

Subject: [Fwd: North Shore Councillor Ernie Crist's Notice of Motion to Ban Mountain Biking on Mount Fromme]

Date: Wed, 16 Feb 2005 14:50:18 -0800

From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: North Shore Councillor Ernie Crist's Notice of Motion to Ban Mountain Biking on Mount Fromme

Date: Tue, 15 Feb 2005 13:04:22 -0800

From: Roger Green <rgreen@dgbk.com>

To: jharris@dnv.org

CC: ecrist@dnv.org, mmckeonholmes@dnv.org, lmuri@dnv.org, anixon@dnv.org, rwalton@dnv.org, jcuthbert@dnv.org, fonvca@fonvca.org, cam@nsmb.com, editor@nsnews.com, provletters@png.canwest.com, sunletters@png.canwest.com

Mr Harris and Esteemed Colleagues,

I am writing you this letter to ask you to prevent councillor Crist's motion to stop mountain biking on Mount Fromme. As many, if not all of you are aware this is an ongoing battle between a close-minded member of council and a rapidly growing user group. Mountain biking is a sport which is rapidly growing and evolving, and nowhere in the world is this more apparent than in our own back yard. North Vancouver has become the epicentre of the freeride movement in this sport and Mount Fromme is one of the most important riding areas for this sport. The area has become an international mecca for mountain bikers. Within this growth we have seen the creation of magazines, mountain bike associations, tourism and various industries all of which have a vested interest in the progression of this sport. This is a sport in which member associations such as the North Shore Mountain Bike Association have begun to self regulate and to work on trail enhancements which are undertaken with the desire to minimize environmental damage and enhance rider enjoyment. With the ongoing efforts of such memberships, the damage that was occurring on many trails has decreased (CBC Trail on Mt. Seymour is a prime example of these efforts). It would seem to me that the knee-jerk approach to immediately ban this sport from Mount Fromme is the approach of one extreme left wing faction to stop a sport which they do not like. Mountain biking is not a sport which is going to disappear despite what one councillor would like, and should not be treated as such. Rather a solution should be reached through discussions between user groups, GVRD and the general public. For such a system to be useful it does not make sense to create a hostile "us" versus "them" environment, and pushing riding underground will only result in more uncontrolled damage.

Councillor Crist has attempted to bring previous amendments on this issue before council and was denied by the Mayor. I sincerely hope that his extreme approach to politics will again be defeated for the good of all parties concerned.

Roger Green, MArch, BEDS, BA

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