COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE TO JULY 11, 2014 (NOON)

Referred for Action

(1) City of Prince George, June 26, 2014, regarding “Submission for the 2014 Union of British Columbia Municipalities Conference – Resources to Support Sexually Exploited Children & Youth” (Referred to Mayor and Council for consideration and response)

(2) 4 submissions, July 9 – 10, 2014, regarding Ferry Building / Art Gallery (Referred to Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for consideration and response)

(3) July 11, 2014, regarding Collingwood School Construction (Referred to Chief Administrative Officer for consideration and response)

Received for Information

(4) Hillside Developments, July 9, 2014, regarding “Re: Important – City Hall meeting tonight could pass some very bad blasting and soil deposit bylaws.”

(5) 2 submissions, July 6 – 9, 2014, regarding Howe Sound Liquefied Natural Gas Terminal

(6) 3 submissions, July 8 – 9, 2014, regarding Collingwood School Traffic Management Plan Violations

(7) 10 submissions, July 10 – 11, 2014, regarding Ferry Building / Art Gallery

Responses to Correspondence

(8) Senior Bylaw Officer, July 8, 2014, response regarding Collingwood School Traffic Management Plan Violations

(9) Transportation Engineer, July 10, 2014, response regarding “13TH STREET TRAFFIC PROBLEM.”
June 26, 2014

Dear Mayor and Council:

Subject: Submission for the 2014 Union of British Columbia Municipalities Conference – Resources to Support Sexually Exploited Children & Youth

At the City of Prince George Regular Council Meeting held on June 9, 2014, Council received a report from the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Resolutions regarding 2014 Union of British Columbia (UBCM) Resolutions and unanimously resolved to send the following resolution to UBCM for inclusion with the 2014 UBCM Convention materials.

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT SEXUALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN & YOUTH

CITY OF PRINCE GEORGE

WHEREAS the issue of sexual exploitation of children and youth is an increasing problem in communities throughout the province;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government has ceased funding toward services that support communities to develop prevention, education, enforcement and intervention strategies to address the sexual exploitation of children and youth:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM request the provincial government to identify the issue of sexual exploitation of children and youth as a priority and reinstate long term, dedicated funding for communities throughout the province to develop and maintain services for sexually exploited children and youth.

The Council of the City of Prince George encourages you to pass a similar resolution and support this resolution at the UBCM convention in Whistler this September.

Sincerely,

Mayor Shari Green
City of Prince George
West Vancouver Mayor and Council,

NO, DO NOT add onto, move or raise the Ferry Building! Repair it and otherwise, leave it alone! It is a picturesque, iconic building of the West Vancouver past. Many artists have painted it, I doubt that they will be as enthusiastic to paint it with the proposed unsympathetic modern addition with it’s toilets, etc!

By all means, keep the current small presentations of local interest in the Ferry Building. But, they do not have to be all about art! (Some years ago, I did a Remembrance display in the Ferry Building on behalf of the W. Van. branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.)

A friend, who is very well travelled and deeply involved in the art world, is appalled at the waterfront art facility proposals. Not only for the obvious reasons but, the fact that art has to be preserved in certain humidity, temperature and light controlled conditions and also has the need for several security features. She pointed out that even underground is a more suitable place! (That would most certainly negate the waterfront!) She added that an art gallery is better placed by a community centre, library or town square where people naturally gather and can more easily avail themselves of a range of other activities including art related events and exhibits. WHY NOT the lawn between the Community Centre, the Senior’s Centre and Marine Drive? It is also close to the library and large retirement residences, PERFECT! There is even easy parking available there and, everyone driving by would see it!

WHY is the art crowd SO insistent that their buildings MUST be on the waterfront? It just does not make any sense? North Vancouver is ruining many a view by doing the same. (Another, architecturally ghastly, proposed building! The corrugated roofline reminds me of a factory!) Perhaps the West Vancouver proposed Centre for Art, Architecture + Design building should join forces with the North Vancouver arts endeavours? Better still, go Downtown with their proposed new art gallery facilities. (Even Granville Island will have a vacant art space when Emily Carr moves!) Then, there will most certainly be a large viewing audience!

