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Sent: Friday, September 03, 2004 9:53 AM

Subject: Town Centre Approval

Acting Mayor & Council:

Many, many people worked diligently over the last decade on both the Lynn Valley OCP, and the evolution of the Town Centre & Library Project. Several thousand Lynn Valley residents overwhelmingly favoured the concept, which stems directly from the original OCP vision.

On behalf of all those who worked so hard and care so much, thank you for your re-affirmation of all the previous support.

I and others have remarked that it was very moving to see our elected representatives wrestle so hard with the challenge you faced Tuesday night. I think everyone present appreciated the respect you gave to the competing issues. Perhaps most gratifying to me was the overall tone of the proceeding: passionate beliefs were expressed with reasonable decorum.

To those who expressed concern about including a commercial component, I would offer reassurance through examples of other such projects. The concept of mixed use is fundamental to the OCP, and was affirmed through considerable study of what works, what doesn't, why, and how it would apply specifically in Lynn Valley.

Some have expressed concern that the project will not provide all public uses we should expect. I can only say that the capabilities I saw being planned should well meet what I heard the public ask for, during the OCP discussions.

And finally, on the aspect of due public process, I heard at least three quite defensible viewpoints on Tuesday night. Council made a collective choice, within a complicated context. We should all appreciate their courage for doing that, whether or not we agree with the outcome.

On reflection, I would hope that we can all agree to thoroughly and objectively discuss the issue of elector assent. The present uncertainty and discomfort might be reduced if criteria, or perhaps a set of choices, were put before the District electorate at the 2005 election. A referendum on when we should use referenda.

Sincerely,

Dan

D.H. Ellis, P.Eng

Past Co-Chair

Lynn Valley Community Planning Team