MINUTES of the 2002-2006 Financial Plan (Public Input) Meeting for The Corporation of the District of North Vancouver held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver, B.C. on Saturday, January 12, 2002, commencing at 10:00 am.

Present:

Mayor: Don Bell
Councillors: Ernie Crist
Janice Harris
Lisa Muri
Doug MacKay-Dunn (10:30 am)
Bill Denault (12:02 pm)
Heather Dunsford (11:45 am)

Staff: Mr. G. Howie, Municipal Manager
Mr. D. Back, Director of Corporate Services
Ms. N. Ballantyne, Chief Librarian
Mr. G. Calder, Fire Chief
Mr. J. McPherson, Director of Financial Services
Mr. G. Young, Director of Recreation Services
Mr. R. Zerr, Director of Planning, Engineering, Parks & Regulatory
Mr. R. Danyluk, Section Manager-Budgets & Financial Systems
Mr. S. Hardy, Executive Assistant to Mayor
Mr. D. Sigston, Manager – Regulatory Services
Mr. T. Smythe, Budget Officer
Mr. I. Torry, Manager – Community Planning Services
Ms S. Burrows, Acting Municipal Clerk
Ms L. Hoeberechts, Acting Confidential Council Clerk

1. Introductory Remarks

Mayor Bell opened the meeting at 10:00 am and welcomed the public and staff to the Financial Plan Meeting.

2. NV Recreation Commission - Mr. Gary Young, Director of Recreation Services/ Mr. David Hobbs, Chair, NVRC

Motion passed by North Vancouver Recreation Commission on November 29, 2001:
“Advise District Council that no service reductions should be implemented in recreation services in 2002.”

Presentation:
Mr. David Hobbs made an overhead presentation titled “2002 Provisional Capital and Operating Budget” to Council as follows:

District Top Five 2001 Successes:
- Delbrook renovation - improved Central Booking Office
• Opening of William Griffin artificial turf field
• Internet registration launched
• Community Soccer Development Centre up and running
• William Griffin Pool renewal.

Provisional Capital Budget 2002:
• More money is needed for capital improvements.

District of North Vancouver Requested vs. Funded:
• $21 million was requested over a ten year period (1991-2001), with one-third funded ($7 million).
• Buildings age and there is a need for maintenance of capital.
• Ongoing service issue.

2002 District Capital Budget Summary:
• Funding of $1.8 million required.
• $600,000 funded and $1,254,237 unfunded.
• Generally maintenance of and improvements to infrastructure.

Provisional Operating Budget 2002:
• Three-year business plan. (In second year of plan).

Business Plan 2002 Highlights:
   a) Parkgate Skate Park - continue to focus on maintenance.
   b) Expand fitness outreach - delivery of low cost programs.
   c) Enhance school outreach - focus on child/youth Wellness.
   d) Increase funding to financial assistance program.
   e) Facilitate advisory groups for programs and facilities.
   f) Explore additional neighbourhood summer concert series.
   g) Enhance customer service and Public Website.

2002 Core Budget and New Monies:
2001 Core Budget    $4,681,699
Salaries            171,765
Inflation           36,196
New Money           169,197
2002 Subsidy        5,058,857

List of Efficiencies 1.35%:
• Greater participation and revenues in 2001 than anticipated.
• Able to budget for increased revenues in 2002 - about $93,000.
• District of North Vancouver portion - $65,520.

Absorbing Goods & Services:
• Reduced energy costs of $51,510.
• District of North Vancouver share $36,196.

2002 Core Budget:
$4.9 million budget request.

Focus on Maintenance:
• Total of $168,387
• District of North Vancouver share $122,348

Expand Fitness Outreach:
• District share $21,081
Expand Programs for Pre-Teens:
- District share $6,324

Increase Funding to Financial Assistance Program:
- District share $5,351 - vouchers.
- More than 1,000 people are supported by the financial assistance program each year.
- $90,000 budget in previous fiscal period.
- Now request additional $7,615.

Low Cost Programs:
- Not included in voucher program.

New Summer Concerts:
- Invite participation of local business community.

Enhanced Customer Service:
- Focus on call centre.
- Redirection of calls away from front reception.

