

July 17, 2017

Re: **Procedural Unfairness**

Dear PRRD Board,

I feel compelled to write to you about what I consider procedurally unfair treatment that I received at the July 13, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting.

1. I was explicitly invited to attend the in-camera meeting at which legal advice was to be received from the PRRD lawyer and discussed:

- a) At the June 15, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting, the Board passed the following motion:

“THAT the Committee invite Reece Harding of Young Anderson to present on the whole Option C matter to further inform and guide in the decision making process; and THAT the Committee also invite Andrew Fall to the same meeting.”

This motion clearly indicates that I was invited to the meeting where Reece Harding was to present.

- b) This understanding was again confirmed in the invitation letter that I received from CAO Radke, which stated:

*“The purpose is to include you as a part of the **privileged audience** as Reece Harding of Young Anderson presents to the Committee regarding Option C.”*

- c) When I accepted the invitation to attend, I asked Ms. Paquin if Mr. David Slik could attend. Brenda’s reply indicated:

*“I have been asked to let you know that this will be a **closed meeting** and by bringing someone else with you, you run the risk of that person not being able to sit in on this meeting as you are the person the Committee asked to invite.”*

These two communications clearly indicate that staff understood that “the meeting” was the in-camera meeting scheduled for the July 13, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting.

- d) Director Anderson also confirmed this understanding, in his letter to the Lasqueti email list, where he stated:

*“The Board will move **in camera** to receive presentations from our lawyer, and 2 members of the EDAC committee.”*

These communications clearly indicate that my attendance at the in-camera meeting to discuss the E-DAC matter was well understood by both the Board and staff.

2. Given this specific invitation, and given the importance of Emergency Dispatch to the community, I put aside two days to prepare for and to attend the meeting in Powell River. I work full time as a consultant, and attending this meeting cost me in excess of \$1,000 in lost earnings.

I accepted the invitation because the Board and staff had clearly communicated that my presence at this important in-camera meeting was desired, on behalf of my community, where the lawyer was to present his legal advice.

3. I was excluded, without prior notice, from the in-camera portion of the meeting.

After attending the public portion of the Committee of the Whole meeting, when the Board moved to go in camera, to my shock and surprise, I was asked to leave the meeting. I was not notified in advance, nor have been told when and why the invitation to attend the in-camera meeting was revoked.

As a consequence, I was unable to hear “*Reece Harding of Young Anderson to present on the whole Option C matter to further inform and guide in the decision making*”, as per the explicit board motion asking me to attend.

The process followed by the PRRD Board and staff was procedurally unfair to me:

- (i) I was led to believe that I had been invited to an in-camera meeting at which the PRRD lawyer was to present advice on Option C.
- (ii) I based my acceptance of the invitation on this information, and prepared my attendance based on this information.
- (iii) I was then excluded from the in-camera meeting with no explanation.

I am a strong advocate of proper process and fair treatment.

What do I want the Board to do to address this unfair treatment:

- (a) I ask the Board to acknowledge this procedurally unfair treatment, and take steps to ensure such treatment does not happen to myself or anyone else in the future.
- (b) I request a copy of the legal advice and presentation material for which I had been invited to receive.
- (c) I ask the Board to answer the following question: when and why did the purpose of my role at this meeting change?

Sincerely,

Andrew Fall
President, Lasqueti Community Association