We have such limited available waterfront for a GROWING W. Van. population. One cannot manufacture any more waterfront! (Except Mother Nature in a flood!!) Buildings must not be added to ANY of it, EVER! Valuable waterfront space should be available for everyone to experience and enjoy, regardless of their particular interest. Buildings can always be built elsewhere!
Mayor & Council,

I have heard the Ferry Building needs some repairs. As it is a historical building, we must preserve it as best we can, but that doesn't mean adding onto it in any way. It would look ridiculous having modern attached to this historical building - and when it is realized, how out of place it would all look, some bright spark would want to knock the Ferry Building down.

I have seen the proposals for this add-on and it would be a crying shame to deface the Ferry Building. An Art Gallery can go anywhere - there must be other buildings that could house local and loaned art works. Our beach front is for all the people of West Vancouver to enjoy and not just for a particular group of people who keep pushing to have their Art Gallery on the beach.

This particular argument came up in 2011 and the Council of the time decided against the idea of putting an Art Gallery on the precious waterfront.

Does this Council want to have people build on every square inch of West Vancouver to bring in revenue? Our infrastructure needs to be looked at first - before anything else goes up!

Let's keep West Van livable and our beaches for all to enjoy.

Yours sincerely,

West Vancouver
B.C.
Dear Mayor and Council,

We are very supportive of the Mayor and councils work on the visionary Ambleside renewal initiatives and ongoing waterfront beautification and restoration. We believe the James Cheng designed Grosvenor development will garner the same raves as his projects elsewhere with the heritage ferry building serving as a great, stand-alone visual counterpoint. However if a proposed ferry building addition proceeds it will totally diminish the historical and visual impact of the ferry building while occupying highly utilized waterfront park. Surely we have options that would avoid this awkward hybrid combination. For example could not the Silk Purse and the Music Box be renovated and combined to provide a multipurpose facility, saving money and retaining the precious green space acquired over decades for millions of dollars? (Perhaps consider moving the Historical Society into the Ferry Building)

I encourage you to give this sober second thought.

Sincerely,

West Vancouver BC
Dear Mayor and Council

I am writing to express my support for Option 2 of the proposed renovation and addition to the Ferry Building. I will be away on July 21, when I understand that the matter will come before Council.

I am aware of the concerns of some of the adjoining residents that the proposal will result in the loss of a small amount of park space. However, it appears to me that the project will properly balance the values of heritage, the arts, and the environment in our community.

I understand that the Ferry Building is in need of significant repair. As well, I am personally aware that the space that it provides is no longer adequate to support the fine work that has been done for many years by Ruth Payne and her staff to create a favourite community amenity for the citizens of West Vancouver.

As a heritage building of importance to West Vancoverites, it is desirable that it be retained, if possible. It would be difficult to justify the considerable expenditure necessary to adequately effect repairs if, after that expenditure, the structure was no longer adequate for its present, or, indeed, any other reasonable purpose.

Given its history, to move the Ferry building away from the Ambleside waterfront would, of course, be absurd.

Three options come to mind.

One is to continue use of the building as is, until it is no longer habitable and then to demolish it. This will ensure that the Gallery programs will remain static and see little improvement for the foreseeable future, following which an important piece of West Vancouver history would be lost.

Another option is to move the gallery programs to another location, which raises the questions – “where?” and “what will we do with the Ferry Building?”

Another and the most viable option is a renovation and expansion along the lines of what is planned. The loss of park space will be minimal, particularly when one recalls that a number of houses on the waterfront have been demolished in the last few years, and the property on which they stood converted to park land.

The decision requires a balancing of competing values. As someone who has been associated with environmental values, I suggest that the preservation of heritage and the preservation of the fine community art amenity that has been created, both of great importance to the majority of West Vancouver citizens, far outweigh the loss of a small amount of lawn.

Option 2 will be a handsome addition to the Ambleside waterfront, and a source of pride for our community.

Yours truly
July 11, 2014

Mayor Smith
and the Council of West Vancouver:

Mr. Dave Bustos, the Chair of Collingwood School, compared relations with the Glenmore neighbourhood to a proverbial “WHACK A MOLL” situation. Indeed. We did not finish whacking the Moll for cheating on construction hours, noise and dust violations, and my neighbours reported another molehill. Collingwood is already discussing with the District’s Planning Department creation of direct access from their Morven Campus to the Glenmore Park. As always such discussions are behind our backs. Once again it is contrary to the public commitment of the Mayor of WV and in clear violation of Collingwood’s Good Neighbour Pledge. At which point will Mayor Smith stop these practices?