Checklist:
- Cost per capital of providing recreational facilities:
  - City of North Vancouver $87.80
  - District of North Vancouver 95.84
- 70 out of every 100 DNV residents use recreational facilities. High ratio of users from DNV than CNV.

2002 Budget Request:
- Total operating budget $15,704,514
- District of North Vancouver portion 4,957,141

Comments:
- a) $1.5 million budgeted annually for capital preservation. $600,000 funded in 2002 for capital preservation. Immediate results of shortfall not imminent. More general.
- b) Parkgate Skateboard Park - neighbours state that, with the increase in activity, cleanliness and noise now an issue.
- c) Concert Program: looking at partnerships with local businesses/Arts Commission. 130 concerts in parks being held at present.
- d) Computers are purchased on a five-year purchase program. Currently this program is in jeopardy in that the item is on the unfunded list

3. NV District Library – Ms. Noreen Ballantyne, Chief Librarian and Mr. Mike Castle, Retired Board Chair
Request for Funding for 2002: $3,603,902

Ms. Ballantyne reported as follows:

Highlights from 2001:

- **Funding and Partnerships** – Special Collection Development Grant from Provincial Government in the sum of $26,000. This was used to fund the new DVD collection and other areas of high demand, including Books on CD.
- Launch of first DVD collection at end of October. To date, this has proved extremely popular.
- April – Writers in Our Midst received funding from the Provincial Government and will be expanded in 2002 in conjunction with the West Vancouver Memorial Library and the North Vancouver Library.
- Three summer students were hired, through a grant from the Federal Government, to assist with the Summer Reading Club. This was a very successful program with record enrolment of over 4,300 children.
- Corporate sponsorships provided prizes for the Summer Reading Club.
- Successful partnerships with the Royal Bank and North Shore Credit Union.
- Friends of the Library donated $11,000.
- Book Buddies Program.
- Vending machine installed on trial basis at Parkgate Library in September.
- **Technology** - Worked with DNV Staff to install computer system onto DNV network. To date, all the public computers have been transferred. Staff and Library Catalogue systems will be installed early in 2002. This offers higher speed and more reliability to users, and assists in reducing telecommunication costs.
- Library computers moved to CDNVS network.
- **Communication & Outreach** – completion of Communications Plan.
- User survey conducted in October. Staff is at present tabulating the results.

Issues for 2002:

- Promotion of electronic access to library and services 24 hours a day/7 days a week.
- Maintenance of current library hours.
- Maintenance of quality of collections and services.
- Maintenance of infrastructure – three buildings to maintain.
- Continue to work on Lynn Valley Main Library project. To date, the design work is progressing. This is the #1 priority for 2002.
- Seismic upgrade of Capilano Branch.
- Increase community awareness of library and services provided through presentations at schools and community groups, including seniors’ organizations.
- Continue funding through partnerships and working with Friends of the Library.
- Implement an Ipack upgrade. This is a graphic-based library catalogue that enables users to operate web browsers.
- Increase work stations in libraries for internet users.
- Promote a new integrated library system within the next 2-3 years.

Mr. Castle proceeded to report on the proposed seismic upgrade of the Capilano Branch as follows:

Background:
In May 2001, the Library Board approved a “Resolution for Seismic Preparedness” which allowed the Board to engage an engineering consultant to conduct an inspection and review of seismic
concerns in all of the District library facilities. This review was completed in August 2001 and confirmed as follows:

a) The main problems and majority of cost are associated with the one-storey building at the Capilano Branch, this building being part of the original structure and covering one-third of the total structure.

b) A feasibility study should be undertaken to develop options and recommendations for the best method of stabilization before proceeding to the final design.

c) Question raised as to whether it would be better to rebuild the old section instead of rehabilitating the existing one-storey portion.

Elements of Project and Estimates:

- Library space needs assessment $30,000
- Feasibility Study, including layout options and Rehabilitation alternatives 30,000

Construction Phase:

- Estimate from Engineers’ Report $488,900
- Other items, including GST 338,500
- TOTAL $887,400

Total Project Cost and Suggested Schedule:

- Exploratory Phase 2002 $60,000
- Final Design, Tenders 2003 60,000
- Construction 2004 767,400

The request for funding in the 2002 Budget is for the exploratory phase of the upgrade, with the other amounts being projected for the 2003-2004 capital budget. The total amount requested for this project is $900,000 over three years.

