

Subject: Sharon and Cam are hell bent to march on Moscow, but as Field Marshall Montgomery used to say " history lesson number one, don't do it".

Date: Sat, 21 May 2005 11:41:25 -0700

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

To: <bader@alumni.sfu.ca>, "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "James Ridge" <James_Ridge@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>

CC: <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Hello Sharon and hello Cam:

I know you do not wish to engage in any exchange with me and neither do I with you for that matter. Indeed, I understand that other than my motion, any email I have sent to you in the past has never been put on your Web site. Are you afraid of letting your friends know what I have to say? After all, I have always printed what you and your friends said in full. What do you say to that, Sharon and Cam?

However, for the record, allow me to make a few points, a few parting shots if you like - let it all hang out, so to speak.

My position has been clear from the beginning. I have never been against biking on Mountains or anywhere else except on forested, steep and sensitive slopes, especially on Mount Fromme. It just isn't right with the environment and all that. I believe biking is a great and wholesome sport. Believe it or not, I have been biking all my life, albeit not on forested and rain drenched slopes. Environmental barbarism just is not my bag albeit I can understand why stunt biking is appealing to people who are still in the growing stage.

As to the points in your recent email to Council and your NSMBA friends allow me to clarify

1) I have never said that I am almost sure I will not run for re-election. What I have said is I will NOT run for re-election. What other people, including one Don Bell said, is hardly credible. You might have gathered that, unlike the deficient edition of standard politicians, I mean what I say and say what I mean. This is just by the bye of course.

2) As for your contention that there is a contradiction between my motion, asking to finally produce the long promised Alpine Strategic Study, without basing it on the assumption that to accommodate Mountain Biking should be solely a District responsibility, is fully in line with the spirit and the wording of the motion. Far from being contradictory, it is complimentary and logical. That one rude and noisy Councillor was incapable of completing a sentence in the motion she was reading from is of little consequence.

3) As for your take that I was "defeated"? Are you sure you are familiar with the rules of engagement? In politics appearances can be deceptive. The first essential qualities of leadership are principles, common sense and vision. What I said is practical and will stand the test of time. When you acknowledged that the NSMBA had to stop building any additional trails on Mount Fromme (why not, if it is such a great idea) it is not you who won. You may wish to brush up on "Sun -Tzu" or the "Seven Samurai's" the movie that is. Maybe it will widen your understanding. The public has now become aware of this issue - a victory for you?. Why do you think in Europe and to an increasing degree in the rest of the environmentally conscious world, though clamouring for tourists, this sport is severely restricted? From now on, Mount Fromme and the NSMBA will be watched closely.


As the contradictions of forcing stunt biking on Mount Fromme become sharper, it will become a growing headache for you - the District too. It may take a while because, when it comes to environmental awareness, the District is not too quick, but in politics things can change rather

quickly. That run of the mill politicians are now supporting this concept is not necessarily a blessing. I would never go into the jungle with any of them. Doing things right and doing them right the first time, rather than based on expediency, is the only real McCoy.

4) The fact that you continue to vilify me is not a victory for you either but an indication of weakness. As I see it, you are biking up the wrong tree and the District Councillors will abandon you just as soon as you become a political liability.

In conclusion, and for the record, stunt biking on the slopes of Mount Fromme is not going to last very long, as you will find out. In my opinion, it would be have been better to look beyond the end of your short NSMBA nose and go for a bigger prize.

Ernie Crist

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