Collingwood’s lot is inadequate for any public school. However, for Collingwood School Society the District worked its magic and operation of the private school is possible on the lot that is two (2) times smaller than the bylaw requires for a public school. Inadequate lot size results in Collingwood regularly conducting physical education activities in the park, including reported throwing of javelin! It is grossly unfair that on occasion recreational tennis players must go home empty handed or people cannot walk their dogs in the park because Collingwood occupies it for the purpose of doing business. On top of it while Glenmore residents pay taxes for the maintenance of that park; Collingwood doing their business using public facilities is getting bonuses in the form of permissive tax exemptions.

Sadly, it seems that the District’s staff is already preparing smoke and mirrors for another magic trick. In fact Collingwood already annexed part of the Park (see photos). The gray fence on the right is on the property line. The stairs to the school are accessible only from the park. The green fence was already moved a few meters into the Park. Even part of grass was covered with gravel and Collingwood stores there construction materials. Access to tennis courts is usually obstructed by light construction trucks. Littering of the perimeter of tennis courts is another issue (see photos). For these chronic violations the District issues to Collingwood from time to time $100 tickets. For Collingwood this is just cost of doing business.

It is time to increase these tickets to $500 i.e. the same level as violations of noise regulations. It is time to stop the ridiculous practice of awarding habitual cheaters with permissive property tax exemptions. It is time to report to the Ministry of Education the factual situation so the Ministry could freeze their grants for Collingwood. It is time to review the Collingwood operation from a broader perspective, force them to respect the law of the land and make use of the restrictive covenant that Collingwood had to enter into after their massive violation of the municipal bylaw surfaced a few years ago.

Sincerely,

cc. The Ministry of Education
Dear Sir:

As a West Vancouver resident and construction community, I strongly disagree with the changes and I do not see any point to change anything to worse, if there is a problem with excising bylaw or any complain by the residents of west Vancouver, we all try to change it to better only if we really like to do any good for the community.

Has there been any concern or complain by the residents of west Vancouver about the excising of garage or the size of it? or any concern on accessory building? If not why are we trying to change it and if there has been, are we trying to make better? After having exemption for basement for so many years, what makes the city to remove that, and if it is removed are we going to increase the FSR?

If we have good reasons to do all of the above, why are we doing it under the blasting and dirt removal title? I strongly subject to postpone all the changes till proper clarification by the community, this is the only proper way to do.

regards

ali kazemzadeh  
Hillside Developments Inc

West Vancouver, BC
Subject: Re: Important - City Hall meeting tonight could pass some very bad blasting and soil deposit bylaws.

To All Designers, Architects, Builders, and Surveyors working in West Vancouver,

As most of you know, a forum has been created to represent the views of all the professionals that have created what West Vancouver is today. As professionals, we represent thousands of West Vancouver residents who rely on us to create the best homes possible (working within the rules and regulations of West Vancouver). Thanks to our efforts, West Vancouver has become one of the most beautiful municipalities in Canada and probably one of the most beautiful in the World. However, apparently we are not doing a good enough job. The Department of Planning, Engineering and a focus group of 200 people have decided that we need the help of an outside planning firm to recreate our bylaws and inflict even more strict rules. To show that they are including us in this process, they created a forum group that is supposed to help with making profession and informative decisions. However, once you read plannings proposals and hear what was suggested at the Council meeting, you will realize that it was all just a ruse. Please read the attached pdf.

If you have read the pdf, you will see that the outside planning firm did not listen to one word we were saying and has put together a list of crippling rules and regulations. From this list even planning admitted that some of the suggestions were unreasonable but unfortunately planning then listed what they thought would be reasonable.

Here is what Bob Sokol proposed to council:

1) All Garage exemptions of 441 sq.ft. should be removed.
2) All Accessory building exemptions of 220 sq.ft. should be removed.
3) We should now classify a basement as a story (this is obvious that in the future they will want to include the basement in the FSR).
4) Pull back the 4 foot retaining walls at the property line (unfortunately those retaining walls to achieve our average finished grades when we have small setbacks).
5) Maximum heights for all our perimeter walls. Bob went on to suggest that we should have a highest building face bylaw for all four sides of the house. How is this supposed to work on sloped properties?
6) A maximum wall height for basement walls. Bob said that on the sloped properties, the basement level is visible from the down hill side of the lot and this has a negative impact on massing. Personally, I totally disagree. West Vancouver is promoting legal suites to increase density (and collect more taxes), so why are we burying these suites in the ground with very little daylight. Who wants to live underground?
7) Bring in "front and rear yard averaging". We addressed this very clearly in our meeting. We expressed that the terrain of the properties in West Vancouver can be completely different from one property to the next and that this would not work. There are small pockets of West Vancouver that this could work but it was not described this way.
8) To Calculate Building Envelopes we should adopt the North Vancouver system of taking your maximum building height and project it up from all points of a sloped property. Basically, you end up with a sloped building envelope. Is there a reason that we are trying to make our houses look like those of North Vancouver? This was brought up at the Builder/Designer forum and I believe it was shot down as a proposal.