General:

a) New Lynn Valley Library is the Number 1 priority for the Year 2002.

b) DNV Staff currently working on proposal for a Project Manager for the construction of the new library.

c) Current readership of Lynn Valley Library down due to renovations at Lynn Valley Mall which resulted in poor access to the Library.

d) Libraries undergoing major reorientation towards new electronic age. This may result in a shift in borrowing patterns but libraries are still chief information providers with highly capable, trained staff to assist public.

e) Move in direction of “Virtual Library” where public are able to receive assistance with research projects from Staff via the Internet, expanding on the current e-reference approach. The ideas are under development and would likely be implemented through Public Library InterLINK – a consortium of public libraries in the Lower Mainland.

f) To date, hours of operation continue uninterrupted through a one-time savings of the gapping and reclassification of a staff position. However, if required due to budget constraints, hours of operation will be reduced.

4. Transportation Planning Advisory Committee (TPAC)
Mr. Allan Orr, Retired Chair, and Ms. Darlene Jacobi, 
Vice-Chair

Ms. Jacobi reported as follows:

**Transit Improvements Related to Operations** – this item was funded in 2001 and impacts pedestrians and transit users directly:

a) Bus bays  
b) Bus stops  
c) Wheelchair pads  
d) Shelters and benches.

**Recommendation:**  
That **$50,000** be allotted for these items with the expectation of a cost share with TransLink in 2002 of another **$50,000**.

**Sidewalk Construction** – This item has not been funded for the last two years, resulting in a substantial backlog of requests that impact the safety of school children and other pedestrians, especially in busy traffic areas near schools and recreation centres. The full cost of sidewalks near schools is borne by the District of North Vancouver, and specific funds are required for this.

**Recommendation:**  
$800,000 requested by staff during last two years.  
Line amount allocated in 2002 is **$386,500**.

**Result: Shortfall of $1,368,500.**  
Safe pedestrian movement is critical to the well-being of every community and warrants an expenditure of over **$1,000,000** for sidewalk construction.

**Sidewalk Trip Hazard** – This item is insufficiently funded this year.

a) Sidewalks require rebuilding and repairs due to deterioration.  
b) More streets need to be accessible to persons in wheelchairs.  
c) Backlog of sidewalks in need of repair.

**Recommendation:**  
Budgeted amount of **$20,000** for Sidewalk Trip Hazard will soon be depleted by backlog of sidewalks in need of rebuilding.  
This amount should be at least **doubled** in the 2002 Budget.

**Joint Bicycle Advisory Committee**

**Tatlow Avenue/First Street Bikeway Project:** This item was unfunded in 2001.

a) Provides vital link in Bicycle Master Plan to provide a safe bike route across North Vancouver City and District.  
b) Offers commuter and recreational cyclists a safe route to and from the Lions Gate Bridge and West Vancouver.

**Recommendation:**  
Approval of staff proposal of **$21,250** to match allotted funds from TransLink.  
Total figure of **$42,500** will permit more progress to be made towards implementation of Master Bicycle Plan.

**Marked Bicycle Lanes** – recommended to ensure safety of cyclists. If lanes present in OCP, Council is urged to implement them.

**Dollarton Bridge** – TPAC supports amount of **$350,000** for design of Bridge in Budget for this item.
a) Will provide more effective access for businesses in Maplewood area.
b) Easier access for commuters entering and exiting Seymour by way of Dollarton Highway.

Second Narrows Bridgehead – TPAC urges Council to play a strong role in monitoring any changes that are proposed by the Department of Highways and the Squamish Band. Convenient access to Bridgehead is of critical importance to the Maplewood Community and the rest of Seymour.

Other Recommendations for Funding:
- Projects involving pedestrian and traffic safety.
- Marine Drive Corridor work.
- Marine/Capilano intersection.
- Projects calling for improved signalization, especially at intersections.

TPAC also requests updating of District Official Community Plan and is in favour of proposals for a third crossing of Burrard Inlet.

