

Subject:**Date:** Mon, 31 Oct 2005 07:41:05 -0800**From:** "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>**To:** <fonvca@fonvca.org>**CC:** <daviddixon@shaw.ca>, <davesadler@telus.net>, <roger@rogerbassam.com>, <gowithcrowe@telus.net>, "robinhocks@telus.net" <robinhicks@telus.net>, <wayne@waynehunter.ca>, <sjessen@shaw.ca>, <klasen@shaw.ca>, <mlittle@westran.ca>, <formikemolson@aol.com>, <maxzahedi@yahoo.com>, <gdiebolt@telus.net>, <davidfai@istar.ca>, <sandy.fleming@telus.net>, <fstratton@shaw.ca>

PRESS RELEASE AND MESSAGE FROM ERNIE CRIST

Today, Sunday October 30, NEWS reporter Tim Walker, in a page 5 news story stated that District Councillor Ernie Crist's two month long mission to have District of North Vancouver Mayor Janice Harris publicly acknowledge that she "erred" in her decision to eject him from an August 22 council meeting had failed with Councillors Muri, Nixon McKeon Holmes, Walton and Harris herself voting against. District Councillor Jim Cuthbert had made a motion that the item be returned for reconsideration.

When asked to comment on the decision Crist said. "The anti-democratic stain on Council's record is now bigger than ever". As for Harris' refusal to bring the item back Crist said, "it is hardly surprising given Harris previous anti democratic and pro developer record but it does point to a fundamental weakness in the District of North Vancouver when a member of Council is not allowed to express himself during a debate". "Using the word hoax he said is not only accepted in parliamentary language but is merely an "emphatic" and, under the circumstances, was entirely justified and appropriate" he said.

Crist said the continued violations of democratic procedure are one of the reasons why he is not seeking re-election. The District, he said is "clearly a banana republic" controlled by an invisible civic party which became operative with the formation of the special interest group (CCA) to prevent the implementation of recommendations by a Council appointed Citizen's Task Force advocating public access to the District owned waterfront. The issue was highly contentious with Crist the only member not endorsed by the CCA during a subsequent election. All other members of Council in favour of the Task Force recommendations including Councillors Trevor Carolan, Pat Munroe and Glynnys Dearing Robb were defeated.

Harris, Walton, Muri, McKeon Holmes and Nixon had been endorsed by the CCA. The same group censured Crist for divulging In Camera information on the Canlan and Northlands scandals. He was also accused of overcharging on his car allowance. However, an investigation showed several members of Council including Councillor Muri, to be guilty while Crist, as it turned out, was not. Crist was also accused of having used his position to obtain a discount when purchasing a car from a North Vancouver car dealership. A subsequent RCMP investigation cleared Crist of all charges in that respect as well.

Crist said as long as there is a one civic party monopoly and only a one member opposition, democracy will continue to suffer. However, democracy he said, is not the only casualty of a one party controlled level of government. The public, he said, is paying a steep price for the illusion that there is no party politics in the District of North Vancouver, invisible as it may be. In my opinion said Crist the only way to eliminate the deeply entrenched anti democratic virus is to replace District Council and start from square one he said.



[winmail.dat](#)

Name: winmail.dat
Type: application/ms-tnef
Encoding: base64