

Subject: RE: Council remuneration.

Date: Fri, 27 May 2005 19:03:25 -0700

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

To: "Weldon Congdon" <c.h.l@shaw.ca>, "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>, "James Ridge" <James_Ridge@dnv.org>, <fonvca@fonvca.org>

CC: <Cagebc@yahoo.com>

Dear Mr Congdon:

I agree in principle with your position, albeit it won't do me any good since I will NOT run again. Unfortunately, the issue goes much deeper. If you were to pay a Councillor in the District a hundred thousand dollars a year you might still only get more of the same. This is because notwithstanding the salary issue, the public does not consider local politics as being important. Unfortunately the public have a point. What I have said on more than one occasion is true, we Councillors pretend to be important and the public pretend to pay us.

The bottom line is that municipalities are not recognized as a legitimate level of government, no matter how much you pay. Suffice it to say, that 150 natives in the District of North Vancouver are recognised under the Canadian Constitution but the other 90,000 also living in the District are not.

On the other hand, an argument could be made that more money might awake the populace from their slumber. But, quite frankly, I doubt it. The apathy, in my opinion, is simply too great to make a dent. The NORTH SHORE NEWS might have it right after all, they hardly cover municipal Council issues anymore. Why bother I suppose. To wake up is simply not the Canadian thing to do right now.

On the other hand, the principle is of course still valid. More money maybe more sense. However, I must admit that the very idea of some present Councillors getting \$ 40,000 a year when I know very well that they would remain as clueless as they are today is a bit much to contemplate. No matter how much money you pay District Councillors most of them will not comprehend that to have one single administration instead of three to serve the Arts in North Van by way of example is more efficient than 3 separate administrations. I know because I have tried a hundred times to rectify this absurdity but without success.

There is yet another point to consider and that might be of special interest to you. You might get smarter people on Council but they might not be to your political liking. By way of example, I have on countless occasions suggested that we stop subsidising the City since there is absolutely no rhyme or reason to do so but never once did a single soul come forward and support me. Why? I guess, I just don't have the right politics no matter how good my business credentials. In other words politics is politics and some Councillors will get re-elected no matter what until the people themselves take charge rather than waiting for a Messiah marching through the Hall

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist.

From: Weldon Congdon [<mailto:c.h.l@shaw.ca>]
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2005 4:01 PM
To: Council Remuneration
Subject: Council remuneration.

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for the opportunity to address this subject.

When one considers that when we elect a Mayor and Council we are actually hiring seven people to oversee a \$ 115 to 120 million dollar annual operation. This is not really a part time job. We are looking for LEADERSHIP.

In order to attract experienced, talented, qualified and competent people like any other corporation you have to compensate them accordingly. In so doing I would like to recommend for the committee's consideration the following annual package.

Mayor: Salary. \$ 80,000.00

 \$ 25,000.00 tax exempt for

expenses. \$ 5,,000.00 RRSP annually in

lieu of a pension.

Councillors:

 Salary. \$ 40,000.00

 \$ 12,500.00 tax exempt for

expenses. \$ 5,000.00 RRSP annually in

lieu of a pension.

This proposal will cost District taxpayers about \$ 355,000.00 a year. This represents a per resident (85,000) cost of \$ 4.18 per year or an annual household (approx: 30,000)cost of \$ 11.83 per year or about \$ 1.00 per month. You can't even buy a cup of coffee for that little.

As for the City in that they only have half the population a 1/3 rd of the area I feel that their vompensation should be no more than half of the District's.

Respectfully Submitted,

Weldon Congdon
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