Since Bob Sokol sent out an email telling everyone that the proposed "Blasting Bylaw", the proposed "Soil Removal and Deposit Bylaw" and the proposed "Early Demolition Bylaw" has been removed from the agenda, I think everyone was satisfied that they no longer needed to go to the Council meeting. I know we are all super busy right now and I myself was going to not go and just go home and work on designs. However, Bill Chapman called me and asked me if I had read the "hidden agenda" on the posted "Council Agenda"? He then went on to tell me what was on that agenda. I didn't know that you had to click on the highlighted title to read the hidden agenda that is not shown on the cover page. Anyways, this is where all the proposed new bylaws from Planning were listed. I couldn't believe my ears when Bill told me this. We just had a "Builder/Designer Forum Meeting" on July 3rd. This draft of proposed design restrictions was written on June the 18th. While we were debating all the problems with the proposed "Blasting Bylaw" and the proposed "Soil Removal and Deposit" bylaw, planning had this list of their recommendations and chose not to share it with us. Wow. I was so upset that I went to the Council to complain that these recommendations were not created by the "Builder/Designer Forum" and we did not have a chance to discuss these recommendations at the forum. Bob Sokol replied to council that these items were discussed at the forum meetings. The Mayor went on to say that we don't have to worry because these proposals will have many reviews before they are brought to council again. Then they voted to accept Bob Sokol's list of proposals to be taken under consideration for further review and to be presented again at the 2014 Fall Council Meeting. Councilor Soprovich commented that the Council and the Planning Department should really listen and include the Building and Design Community in the future creation of bylaws. He also said that we should proceed with caution when creating all these new bylaws. Councilor Cameron spoke up to say
that maybe the builders of West Van do not have West Van’s best interests at heart. Councilor Gambioli spoke up to say she was unhappy about a 17,000 sq.ft. home that was built in West Van and that there was a 6’ hedge will a black chain link fence built on the boulevard that she was unhappy with.

Since I was a lone voice at the Council meeting, my complaint had some impact of recognition and but not the type of impact needed to shake things up. As a group, it is clear that we are not being listened to and that Planning and Engineering has its own Agenda that they do not want to share this with us. After this part of the Council meeting was done, Bill Chapman and I left the Council chamber and ran into the Outside Consultants that had helped Bob Sokal with his proposal. I asked them why didn’t they bring this proposal to the Builder/Designer Forum Group. They replied that they were not asked to do this. I went on to tell them how upset I was and then I asked if either of them have ever designed or built a house? The answer was “no”. Personally, I don’t know why this Planning Company (who has never designed or built a house) was able to have their list of restrictive rules put on the Agenda and yet our listed group of 85 professionals that helped create West Vancouver were completely ignored with their comments.

In Conclusion:

I got the feeling that our “Designer/Builder” group at the last forum was quite upset that rules were being pushed through without our consent. Our last minute scramble to try and postpone the proposed “Blasting Bylaw” and the proposed “Soil Removal and Deposit Bylaw” worked. Unfortunately, the “Early Demolition Bylaw” was also removed. I think we all agreed that this was a good idea so I don’t know why this was postponed? Anyways, moving forward as a group, we need to be heard. If Planning and Engineering is going to ignore us, we need someone at City Hall that will represent us. Like I said before, we don’t just represent a 200 person focus group, we represent thousands of West Vancouver citizens that love what we do and appreciate all the hardships that we must endure to reach the final outcome. It is time for their voices (as well as ours) to be heard. Conveniently, our “Builder/Designer Forum Group” does not meet for another three months and a lot of “New Planning” will be going on without our input. I have spent many hours fighting for what I believe is a good cause, and all I am asking from this group is to read the “hidden agenda” of the Planning department and draw your own conclusions. If you agree that we are being ignored, please just take one hour to write a letter to our Mayor and Councillors. Let them know that we are the ones that helped create West Vancouver and that we represent thousands of West Vancouver Citizens whose voices might hold a very different opinion. Since this has become more of a political issue rather than a Planning issue, we must start there. The more letters, the better chance we will have to be heard.

