this exercise, and we have a right to use these trails. We can't help it if "others" moon local residents, or defecate in their yards. So sad; too bad. Find a way; provide the trails.

So, despite the fact that the MBA rep appeared not to understand the word "impact", all but one vote went against beleaguered residents and for the mountain bikers. To heck with peaceful homeowners who pay their taxes and tend their gardens; or energetic hikers and dog-walkers who cost taxpayers nothing at all but who, over the years, have been driven off those same trails by hurtling bikers and their poorly-constructed booby-traps.

So, are we any better off for all of these well-intentioned decisions? Do we see less, or more vandalism and petty crime? Do we see less, or more graffiti? Are there less kids skateboarding on sidewalks and in the malls? Are there less youth toking in front of the local corner store? Are there fewer buying cigarettes or a 6-pack under-age?

While you're pondering that, I gotta go. I'm off to cruise-the-dealers for a 400hp modified black Beamer. And, oh, you better ask staff for a report on the best location for a speedway. Somewhere in Lynn Canyon, maybe? That way it'd be handy for the medics at the "break-your-neck-cos you're bored" diving pools.

If you don't, you're just gonna make me look for someone to street-race with and, if I just happen to kill someone it'll be all your fault, 'cos I'm bored and there's nothing I can afford

to do around here....it's only just past tax freedom day. And, if you think that's a sick joke, just read the papers.

Keep voting Clr. Crist; maybe one day someone will listen.

Regards,
Liz James

Ernie Crist <ernie_crist@dnv.org> wrote:

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

> From: Ernie Crist

> Sent: Monday, July 07, 2003 1:20 PM

> To: Ken Bennett; Richard Zerr; Don Sigston; Richard Boulton; Arleta Beckett; Heather Fleming; Neil Carlisle

> Cc: Mayor and Council - DNV; Senior Management Committee

> Subject: RE: Youth disturbances at Parkgate

>

> My response to the issue below:

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> I consider this to be yet another crazy solution to an already crazy situation, not to mention the cost, additional bureaucracy, additional reports and the continuing uglification of the area with yet more signs, barriers, decommissioning of unauthorized trails, fences, obstacles, more reports, more waste of staff time etc., etc., and all to placate a few hooligans and anti social elements.

>

> I am absolutely amazed, although not much amazes me anymore, that ! the RCMP and Bylaw enforcement option is being suggested as a last resort when it should be the first and only one. Does anybody have the gumption to simply hand out tickets and if not why do we have them in the first place and why do we have bylaws? I believe we have done enough for the Youth. From what I hear from more and more sources, the enforcement of District Bylaws is a joke, from the solutions suggested below I would have to agree.

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> Ernie Crist

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

> From: Ken Bennett

> Sent: Monday, July 07, 2003 10:00 AM

> To: Richard Zerr; Don Sigston; Richard Boulton; Arleta Beckett; Heather Fleming; Neil Carlisle

> Cc: Mayor and Council - DNV

> Subject: Youth disturbances at Parkgate

>

> This summarizes our meeting on-site July 4, 2003 to review options to control the youth disturbances reported along the paving-stone path and wooden bridge b! ehind Banff Court. Recent complaints about the youth activities include:

- > * late night noise and drinking
- > * skate board noise on the path and bridge and interference with elderly pedestrians.
- > * damage to the new wooden fence and vegetation at the south end of the riparian area
- >
- > Previous actions to control activity in this area that have been successful include:
- > * new iron fence at the rear of the skatebowl
- > * decommissioning and barriers to unauthorized trails in the riparian area
- > * replanting of vegetation in the riparian area
- > * a new split rail wooden fence along the south boundary of the riparian area.
- >
- > Additional immediate actions:
- > * "Friendly" Signs along the path regarding impacts of skateboarding to the neighbours and path users
- > * increase youth worker presence
- > * increase RCMP bike patrol (they have been coming by)
- > * repair south fence and replant in the Fall
- > * Arleta will take the issue to the Skate Park Advisory Committee and Facilities Advisory Committee for input and ideas
- >
- > If problems persist then escalating actions will be taken and include:
- > * gating
- > * formal Bylaw enforcement: (tickets) and RCMP action
- > * restricting skatebowl hours
- >
- >
- > Arleta and Heather will report back once they have met with the committees.
- >
- > Regards,
- > Ken Bennett, R.P.Bio.
- > Manager, Environment Services
- > phone: 604-990-2445
- > Fax: 604-984-9683
- > www.dnv.org
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