

Subject: FW: Edgemont Liquor Store

Date: Tue, 31 Aug 2004 15:21:42 -0700

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

To: "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "FONVCA \((E-mail)\)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <cagebc@yahoo.com>

CC: "James Ridge" <James_Ridge@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>

Dear Mr. Sultan:

You are absolved of all guilt. You have done the very best you could. Neither does the fault lie with the LCLB. The fault in fact lies entirely with the District of North Vancouver. Originally I was under the impression that our staff had failed us but I was wrong. Our staff warned us in 2002 and again in March of 2003 and in October of 2003. I can only assume that the matter was held up deliberately to prevent a timely solution. This is pure speculation of course. On the other hand there is an old saying which might be appropriate. "If it walks and quacks like a duck and looks like a duck it probably is a duck". The fault lies entirely with us and certainly not with you and you are at liberty to quote me.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

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

From: Sultan.MLA, Ralph [<mailto:Ralph.Sultan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>]

Sent: August 31, 2004 11:04 AM

To: Sultan.MLA, Ralph

Subject: Edgemont Liquor Store

Open Letter

Monday, August 30, 2004

To: Concerned Citizens of Edgemont Village Regarding the Liquor Store

Attorney Adrian Chaster sent me a copy of the decision he received this week from the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch, permitting the applicant to open a retail liquor store in Edgemont Village.

I have also received vituperative emails, suggesting that this was all part of some sort of privatization conspiracy on the part of the Government, and threatening retribution.

LCLB's decision was regrettable, but not surprising in view of the rules within which they have been directed to operate, and the criteria they have chosen to apply. Those criteria will not now be challenged in Court.

Adrian Chaster deserves community acclaim for the vigorous and informed opposition he personally launched in the Courts. I do regret that support for continuation of his financially risky challenge was not forthcoming. I was certainly willing to do my share.

You win some and you lose some. In this case, I did my best but failed.

You should be aware that I have been very active on this file from the outset, making the case to ministers and officials as well as municipal officials as allowed. Legislative rules prevented me from lobbying LCLB directly. It is misleading to draw conclusions on my activities simply based on what one reads or does not read in the press, for the simple reason that in my experience, resorting to the media is just about the least effective way to influence government.

Both the Provincial Government and the North Vancouver District Government have contributed to the present situation, and I will not attempt to parse the responsibilities of each. All of us should carefully observe the policies and operation of the new outlet. Quite possibly the more strident fears recently expressed, will not be substantiated.

I must say I am delighted that 32 Books has found a new home in the Village so we can all continue to patronize this wonderful store.

Yours very truly,

Ralph G. M. Sultan, MLA
West Vancouver-Capilano

