

Subject: RE: Refusal by the District to clarify an alleged violation of District policy by Councillor Crist.

Date: Mon, 15 Aug 2005 16:41:30 -0700

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

To: "Mayor Harris" <Janice_Harris@dnv.org>, "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>

CC: "James Ridge" <James_Ridge@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>, <fonvca@fonvca.org>

> *Subject: RE: Refusal by the District to clarify an alleged violation of District policy by Councillor Crist.*

> *Mayor Harris:*

> *You missed the point.*

> *Only a person in the employ of the District or an elected official of the District could make any such scandalous claim. If such a claim was made by any other person it would be meaningless. THEREFORE IT IS NOT SOMETHING that "has nothing to do with you". If you have no knowledge, then the District has no knowledge and it is up to you as Chief Executive Officer to state so.*

Allow me to remind you that you are also responsible for all police matters, especially those pertaining to members of Council. You should know this since you acted accordingly with considerable enthusiasm in the past and should do so even more as Mayor.

I trust that you will review your decision. Please keep in mind that this issue will not go away until justice is done. I already have a statement to this effect from the CAO but I need one from you in your capacity as CEO of the District. This is even more so since, unlike the present CAO, you were on Council when the alleged incident happened. You were also present when the subsidy to the property in question was brought to the attention of Council in public. I note that under your leadership the matter of the subsidy has still not been addressed.

Ernie Crist.

> *Cllr Crist,*

> *I have read your request that I "clarify" the results of the investigation by the Burnaby RCMP, and make them "public." As I was not privy to the complaint or the investigation, I am not in a position to do so. This issue is strictly a private matter between you and the RCMP, not an issue for the Mayor or Council or management.*

> *You may of course file an FOI request with the RCMP. That may provide further insight for you.*

> *Mayor Harris*

> *From: Ernie Crist*

> *Sent: Monday, August 15, 2005 9:28 AM*

> *To: Mayor and Council - DNV*

> *Cc: James Ridge; Senior Management Committee; fonvca@fonvca.org*


> *Subject: Refusal by the District to clarify an alleged violation of District policy by Councillor Crist.*

> *Mayor Harris:*

> *You will undoubtedly recall that the RCMP, following a complaint, by what in all likelihood was an ex District employee, conducted an investigation into alleged wrongdoing on my part when I purchased a*

> vehicle from a Car Dealership located in the District of North
> Vancouver.
>
> YOU HAVE BEEN MADE AWARE that the investigation cleared me of all
> wrong doing regarding this matter.
>
> However, in a follow up report, the RCMP indicated that,
> notwithstanding, I violated existing District policy regarding such
> matters. The meaning of this and how the RCMP could come to such a
> conclusion was never explained. I can only assume that the Burnaby
> RCMP Detachment which conducted the investigation was told something
> to that effect by a District official and has taken it as gospel truth
> without investigating it.
>
> For years I, as well as private citizens, attempted to change the
> District property lease policy and put it on a more businesslike and
> more transparent basis. A staff report to that effect showed that the
> existing District policy is anything but uniform and businesslike.
> This applies also to a property, adjacent to the car dealership in
> question, which is receiving a lease for a District owned property
> that is far below market.
>
> I assume that, in an attempt to divert attention away from this, my
> exposure of this unjustified lease agreement was said to be in
> violation of District policy when, in fact, I merely did my duty in
> pointing out what, in my opinion, is an unjustified subsidy to a
> private company at the expense of the taxpayers at large and, as
> such, is also in violation of the Municipal Charter and our oath of
> office, including yours. I along with other citizens, brought the
> matter of this particular lease to the attention of Mayor and Council,
> including yourself, as well as staff on more than one occasion. The
> matter was shrugged off by a senior staff stating "we cannot kick
> this lessee out since she has been with us for many years".
>
> When I asked our CAO whether, in his opinion, I was in violation of
> any District policy he stated that he had absolutely no knowledge to
> that effect and that the necessary steps to correct any
> misunderstanding should be made. However, when I subsequently pressed
> the CAO to give me something in writing and clarify this issue once
> and for all he refused. My request to the RCMP to give me any
> particular details to this effect were also dismissed by stating that
> this was outside the jurisdiction of the RCMP. If this is so, then why
> make such statement in the first place.
>
> I can only assume that the reason the District refused to clarify
> this matter is because this issue is an embarrassment to the District,
> including its Management, and is being swept under the rug at the
> expense of my reputation.
>
> However, I must now insist that you, as chief executive officer and
> within the powers of your office clarify this matter and make it
> public. I must insist that my name be cleared.
>
> Failure to do so will be a serious breach of etiquette on your part
> and is, in fact, a serious violation of your oath of office and of the
> positive workplace policy.
>
> I expect clarification as soon as possible.
>
> Thank you.
>
> Yours truly,
>
> Ernie Crist
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