

Subject:

Date: Wed, 23 Jun 2004 08:26:56 -0700

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

A MESSAGE FROM ERNIE CRIST

North Vancouver District Council refused to support a motion submitted by the BC Government and Service Employee Union, BCGEU, asking the Campbell Government to restore funding for Long Term Care and Home Support which according to the BCGEU has left many residents of the community without the care they need.

The request to support the BCGEU motion was made by District of North Vancouver Veteran Councillor Ernie Crist and was debated by Council during its regular meeting on June 21. The motion had previously been endorsed by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Convention but the BCGEU requested additional support from the District since the lack of funding impacted many North Vancouver residents.


The BCGEU letter stated that

"Whereas the Province of British Columbia will receive funds from the Federal Government under the First Ministers Accord on Health Care Renewal for the delivery of home service from 2002 - 2006 and

Whereas this funding was designated under the Health Accord to be directed only to palliative, mental health and post acute care home care, which made no provisions for home support for the frail elderly, the chronically ill or people with disabilities

Therefore be it resolved that the Corporation of the District of North Vancouver, send a letter to the Minister of Health Services, the Honorable Colin Hansen, strongly encouraging him to amend current Provincial policy, and to direct changes to the policies of the health authorities, to include home support under the Home Care Program, and to enhance home support for frail elderly, chronically ill and people with disabilities, in order to prevent the clients of this service from requiring more expensive and dislocation institutional care. "

Crist's motion to support the BCGEU request was supported by Councillor Alan Nixon but was defeated 3 to 2 with Cllrs Janice Harris, Maureen McKeon Holmes and Richard Walton voting against.

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