5. Community Heritage Commission - Jan Keeton, Member-at-Large

Request for Funding for 2002: $41,500

Ms. Keeton reported as follows:

2001 Highlights:
- Christie House - this project is near completion on the Phase I portion. The Arts Council will be using the basement portion of the building as soon as the Occupancy Permit is issued.
- Series of Walking Tour Brochures - to date, six have been published and have been presented with heritage awards from The Heritage Society of BC. In addition the Commission have published a brochure on the 1874 Skid Road through Lynn Valley. The Commission wishes to continue with these, as it has received very positive feedback from the public.
- Heritage Week was held in February 2001 and was hosted by the DNV Community Heritage Commission. This included a heritage cream tea held at St Andrews Church Hall, North Lonsdale, a public lecture on local architect, Mr. Fred Hollingsworth and walking tours by Mr. Roy Pallant. Heritage Week assists in raising community awareness of the heritage aspects of the North Shore.
- Dormers & Doorways Newsletter - four issues were completed in 2001.
- Heritage Weekend was held in September 2001 in conjunction with the District of West Vancouver and the City of North Vancouver. This included boat tours, heritage home tours, a heritage fashion show and a display booth at Waterfront Park.
- Assessment of local heritage properties.

Heritage Management Plan $15,000

Estimated cost to District is $30,000. BC Heritage Trust offers 50% grants towards this work up to a maximum of $15,000.
Consists of:
- Updating of heritage inventories.
- Contemplating a heritage conservation area.
- Developing a heritage register.
• Developing recommendations for incentives such as comprehensive regulatory
tax relief, grants or other incentives to encourage heritage home owners to
designate and maintain their heritage properties.

Operational Allowance $10,500
Staff Time
One Planner and Committee Clerk to provide staff support.
Newsletters:
Four newsletters/year, together with special events newsletters - distributed throughout
Lower Mainland and locally. Cost of printing per publication = $400.
Heritage Society Memberships:
BC Heritage Society and Heritage Canada Foundation.
Seminars and Conference Attendance:
Staff and Commission member attendance at local heritage seminars.
Annual Heritage Awards in February:
Reception and awards certificates together with photos of recipients and displays of winners’
projects.

Community Plaquesing $5,000
Recognition of local heritage homes with bronze plaques.
Cost per plaque estimated at $400-$500, including installation.
Funding would allow for installation of up to 20 plaques per year.
Enhances visibility of heritage homes and raises community awareness.

Award-Winning Walking Tour Brochures $5,000
Cost to print brochures approximately $2,800 with graphic artist’s fees $2,000 for brochure
sketches.
Commission wishes to produce a Lynn Valley Walking Tour Brochure in 2002.

Photo Record of Heritage Properties $1,000
To build up, over time, an architectural/historic archive of heritage properties in the District of
North Vancouver.
Cost per photo shoot $200-$300.

Measured Drawings for Heritage Properties $1,000
Architectural survey and preparation of measured drawings as permanent record of specific
heritage homes in District of North Vancouver.
Funding would allow Commission to hire a student from BCIT survey course or UBC School
of Architecture.
To date, one measured drawing has been completed.

Heritage Landscape Inventory $3,000
Original Inventory completed September 1996. Developed inventory of major heritage
landscape sites in the District of North Vancouver. Included set up of a database and a
District-wide search of heritage trees.
Now envisaging more detailed survey. This would require services of a consultant.

Education and Awareness for BC Heritage Week $1,000
Projects have been focused on annual September North Shore Tri Heritage Weekend and
February Heritage Week.
2002 - proposed workshop event, displays, awards and other events. Funds requested to
cover honorarium of workshop presenter and ancillary expenses.
The Commission is exploring linking heritage to tourism to encourage visitors to North Shore.

Councillor Muri requested that the Commission prioritize the funding requests and forward
them to Council for further consideration.
6. North Vancouver Museum & Archives Commission – Mr. Jim Warne, Chair and Ms. Jan Manaton, Administrative Assistant

Request for Funding for 2002: $285,606
PLUS additional funding as follows.

Ms. Manaton outlined the requests for additional funding as follows:

C15.3 Line 33: Salaries and Premises Costs $2,230
Required to meet contractual obligations in form of increased rent at Presentation House and increased utilities costs at the warehouse and workshop.

C15.3 Line 34: Technology $2,450
This covers:
- Annual user support fees
- Upgrades to software to run Archives database on internet
- Server fees for hosting database
- Monthly ADSL line costs.
This enables increased accessibility for local citizens and community groups and exposes the collection to researchers worldwide.