Note: Since I am also very busy, I might not be able to respond to all the email replies. I would suggest that once Manjit gets back from his two week holiday, that we might ask for an additional earlier Design/Builder forum meeting. The purpose of the meeting would be to create a “Real Forum Group” with “Proper Representation”.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to read my letter and helping to improve the current building bylaws of West Vancouver.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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Scroll to the bottom to open the Planning agenda pdf.

Attachments area

Preview attachment July 7 Council Meeting - Housing Bulk and Massing.pdf

July 7 Council Meeting - Housing Bulk and Massing.pdf
Dear Sirs,

We are opposed to LNG tankers traversing the Howe Sound Corridor. You may remember the 2010 Winter Olympic Security Protocol required total shutdown of non-authorized pleasure boats operating within Howe Sound during the course of the entire Olympics. Though a law does not exist now, there is the potential for a similar law to be enacted whenever an LNG Supertanker traverses the area. I would hate to have to coordinate my boating time with a LNG Supertanker shipping schedule.

I just made this youtube video compilation to encourage all viewers to put in their input to stop the local LNG terminal in our beautiful Howe Sound neighborhood.

http://youtu.be/_qQfOSAzCbM

It is a call to action to voice your opposition to the Woodfibre, B.C. Land based LNG proposition by submitting your opinion here:http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca/pcp/index.html no later than July 27th, 2014.

There is an information session at West Vancouver Public Library Tuesday July 8th at 7pm. See below for details.

http://futureofhowesound.org/campaigns/the-howe-sound-lng-experiment-at-woodfibre-information-session/

The more people that voice their opposition to this Howe Sound LNG terminal, the less likely it is to occur.

Thank You,

Lions Bay

Sent from Samsung Mobile
From: MayorandCouncil
Subject: FW: Please Stop Howe Sound LNG Terminal

From: MayorandCouncil
Sent: July-09-14 11:15 PM
To: MayorandCouncil
Subject: RE: Please Stop Howe Sound LNG Terminal

Hello,

My name is [s. 22(1)]
As previously mentioned in my signature, I live in Lions Bay, specifically [s. 22(1)] Lions Bay.

I write West Vancouver Mayor and Council as my boat resides in Sewells Marina and that marine closures due to Tanker Traffic would have a negative effect to the West Vancouver's many Marina and tourist businesses.

LNG tanker activity would displace Sewells tourist activity which is bad for West Vancouver.

Sent from Samsung Mobile

Samsung Mobile
Mayor Smith and the Council,

Following today’s series of violations of the Traffic Management Plan (TMP) I suggest that the Council increase a.s.a.p. penalties for TMP violations to at least $500 i.e. to the same level as violations of noise restrictions. There is no major difference between noise violations and violations of TMP. Consequences are the same. Therefore penalties should be the same. Today’s incidents once again confirmed that $50 or $100 tickets are considered by Collingwood construction management as a part of business costs. Furthermore, I am afraid that currently these tickets do not cover the cost of their issuance. In any case, it is evident that current efforts of your Bylaw Enforcement officers are not effective.

I fully acknowledge efforts of Sarah Almas and her crew. However, I also share their frustration that their efforts do not bring expected results, because they are not equipped with appropriate power to do their job effectively.

Thank you for the consideration of my suggestion.
All see below. If you agree please drop a line of support to

mayorandcouncil@westvancouver.ca <mayorandcouncil@westvancouver.ca>;

----- Forwarded Message -----  

From: "m. leemhuis" <mleemhuis@westvancouver.ca>  
To: "mayorandcouncil@westvancouver.ca" <mayorandcouncil@westvancouver.ca>  
Cc: "msmith@westvancouver.ca" <msmith@westvancouver.ca>; Nina Leemhuis <mleemhuis@westvancouver.ca>; Brent Leigh <bleigh@westvancouver.ca>; Paul Reece <preece@westvancouver.ca>; Sarah Almas <salmas@westvancouver.ca>; "ccameron@westvancouver.ca" <ccameron@westvancouver.ca>  
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2014 4:51:05 PM  
Subject: TMP fines  

Mayor Smith and the Council,

Following today’s series of violations of the Traffic Management Plan (TMP) I suggest that the Council increase a.s.a.p. penalties for TMP violations to at least $500 i.e. to the same level as violations of noise restrictions. There is no major difference between noise violations and violations of TMP. Consequences are the same. Therefore penalties should be the same. Today’s incidents once again confirmed that $50 or $100 tickets are considered by Collingwood construction management as a part of business costs. Furthermore, I am afraid that currently these tickets do not cover the cost of their issuance. In any case, it is evident that current efforts of your Bylaw Enforcement officers are not effective.

