

Subject: [Fwd: Re: Request for information:]

Date: Tue, 29 Jun 2004 14:54:56 -0700

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: RE: Request for information:

Date: Tue, 29 Jun 2004 10:11:08 -0700

From: James Ridge <James_Ridge@dnv.org>

To: Ernie Crist <ernie_crist@dnv.org>, Maureen Jones <Maureen_Jones@dnv.org>

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

All letters addressed to the Mayor and Council are included in the regular yellow information folders. Letters to the Mayor alone or individual members of Council are not, and are subject to the legislation and process in my earlier e-mail. We rarely if ever get people calling asking to speak to the 'Mayor and Council'. Normally they want to speak to an individual. If we receive voicemail messages for the 'Mayor and Council' they are either forwarded to all members of Council or transcribed and included in the information folder. However this too rarely happens.

What you are directing that staff do, copy you on all correspondence in which you are not an addressee but in which you are named, would be a violation of Federal and Provincial law. If you are unhappy with the legislation you may want to contact the Federal and Provincial governments who are responsible for creating and maintaining privacy legislation. We simply administer it.

Finally, the practice I set out in my e-mail to Ms. James was my personal practice of not disseminating e-mail addressed to me without the author's consent. It is not a corporate policy.

James Ridge
CAO

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Ernie Crist

> Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2004 9:19 AM

> To: James Ridge; Maureen Jones

> Cc: Mayor and Council - DNV; Senior Management Committee; 'FONVCA (E-mail)'; 'Cagebc@yahoo.com'

> Subject: RE: Request for information:

>

> Mr Ridge;

>

> I believe that I am still a member of this Council and if someone writes a letter to the Mayor and Council or makes a telephone call and or leaves a message for the Mayor and Council I would appreciate receiving a copy or be so informed regardless of any "Alice in Wonderland" or is it "Alice Through The Looking Glass" legislation or policy. I hope this courteous way in human relations is still in vogue?

>

> As I see it, the job of staff is not to make life more difficult by creating more barriers, paper, rules, regulations, gimmicks and excuses for NOT doing that which should be done as a matter of fact but to assist elected officials to the best of their ability.

>

> When anybody calls in and leaves a message, be it praise or curse, which involves my name I want to be notified without having to hire a lawyer first or making such a request through an FOI which, if I understood you correctly, I would have to do. It does make me think however, as to how I could make such a request unless I am aware that someone has written or called in first. In this particular case, the only reason I became aware was because that person phoned to tell me that she had done so. How many more persons called and/or wrote?

>

> As for voters writing to me on any other issue and not wishing to have their name made

public, that suits me fine. I have never published such mail if I was told not to. As I understand it, to make such correspondence public a manner of speaking was my duty. It seems to me, that is what our high priced solicitor told us at the time. I merely followed the trend. Remember the hype of not too long ago of no more secrets? If the legislation has now been subjected to a 180 degree turn as appears to be the case than that suits me fine too.

>
> I am always trying to adjust even though I am told that constant adjustments without good reasons is a sign of severe psychosis - a sign that society has gone "bananas". I do wonder, however, what happened to the concept of open government, a most recent and widely advertised exercise which cost millions of dollars.

>
> Yours truly,

>
> Ernie Crist

>
> -----Original Message-----

> From: James Ridge
> Sent: June 28, 2004 10:30 AM
> To: Ernie Crist; Maureen Jones
> Cc: Mayor and Council - DNV; Senior Management Committee; 'FONVCA (E-mail)'; 'Cagebc@yahoo.com'
> Subject: RE: Request for information:

>
> Councillor Crist,

>
> The process you must follow is not 'bureaucratic harassment'. It is the law.

>
> Mail, e-mail and phone calls to members of Council are not automatically public records. We are required to assume that the writer intends them to be read only by the person to whom they are addressed, and we are required under privacy legislation to protect them accordingly. Letters you receive from individual members of the public are private correspondence between that member of the public and you, as are letters from the public to the Mayor.

>
> Therefore the proper route is to make an FOI request for the letters. If you make a request, and there are such letters, the FOI staff will black out the names of the senders and any other identifiable individuals as required under legislation and provide them to you.

>
> Phone call-back notes are considered 'Transitory Records' under legislation and are not retained. Like most people, I throw mine out as soon as I have returned the call. Similarly the names of callers, and the subject matter of those calls, are protected by privacy legislation. Unless a caller gives explicit permission that their identity and the nature of the call can be disseminated publicly, we must assume the call is intended for the recipient only.

>
> James Ridge
> CAO

>
> -----Original Message-----

> From: Ernie Crist
> Sent: Saturday, June 26, 2004 12:52 AM
> To: Maureen Jones
> Cc: James Ridge; Mayor and Council - DNV; Senior Management Committee; FONVCA (E-mail); 'Cagebc@yahoo.com'
> Subject: RE: Request for information:

>
> Ms Jones:

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> I have evidence that at least one and possibly more than one citizen has phoned the Mayor's office to protest against the ongoing harassment against me by

District Council. Since you are the Mayor's Secretary, I must assume that you have knowledge of such incoming protests and or messages and that you have kept a record.

>
> You may recall that I requested that you provide me with the name or names of any such person and/or message to that effect. I believe that my request is reasonable and that I am entitled to receive this information without being subjected to bureaucratic harassment. Subsequently I find it extremely disconcerting that I should have to make a request to receive this information through the FOI officer as you have suggested in response to my request.

>
> I request again that you provide me with a list of names of persons who have left a message to that effect in the Mayor's office.

>
> Thank you.

>
> Ernie Crist

>
> cc Councillor Crist's private lists.

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Maureen Jones

> Sent: May 26, 2004 2:02 PM

> To: Ernie Crist

> Cc: Mayor and Council - DNV; James Ridge; Agnes Hilsen

> Subject: Request for information:

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> Councillor Crist,

>
> If you are referring to letters addressed to Mayor and Council, please check the electronic information package. If you are referring to letters specifically addressed to the Mayor, please make a request for information through our FOI officer, Ms Angila Bains. She can be reached at 604 990-2495.

>
> Thanks,

>
> Maureen Jones

> Secretary to Mayor Bell

> Phone: 604-990-2208

> Fax: 604-990-2403

> email: mjones@dnv.org