C15.3 Line 35: Salaries – Exhibits and Programs $11,504
Required to increase staffing to meet growing demands for public programming:
- One 4-day/week Program Assistant position to increase to full-time.
- One 4-day/week Program Assistant position to be hired.
This enables Commission to:
- a) build upon Historian in the School program.
- b) Host Heritage Fair for the North shore/Howe Sound area.
- c) Pursue new opportunities for collaborative programming with other community organizations at Molly Nye and Christie Houses.
- d) Meet demand for increase participation in various community events such as North Shore Heritage Weekend, Canada Day and the Carol Ships Festival.
- e) Expand activities around the PGE Station and continue costumed historical interpretation, walking tours and interaction with visitors to Lower Lonsdale.

C15.3 Line 36: Technology $2,000
Installation of cabling and hardware to expand high speed internet access and increase staff efficiency. The cabling will also lay groundwork for any internal networking that may be introduced in the future.

C15.3 Line 37: Computer and Other Equipment $3,250
Replacement of computer, audio visual and darkroom equipment, and small furnishings. The equipment is basic to operations.

Councillor Muri requested that a written copy of this presentation be forwarded to Council for further consideration.

7. Presentation House Gallery – Mr. Bill Jefferies
Gallery Director
Request for Funding for 2002: $55,000
This includes additional funding request of $10,000.

Mr. Jefferies outlined the request for an additional funding of $10,000 as follows:

Presentation House Gallery is an internationally known photographic exhibition space. To date, in order to save money, there has been an overlapping of salaries. This resulted in a small surplus for 2001.

The request for $10,000 is to enable the Gallery to hire the services of a curator. This position was co-jointly filled by the Gallery Director, with approximately 60% of the Director’s time being spent as curator for shows. This workload is now overwhelming and the services of a separate curator are required.

The Gallery is anticipating constructing a new building in the future, with the allocation of funds in the sum of $1.3 million having been set aside by the City of North Vancouver for 2006. This will involve many reports and business plans, in addition to the normal running of the Gallery, and there is need for a Curator to free up the Director’s time for this. To date, there are two full-time staff.

8. Lynn Valley Seniors Association – Ms. Betty MacIntosh, President and Ms. Barbara Bate.

Ms. MacIntosh advised Council that the Lynn Valley Seniors Association is in favour of the proposed annual budget of $29,800 for the Molly Nye House.

- This will enable the restored heritage home to become highly accessible to the community as a seniors facility.
- These funds will cover all physical operations of the house as well as some staff hours.
- If funding approved, Molly Nye House will receive continuing support from all senior groups in the Lynn Valley area.
- Any funds secured from renting out Molly Nye House will help reduce the annual contribution from the District of North Vancouver Budget.
- Volunteer support will also be generated from local community associations, with financial support from Foundations and Service Groups. To date, $5,000 has been confirmed together with some furniture.
- The seniors programs will be self-supporting.

The Lynn Valley Seniors Association is a vibrant and capable seniors organization within the community and it urges continued support for the Molly Nye House.

9. North Shore Neighbourhood House – Mr. Don Rutherford, Executive Director
Mr. Rutherford addressed Council as follows:

Originally, in 1986/87, the Lynn Valley Outreach Youth Worker position was funded under a cost-sharing agreement between the District of North Vancouver and the Federal Government under the old Canada Assistance Plan. The original cost of one position and related expenses was approximately $37,200 with the District of North Vancouver paying $18,600 and the Federal Government paying $18,600. Although the District continued to fund increases in this one position, the Federal Government funding remained static.

The $18,600 continued to be funded after the elimination of the Canada Assistance Plan through various sources; however, this was finally terminated in March 2001.

The two full-time youth workers made a total of 8,644 with youth in the first nine months of 2001. The current level of funding from the District of North Vancouver ($86,000) will cover the salary, benefits and related operating expenses for two youth worker positions. However, there is no money for any program activities, outings, supplies and special summer programming. The District of North Vancouver’s commitment to replace the $18,600 lost from the Province would restore Lynn Valley Youth Worker funding to 2000 levels and would ensure quality programming to young people.

