

**Subject: FW: A tree problem**

**Date:** Thu, 6 Mar 2003 16:00:28 -0800

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

**To:** "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "Directors Team" <managecomm@dnv.org>, "Ken Bennett" <Ken\_Bennett@dnv.org>

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

Dear Ms Bent:

I have received your e-mail concerning trees. I have forwarded your message to Mayor and Council as well as to the Directors and also to the Federation of North Vancouver Community Associations (fonvca) for their information.

Your comments are a typical example of the bureaucratic nightmare we have created with this Bylaw. It may not be the tree protection Bylaw in itself that is at fault but the lack of common sense in implementing it. Be that as it may, the item will come back to Council. When this happens I urge you to address Council directly about your experience.

The opportunity to do so is at the Monday Night Council meeting when the item is on the agenda. This should be shortly. You will have 2 minutes between 7 and 7.30 pm to do so.

Simply go to the Municipal Hall at 355 West Queens Road and put your name on the list provided for that purpose just before 7 pm at the entrance to the Council Chambers. After the meeting commences at 7 pm the Mayor will call your name and it is then that you may speak.

If you phone the municipal clerk at 604-990-2424 they will tell you on what Monday the item will be on the agenda. They will also give you any further assistance should you require it.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist.

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

From: Erica Bent [<mailto:ericabent@shaw.ca>]

Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2003 1:46 PM

To: Ernie Crist

Subject: A tree problem

Dear Mr. Crist,

I read your letter in Sunday's North Shore News regarding the District Tree Bylaws and wanted to bring your attention to an ongoing tree predicament that we have.

Years ago, a previous owner planter a row of hemlock trees about 4 feet from the edge of the curb. Over time, these trees grew and have been presenting a problem for years.

They hang over the road by 5 feet, causing numerous difficulties.

1. Children are forced to walk in the traffic lane on their way to and from school.
2. Cars cannot park there.
3. When the road cleaning truck comes along, the driver, in order to avoid damage to his mirrors, goes out around the trees, leaving debris and dirt at the curb.

In the spring of 2001, I asked about the removal of these trees as they are on District land. We wanted to replace them with a cedar hedge. I had a reply from Mr. Mark Brown saying a certified arborist could remove the trees providing numerous conditions were met. After all permits costs, security deposits and payments were met, the bill would have been several thousand dollars.

As they were planted under the power lines, BC Hydro tops the trees every year or so. We spoke to someone at Hydro who was willing to remove the trees free of charge as they must be continually cut back and are not the type of trees that should have been planted under the lines. He then contacted the District for permission. It was denied, as the trees were not considered a safety hazard.

The only concession the District eventually made was that the trees could be pruned back to the trunk so they wouldn't hang over the road. This was unacceptable for two main reasons.


1. It would look very ugly
2. Being hemlocks, these trees have a very shallow root system. Pruning them on one side could cause them to fall over into our yard - a very dangerous situation.

I am attaching two picture of the trees showing the mess left behind by the road sweeper, how they hang over the road and how Hydro has topped them. We have also had comments from our neighbours saying how unsightly they are.

I am asking for your help in resolving this situation.

Yours truly  
Erica Bent  
2438 Carnation Street  
North Vancouver  
(604) 924-8263

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