I fully acknowledge efforts of Sarah Almas and her crew. However, I also share their frustration that their efforts do not bring expected results, because they are not equipped with appropriate power to do their job effectively.

Thank you for the consideration of my suggestion.
I completely agree with your position. I was informed by the attending bylaw officer yesterday that vehicles belonging to the construction crew when parked on the streets are in violation of the Traffic Management Plan. As of today vehicles belonging to the construction crew are on Glengarry Crescent. I would encourage the municipality to get the main contractor, Heatherbrea, to provide parking for the construction crew.

West Vancouver

------------- Forwarded message -------------
From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]>
Date: Tue, Jul 8, 2014 at 4:55 PM
Subject: Fw: TMP fines
To: "mayorandcouncil@westvancouver.ca" <mayorandcouncil@westvancouver.ca>

All see below. If you agree please drop a line of support to

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Cc: "msmith@westvancouver.ca" <msmith@westvancouver.ca>; Nina Leemhuis <nleemhuis@westvancouver.ca>; Brent Leigh <bleigh@westvancouver.ca>; Paul Reece <preece@westvancouver.ca>; Sarah Almas <salmas@westvancouver.ca>
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I fully acknowledge efforts of Sarah Almas and her crew. However, I also share their frustration that their efforts do not bring expected results, because they are not equipped with appropriate power to do their job effectively.

Thank you for the consideration of my suggestion.
I am writing to express my support for the proposed modest expansion of the Ferry Building. The support for arts is, I believe, critical to the vibrancy of our community and in that regard the Ferry Building has an important role to play.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.
Dear Mayor Smith and Council,

Please let this letter serve to add my voice of support to the proposed renovation and expansion of the Ferry Building Gallery. Having just attended a presentation there this past Tuesday, it’s fresh in my mind how wonderful it is to have a strong arts presence in West Vancouver, and expanding the space to make it more multi-purpose and capable of hosting larger events/collections makes good sense to me. I believe this will enhance arts in the community, and provide a lovely venue for community building events.

I know firsthand how difficult it can be for new development to occur in West Vancouver, and that the detractors often have the loudest voices. I suspect that there are a large number of more quiet supporters for this proposal, and I’d like to be counted as one of them. I wish you good luck in weighing all opinions on July 21st.

Best,

North Vancouver, BC
Dear Mayor Smith and esteemed councillors,

As a resident of West Vancouver for the last 25 years, and as a practising artist whose studio is in West Vancouver, I've been long engaged in, and engaged by, the thriving art community we are blessed with here. And one of the leading forces in our local art scene is the Ferry Building Gallery, a facility and a site we all cherish, and for which, I'm sure, we all wish to see a bright and dynamic future.

The arts in West Vancouver and on the North Shore have grown exponentially over the years, all the way from the leading light of Gordon Smith to the current achievements of Douglas Coupland, all of it accompanied by the energies of artists at all points in their careers. The Ferry Building Gallery is an essential and significant building block in the intricate construction and development of the arts in our community.

As you know the Ferry Building Gallery clearly needs an upgrade to its heritage building, and has also proposed a small scale addition to provide 1800 square feet of exhibition space. To me it's a no-brainer: the Ferry Building Gallery is not a relic to be preserved in amber, but a nourishing centre of energy that fuels our community, and it badly needs the opportunity to upgrade and improve its facilities so it can continue to play a dynamic role in our cultural and civic life for decades to come.

I urge you, and urge all of our community, to support these plans for a renewed and re-energized Ferry Building Gallery.

Yours sincerely,
Dear Mayor and Councillors

I write in support of the proposed renovation and addition to the old Ferry Building Gallery.

