

Subject: RE: Increased taxes

Date: Sun, 20 Feb 2005 10:30:16 -0800

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

To: "Ellis Brayham" <ellisbrayham@shaw.ca>, "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "James Ridge" <James_Ridge@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managcomm@dnv.org>

CC: <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <Cagebc@yahoo.com>

Dear Ellis Brayham:

I agree and I have pointed to many areas where large savings can be realized including reorganising the Recreation Commission along the Parkgate model which is not only more efficient but would also save us a great deal of money without in any way form or shape diminishing the level of services. But this appears to be a political sacred cow and the Council is not willing to tackle it. They rather save money by not building badly needed sidewalks or neighbourhood policing stations which are also badly needed, by way of example.

The same is true for the colossal waste in the Arts administration. It is also true when it comes to subsidising the City. The City is building the high rises and we are building the playing fields. And this at a time when their reserve funds are intact while ours are gone. Their Heritage Fund too is intact while ours is nothing more than a revolving door account hoax. For confirmation ask some of the community activists or ask the representatives of FONVCA (Federation of North Vancouver Community Associations).

Bottom line - if this community wants this Council to become more efficient then it will have to pay more attention. During the last Budget meeting there were 4 people present and at the meeting before that, there was one person present. At our last Budget meeting when the department heads came before Council to ask for more funding for their operations, I, as an elected representative of the public, was not even allowed to ask questions as to why they needed more money. This is the District and it is because the public does not seem to care - I rest my case.

However, I do thank you for YOUR interest.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

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

From: Ellis Brayham [<mailto:ellisbrayham@shaw.ca>]

Sent: Sunday, February 20, 2005 9:51 AM

To: Mayor and Council - DNV

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Yes, I am in favour of free parking in our parks, that we have always enjoyed. But I don't see why it should suddenly be linked to a tax increase.

It should not be looked at as a question of finding ways to get more revenue for the District, but rather making a more stringent effort to control costs, already 2nd highest in the whole GVRD.

I would like to see more responsibility shown by council, when dealing with our tax dollars and efforts made to REDUCE taxes, by having user pay used where ever new costs make it necessary.

E. Brayham



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