

Subject: FW:**Date:** Thu, 24 Jun 2004 14:51:45 -0700**From:** "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>**To:** "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <Cagebc@yahoo.com>, "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>**CC:** "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>, "Dennis Back" <dback@dnv.org>, "James Ridge" <James_Ridge@dnv.org>, "Agnes Hilsen" <Agnes_Hilsen@dnv.org>

A MESSAGE FROM ERNIE CRIST

Below is the full text of the letter from George MacPherson, President of the Marine Workers' and Boilermakers' Industrial Union to the Mayor and Council of the District of North Vancouver with copies to the BC Federation of Labour and the Vancouver & District Labour Council.

> *The Mayor and Council of the District of North Vancouver.*

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> *We are in receipt of several documents and press reports pertaining to DNV Council's actions against one of our members, Councillor Ernie Crist, who has served for 24 years on District Council and has done so with distinction.*

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> *Based on the information in our possession, we conclude that the charge against Councillor Crist of raising his voice against a District employee is minor and in no way warrants the kind of treatment he has been subjected to by his Council. Indeed, based on the circumstances surrounding the evidence in our possession, including District staff's failure to inform Councillor Crist about a retroactive policy change in 2001 which gave rise to the confusion and subsequently resulted in a charge against our member, leads us to suspect that the action against the Councillor was politically motivated if not staged.*

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> *As for the other charges, they are alleged and, until they are corroborated in a court of law, they remain allegations and cannot be used as a valid reason to prevent one of our elected members from carrying out his duties to the people unhindered. Also, we are aware that Crown Counsel refused to pursue the additional alleged charges against Councillor Crist.*

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> *We are also fully cognizant of the political bias which exists against Councillor Crist. We are aware that he was not endorsed by any of the political civic parties during the last municipal election and we know the reasons why. We are also familiar with some of the issues from previous elections and press reports about serious violations of good government in the District, including Northlands and Canlan, to mention but two examples. In short, we believe that Councillor Crist, who has consistently performed his duties to the electorate in pointing to these serious shortcomings, has become the victim of revenge and we take great exception to this. We have been told by Councillor Crist that Mayor Bell uttered threats to this effect in public.*

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> *Also, we cannot but notice that Mayor Don Bell, in a recent interview with a North Shore News reporter, made a great to do about Councillor Crist's alleged political left wing connections during years gone by. This confirms our suspicions that the real reasons of what we consider to be harassment against the Councillor are based on political and personal bias.*

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> *Councillor Crist represents the interests of working people in the District, including the interests of the members of our union. In light of the above, I urge you to either substantiate the charges against Councillor Crist but not in a staged setting controlled by District Council, but in a real court of law and/or withdraw those alleged charges completely and do so immediately.*

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> *Yours truly,*

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> *George MacPherson,*


> *President Marine Workers & Boilermakers Industrial Union Local no 1.*

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> *cc Vancouver District and Labor Council*

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> *BC Federation of Labor.*

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