Our much loved civic gallery serves a vital function in our growing community, providing a steady stream of exhibitions, workshops and craft sales throughout the year. Its situation, in a prominent heritage location on our waterfront, is entirely appropriate for a municipal operated gallery, which serves as a focal point for many activities. Its management is exemplary and is well supported by a dedicated band of volunteers. I will emphasize that one extremely important purpose of the gallery is to showcase and encourage the work of young people, "emerging artists", both from our schools and within the general community.

With age, the old Ferry Building gallery is in sore need of repair and renovation, particularly involving the foundation, sills and windows. This work cannot be put off. While the renovations are under way, it is a perfect opportunity to add some exhibition space and washrooms, as has been proposed in the excellent plans exhibited recently. The current space is very small and the proposed addition is quite modest. It will, however, make a real difference to how the gallery can serve the community better.

It is our responsibility to look forward and to do what is needed for future generations. The time to act is now and so I earnestly request that Council approve this work without delay.

Yours sincerely,

Ray Bradbury

West Vancouver, BC

PS Please feel free to publish my letter and name on the District website.
From: Dalia Gottlieb-Tanaka [dr.daliagt@gmail.com]
Sent: July-10-14 5:14 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Say yes to the extension of the Ferry Building Gallery

Dear Mayor and Council,

I would love to see one of the best secrets of the North Shore expand to meet existing and potential needs of the Ferry Building Gallery. The Gallery proven to be a hub to numerous artistic and cultural activities. Take for example the present exhibition on Creativity and Aging. We could have expanded the event to include several workshops and lectures to larger gatherings. We could have also have a larger exhibit. What we show right now is only a fraction of the art we have in our collection. However, we had to limit and reduce the number of works. cancel any workshop for lack of space and hope that our audiences will arrive no more than what is allowed by code.

The District of West Vancouver has a great opportunity to turn a great art centre to an amazing one which takes advantage of a main pedestrian path, an incredible location a long the shore, view of Stanley park and Lions Great Bridge and more. West Vancouver District has a responsibility not only for its residents within the District itself but way beyond. Surely you all realize it and the great potential of making it even better.

As a Baby Boomer, who intends to stay independent as long as possible and enjoy life to its fullest, a place like what is offered would attract me and my friends to visit and participate in activities. Yes there are other places on the North Shore but none are as special as the Ferry Building Gallery.

I urge you to support the proposed idea of the expansion. If the existing building is precious, it can be moved again. If it is the view some are concerned of being blocked, the architect is very much aware of it, if some residents are concerned about the number of people that would be attracted to the place, I think it is too late for that. Ambelside is a popular destination.

Looking forward to our 20th anniversary celebrated in a new Ferry Building Gallery.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dalia Gottlieb-Tanaka

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Dear Council

I unfortunately am not in town for the next month, otherwise I would be expressing in person the feelings that I list below.

I started my career as an artist, 20 years ago with an exhibit at the Ferry building. Since that initial launch, I was able to go on and exhibit with some of the best galleries in Canada and now across the US and Europe.

I have given many talks over the years at the ferry building, all sold out with long waiting lists, the space is simply too small. It is a hub of the community and it is shameful to think that a community like west Vancouver is not fully behind an arts based spaced.

I can go on to list the remarkable careers that it has helped launched, and also the rare opportunities for students and seniors that it provides through exhibits and lectures, but we all all know that the list is very very long.

Ruth has worked tirelessly for decades in a cramped, old building, bringing vital festivities and spirit to our community.

I can not understand anyone who would oppose this small upgrade and expansion.

Without this west Vancouver is nothing but an empty shell.
Mayor and council: other than expenditures for maintenance purposes, spend no further time nor money on expanding the existing Ferry Building. Please instruct staff to cease and desist. Thank you.
Subject: Ferry building

Mayor and council: other than expenditures for maintenance purposes, spend no further time nor money on expanding the existing Ferry Building. Please instruct staff to cease and desist. IThank you.
Dear Mayor and Council,

Given that one of this Council's priorities is the activation of the Ambleside commercial district, it behooves Council to support the expansion of the Ferry Building Gallery. As a beloved part of the Ambleside landscape and West Vancouver arts culture, the Ferry Building Gallery needs to be preserved, maintained and upgraded to facilitate the programming and other opportunities that present themselves in that venue. While the programming that as occurred in the building is excellent, it is small and needs upgrading. The proposed expansion is modest and appropriate for a seaside venue in the heart of the Ambleside neighbourhood.

