

Subject:

Date: Tue, 12 Apr 2005 14:18:59 -0700

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To: <kspencer@png.canwest.com>, <fonvca@fonvca.org>

A MESSAGE FROM ERNIE CRIST

District Council last night adopted a recommendation that the Arts Council prepare a letter for Council's consideration authorising the Arts Council to be the sole arbiter in deciding what "Art" can be displayed in the Municipal Hall. This came about following discussion between myself and Ms Linda Files from the Arts Council yesterday.


Although it was assumed that Ms Files, by virtue of her position, had the authority to decide what can be displayed, there was nothing in writing to this effect. This will now be changed and will, in turn, provide Ms Files with the necessary authority without involving District Council per se.

This meets my objective which was that this issue should be the responsibility of persons with some professional experience independent of political influence or the influence of individual residents. It was the objection by one individual over paintings being displayed in the Hall as being unsuitable which had resulted in their removal which, in turn, gave rise to the controversy in the first place.

Since my objective has been met, during last night Council meeting, I withdrew my motion calling for the setting up of a committee to make further recommendations. In light of the Council decision, this will no longer be necessary.

The matter is therefore closed.

Ernie Crist

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