

Subject: RE: Mountain biking - Mt. Fromme

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 2004 13:50:52 -0800

From: "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>

To: "Maya Mani" <mayamani@shaw.ca>, "Mayor Bell" <mayorbell@dnv.org>, "Janice Harris" <Janice_Harris@dnv.org>, "Maureen McKeon Holmes" <Maureen_McKeonHolmes@dnv.org>, "Lisa Muri" <lisa_muri@dnv.org>, "Alan Nixon" <Alan_Nixon@dnv.org>, "Richard Walton" <richard_walton@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>

CC: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <Cagebc@yahoo.com>

Dear Ms Maya Mani:

No one has ever suggested that Mountain Biking is not a valid sport. This is not and never has been the issue. The issue is that this particular sport is suitable only away from residential areas including municipal parks.

We are fortunate to have adjacent to the northern boundaries of the District, (while still being part of the North Shore Mountains), large and empty areas which in my opinion would be ideal to create a large international outdoor playground including for Mountain Biking. The area is under the jurisdiction of the GVRD and is called electoral area A. This is quite apart from provincial parks.

I have proposed this idea for many years but no one has listened to my proposal. The necessary vision simply does not exist. As it is, continued use of the present location for Mountain Biking will bring nothing but needless confrontations with the residents and will at the same time create large unnecessary expenditures for the District taxpayers. The present location is simply not suitable.

You may be aware that Mountain Biking has been banned from several Lower Mainland municipalities which is something I wish to avoid. However, unless we seize the initiative and provide leadership, this is exactly what will happen sooner or later.

You could say that lack of vision by District Council will jeopardize Mountain Biking altogether as there will be a backlash from the residents. Do not forget that this sport is international in its appeal and is growing extremely fast. It is simply beyond the resources of the District. It is certainly not a local sport such as tennis or soccer by way of example.

I will send to you by separate mail additional material which may help you in understanding the extent of the challenge.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist.

-----Original Message-----

From: Maya Mani [<mailto:mayamani@shaw.ca>]

Sent: March 14, 2004 9:10 AM

To: Mayor Bell; Ernie Crist; Janice Harris; Maureen McKeon Holmes; Lisa Muri; Alan Nixon; Richard Walton

Subject: Mountain biking - Mt. Fromme

Dear Mayor Bell and Council Members,

This letter is in regards to the possible closure of the biking trails on Mount Fromme. As a property owner and a resident of the North Shore, I understand that this is a tricky issue. I am writing to you as a mother of two boys, both of whom use the North Shore trail system.


My sons, Kieran (15) and Nicholas(11), both learned how to mountain bike through the wonderful biking programs offered through the North Vancouver Recreation Commission - "Lynn Valley Riders" and "Alien Adventures". It was through these programs that they learned how to ride, but more importantly about their role and responsibility as users of the trails. Mountain biking has been the catalyst for many other accomplishments for both of my children. My older son has volunteered with both the North Vancouver and West Vancouver Rec Centres in their mountain biking programs as a way to give back to the

community. They've learned about finances through the purchasing and maintaining of their bikes (and that's no small feat!). Finally, it is my older son, Kieran's dream to one day represent his country on the World Cup circuit. He has started that journey by winning the 2003 BC Cup in the U15 downhill. This would not have been possible without access to the trails on the North Shore and the programs offered through North Van Recreation Commission.

While mountain biking may not be a sport that you or I practice, it is a valid sport, worthy of the same consideration and respect given to skiing, hiking, golf and horseback riding, all of which are available on the North Shore. I urge the Members of Council to work together with the mountain biking community to reach a workable solution. I thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Maya Mani

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