After literally years of studies and discussions, please execute on what the residents have been asking for – engaging and activating the waterfront with a variety of experiences. The community gardens and expanded green space are beautiful, but the addition of gallery space with a café/wine bar in that location will be a welcome and well-used enhancement to our community.

Best regards,

West Vancouver, BC
West Vancouver is touted to have a reputation as a cultured and liveable place, but to keep up this standard we must enhance our facilities. This small addition to the historic Ferry Building is badly needed. Also, a community such as ours desperately deserves a creative Arts center/Gallery to allow the arts to flourish and give meaning to our lives.

Visitors will come...
Good Afternoon

As discussed I attended Collingwood School this afternoon at 3:40 pm and witnessed several violations to the current traffic management plan and violations to West Vancouver’s Traffic and Parking Bylaw No. 4370, 2004. All of these violations were addressed with the vehicle operators and a site foreman from Heatherbrae. Due to lack of adherence to the traffic management plan a ticket has been issued to Collingwood School.

In the future I would urge you to contact our Department directly at (604) 925-7152 to report violations. This will ensure that your concerns are addressed in a timely manner. If you prefer to email your concerns please forward this information to bylawdept@westvancouver.ca.

Regards,

Paul Reece
Senior Bylaw Officer | District of West Vancouver
604-925-7163 | westvancouver.ca

Mayor Smith and the Council,

Following today’s series of violations of the Traffic Management Plan (TMP) I suggest that the Council increase a.s.a.p. penalties for TMP violations to at least $500 i.e. to the same level as violations of noise restrictions. There is no major difference between noise violations and violations of TMP. Consequences are the same. Therefore penalties should be the same. Today’s incidents once again confirmed that $50 or $100 tickets are considered by Collingwood construction management as a part of business costs. Furthermore, I am afraid that currently these tickets do not cover the cost of their issuance. In any case, it is evident that current efforts of your Bylaw Enforcement officers are not effective.

I fully acknowledge efforts of Sarah Almas and her crew. However, I also share their frustration that their efforts do not bring expected results, because they are not equipped with appropriate power to do their job effectively.

Thank you for the consideration of my suggestion.
From: Norm Wong  
Sent: July-10-14 6:35 PM  
To: s. 22(1)  
Cc: Michael Smith; Raymond Fung; Gary Watt; Suzanne Rowell; Kristi Merilees  
Subject: 13th Street Traffic Problem  

Dear s. 22(1)  

I am in receipt of your email which has been forwarded to me for a reply. As you have noted, there is a missing crosswalk on the north side of 13th Street at Bellevue Avenue and we are in agreement with your observation. We are aware of the situation and as part of the 1300 Block Marine Drive - Grosvenor project, improvements to the 13th Street/Bellevue Avenue intersection will include a north side pedestrian crosswalk to the Tennis Court Parking Lot. At this time, we will await the start of the Grosvenor project and the implementation of the pedestrian crosswalk.

Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

Norm Wong P.Eng.  
Transportation Engineer | District of West Vancouver  
604-925-7157 | westvancouver.ca
From: Mayor and Council
Subject: FW: 13TH STREET TRAFFIC PROBLEM.

From: s. 22(1)
Sent: July-08-14 12:07 PM
To: Michael Smith
Subject: 13TH STREET TRAFFIC PROBLEM.

June 8, 2014

The Mayor and Council
District of West Vancouver
750 17 Street
West Vancouver, BC
V7V 3T3

Dear Mr. Mayor

We would like to bring to your attention an important matter that obviously needs some rectification. We recently took our 6 year old grandchild to Tennis Lessons at the courts opposite the Police Station at 1330 Marine Drive and 13th.

When you walk eastwards along the north side of Bellevue it is extremely dangerous to cross the road to the courts and playing fields.

There is no sidewalk along the parking area on 13th Street. One has to cross towards the beach then take your life in your hands to cross parallel to the railway tracks and then go north into the parking lot to achieve access to the playing fields and tennis courts - with no paved sidewalk.

It’s extremely dangerous with cars coming off Marine Drive from three directions, and cars coming from the beach, to say nothing of the kids and parents entering and exiting the parking lot, on foot, with and without dogs, bikes and in vehicles.

(With future potential construction in the area the problem should be thought out and rectified before serious accidents occur.)
It’s incredible that this problem exists opposite the Police Station - Safety Building?

Will you please put in a crosswalk from the police station to the Tennis Court Parking Lot and a sidewalk on the east side of 13th and Stop Signs at 13th and Bellevue?

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,