

Subject: FW:**Date:** Mon, 26 Jan 2004 11:53:31 -0800**From:** "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>**To:** "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

> P R E S S R E L E A S E -

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> Ernie Crist, District Councillor and Jeremy Dalton, former MLA.

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> On Jan 17, District of North Vancouver Council passed a "Technology Usage Policy" by a six to one vote with Councillor Crist voting against.

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> The policy purports to restrict email and "other technology" use by Council, Staff and DNV Volunteers. The "system" (word used in the policy) has prohibited use restrictions, including defamation, harassment, and "Chain letters".

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> " This is unacceptable and unenforceable censorship of duly elected officials" stated Councillor Crist and former MLA Jeremy Dalton, both DNV residents.

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> "Who will be the District Censor"? Crist and Dalton wonder "does it cover all DNV systems including letterhead, phone calls, and fax?" There are many other questions.


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> Council is elected to correspond with residents, staff, and colleagues. This chilling policy is blatantly dangerous.

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> This is not only a threat to the rights of an elected official to communicate and to critique Council policies but also a direct attack against the citizens of the municipality who have elected Councillors to guard the public interest.

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> "Who could deny," stated Crist, " that the Northlands and Canlan fiascos, to mention but two costly debacles, were contrary to the public interest." "Who could deny also that the serious shortcomings in the District operations, as revealed in the KPMG report, needed to be exposed," said Crist. "To speak up is not only the right but the duty of a duly elected representative of the public", added former MLA, Jeremy Dalton.

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> "Is this the real reason why the gag bylaw has been initiated", said Crist, and he added "is it not time for this community to put a stop to such dangerous machinations by the present District Council ?".

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