

Subject: Lack of reasonable safety device and lack of adequate maintenance causes accident

Date: Tue, 25 Nov 2003 08:09:46 -0800

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To: "Heather Fleming" <flemingh@northvanrec.com>

CC: "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "James Ridge" <James_Ridge@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>, "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <Cagebc@yahoo.com>

Ms Fleming:

As you are aware, I recently slipped and fell in the steam room at the Ron Andrews Rec Facility. I broke three ribs which caused me great pain plus medical expenses. The reason this happened is because the steps were slippery which means that the Commission is not cleaning the steam room often enough. The second reason is that there is no handrail as is supposed to be the case. When anybody steps down from the second ledge to the first and then to the floor there is nothing to hang onto. Subsequently, I suggested that such a handrail be installed. This would be a very simple thing to do I thought. However, I was told that this is not so simple since the wall is hollow.

While I have serious doubts about the veracity of this statement, I suggested an alternative which is that a handrail be installed near the entrance of the door since the people will ascend and descend to and from the bench, in any case, near the door. It was acknowledged by your friendly staff that this was a good solution and was quite doable. What is more it could be done quickly. However, despite the fact that my accident took place in the summer and it is now December or nearly December, nothing has been done. As a frequent visitor to the facility, I can attest that this is typical of the Rec Commission which is clearly incapable of solving simple problems during a reasonable time frame.

I am hereby informing you that I have obtained legal advice that, as a result of inadequate and reasonable safety features in a public facility, such as the absence of a simple handrail plus lack of adequate maintenance, I am entitled to compensation. I am reluctant to pursue such an action. Notwithstanding, I urge you to proceed forthwith.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist.

