

Subject: [Fwd: 2004 NVD Annual Report]

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To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: 2004 NVD Annual Report

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2005 21:43:06 -0700

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To: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

[Presented to Council on 06/24/2005:](#)

Good evening, Mayor Harris and members of Council.

Thanks for giving the public an opportunity to address the 2004 Annual Report.

I would like to first congratulate staff on this report which looks a lot better than last year's report. It does look like a professional report from a million \$ corporation which the District, indeed, is. The colors and layout make it look much more appealing. Unfortunately one could ask whether such a nice report is being seen by many of the shareholders, i.e. the residents? Will many more see them than Council and those Community Associations executives that had the report mailed to them? This could make it really expensive to produce this report, in other words, this could be the straight opposite of what was asked for last year by members of the public.

The report would appear to be very rosy and, indeed, we have many things to be very proud of here in the District. However, in view of the potential extremely expensive dangers for the District, including natural disasters such as mudslides, earthquakes, debris flow and interface fire hazards to name just a few, one would think that this should also be pointed out more clearly. The state of the Reserve Funds, or deficiency of same, is not made abundantly clear either.

The biggest problem with this Annual Report is the fact that there is so little comparison made possible with previous years (and not just 2003). A few departments have comparisons with 2003, but in order to properly measure any improvements or decline one will have to compare with at least the previous year – and preferably more years to detect a trend.

This should definitely be improved upon for the 2005 Annual Report.

Last year's black and white report had some nice little comparisons and graphs from all departments except for RCMP. Now these multi-year comparisons seem to be gone which is a real shame. Particularly stats from the RCMP would be useful, showing trends for crimes such as break and enters, assaults etc.

Also last year's staffing statistics were good and it would have been nice to have continued the stats, showing the staff/department.

When objectives are set by staff it would nice to have something tangible to measure, in other words to see the improvements (hopefully) in future years.

Comparisons with other municipalities would be good. Since we don't live on a separate planet, I feel that some comparisons not at least with neighboring communities such as North Vancouver City, West Van and even Burnaby would be beneficial.

This should also be the case for taxes where various taxes including residential should be compared with previous years as well as other communities, even if it may not be a pretty picture for the District.

Finally on page 37 I was a bit surprised to see that the actual excess of revenue in 2004 was this much higher than the expenditures. It is a difference of over \$11 million above the budget, or about 10 pct. Where did the excess money go and how can our 2005 taxes have increased this much simultaneously?

All in all a good report which could be vastly improved upon by allowing for more comparisons. Hopefully the Annual Report will not go the way of the budget which seems to change every single 1 year and thus preventing proper comparison year over year.

Thanks for a good job.

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