

Subject: FW: UBCM

Date: Wed, 12 Oct 2005 21:40:46 -0700

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

To: <fonvca@fonvca.org>

From: Ernie Crist
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2005 2:55 PM
To: 'Subject: RE: UBCM

Dear "Focus":

Until 4 years ago I attended all UBCM and FCM Conventions. I had on average at least 2 or 3 resolutions to each of the UBCM and the FCM Conventions each and every year since I got elected in 1979. The District used to be a leader when it comes to submitting resolutions.

Of course not all of them were adopted but a great number of them were and, in many cases, they were combined with resolutions from other municipalities who had submitted similar resolutions on the same subject. But it all added to the debate and to the level of awareness of the issues. Not only that, but the District used to have special Council meetings where such resolutions were discussed prior to being submitted. We also had staff prepare resolutions which had been ordered, debated and approved by Council. As I said, we were leaders.

The situation changed when Don Bell, with the assistance of his new CCA endorsed Council, 6 years ago decreed that henceforth, every Councillor (read Crist) must have a seconder before any such resolution could be introduced. It became more and more difficult and more and more humiliating and frustrating to do what was my job. I had to practically beg Council to second a resolution, never mind have it passed on to the conventions. Some members of Council, indeed the most inexperienced lamented that I submitted too many and they even changed the procedure bylaw to make it harder. This would have been unthinkable in any other municipality but in the Banana Republic of the District of North Vancouver they could do it without anybody saying a word.

The people who did the least amount of work such as Janice Harris who, who in all her years on Council, never submitted a single resolution to either the UBCM or the FCM became the most vocal opponent. Eventually I gave up. There are no more resolutions to the UBCM and/or the FCM for the simple reason that it became an exercise in futility on my part. Good, bad or indifferent, the CCA endorsed Council made sure that Crist would be silenced and/or at least discouraged from doing his job.

Don Bell, following the defeat of the pro Waterfront Council with only Crist surviving and only barely, said it all when he said "We've now got Crist where we want him". He said it in front of witnesses on the evening when the CCA election victory results were announced. David Sadler is one of the witnesses and so is Mrs. Maureen Bragg.

Cheers,

Ernie

Dear Ms

Decisions of that magnitude have to be made against the background of the truly big and fundamental issues. Transportation in general and accommodating public transportation is the key to a

functioning community.

Public transportation must work to encourage people to get out of their cars and free up our roads for the movement of goods as unhindered as possible. As an entrepreneur I am sure you are aware of the staggering social and economic cost of goods held up as a result of growing congestion in the cities, not to speak of public health.


The movement of goods and public transportation is the key to achieve liveable communities. All other issues pale in comparison.

You are making important points. However, all land is valuable and after giving due consideration to all the relevant factors this, in my opinion, is the best site to accommodate this important facility on the North Shore.

Decisions of that nature are never easy and yes, we could have pulled a West Vancouver stunt and turned our backs but that surely is not effective and responsible leadership. Although I agree it is in vogue.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

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