10. Lynn Valley Community Association – Mr. Dan Ellis

Mr. Ellis advised:

a) The Lynn Valley Community Association fully supports the funding request for the Molly Nye House. This is a heritage facility which belongs to the District of North Vancouver, and the funding would ensure that it is well maintained and be of significant benefit to the community.

b) The Association also supports funded and currently unfunded items for the Lynn Valley area. Lynn Valley is undergoing change with large developments providing development cost charges and future tax revenues. As the area develops, the public infrastructure changes and this, in turn, results in changes in facilities.

Discussion ensued regarding the youth addition to the Lynn Valley Community Centre. Mr. Rick Zerr advised that plans for this are currently in the design stage.

11. Seymour Art Gallery – Ms. Carol Badgley, Director/Curator and Mr. Ken Fowler, Treasurer/Board of Directors

Request for Funding for 2002: $30,000
This includes additional funding request of $5,000

Mr. Fowler thanked Council for endorsement of the operating Grant in 2001 of $25,000. He explained that an anticipated deficit had prompted the Gallery to request an increase to $30,000 for 2002; however, due to a surplus through excellent programming and public response, the Gallery was now reducing the funding request back to the original $25,000.

Ms. Badgley continued:
The Gallery wishes to invite Deep Cove artist, Mr. Charles van Sandwyk, to present a show called “Charles and the Children.” This show would be held at the Deep Cove Cultural Centre July 1st to 5th, and there are spaces available for 30 children. The program would involve Mr. Van Sandwyk teaching the children the water colour painting and how to make presentations. Community support is expected for this program, the Gallery having already received enquiries from interested parties.

The expenses involved in running the program are expected to be in the vicinity of $7,250 - $2,250 will come in from student fees, and the remaining $5,000 through the requested grant.

Discussion ensued with the following points made:
- The Gallery has not applied for funding from any other sources to date.
- There are a large number of exhibitions planned for the Year 2002.
- Although the students will keep their work, Mr. Van Sandwyk’s work will be put forward for sale.
- The normal fee for an artist is 25% commission; however, this is at the discretion of the artist.

Mr. Zerr advised Ms. Badgley to contact the DNV Arts and Cultural Manager, Laura MacMaster, and make application through her.

The Mayor called for a 20 minute recess (12:15 pm) and the workshop resumed at 12:35 pm.

12. **Seymour Community Services Society** – Ms. Arleta Becket, Child and Family Services and Ms. Anne Mooi, Executive Director: Parkgate Community Centre

Request for Funding for 2002: $23,823

Ms. Becket advised council that the funding request is to deal with emerging trends and needs:
- Increase in numbers of youth using the services.
- Increase in outreach.
- Increase in demand for services from the community.

In reply to a question from Council on how youth are involved in the area, Ms. Becket outlined the activities of four specific, active youth groups. She also advised that any information the Society receives is shared with other local agencies through monthly reports to the District of North Vancouver. The Society also meets every three months with other groups to share information and ideas.

13. **Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vancouver** – Ms. Christine Kennedy, Program Coordinator

Request for Funding for 2002: $5,000

Ms. Kennedy reported that the request for $5,000 was to sustain a youth outreach program in the Lynn Valley area, including after school programs for youth and preteens. The club provides a safe environment for youth to come together, and a designated space for youth, situated behind Jaycee House, is being contemplated. However, it will take some time for funding to be secured for this. Currently the Club, which has a membership of 120, meets daily in a portable at the Lynnmore School.

The instigation of a Teen Kitchen is proposed whereby teens can come together, make a meal and spend the evening in group activities. There is also the need for a youth outreach worker...
position to be created to work with youth in the area, and the requested funding of $5,000 would be split between these two items.

14. **Ms. Cathy Adams – President, Lions Gate Neighbourhood Association**

Ms. Adams reported that, in her opinion, the Budget document format was difficult to follow and was lacking information. She outlined issues as follows:

a) **A2.1 - Taxes:**
   Is the Vancouver Wharf now going to pay taxes?
   The Mayor responded by advising that the taxes are paid but capped. A request to the Provincial Government asking that this cap be removed has, to date, not been allowed. The DNV is still pursuing this; however, it is not anticipated that this will occur within the 2002 Budget year.

b) **C12.2 - Lower Capilano Community Centre:**
   - The completion of the design and the Marine Drive Corridor Study needs to be finalized.
   - There is no funding for a new field house for facilities at Norgate Park.

c) **E3.1 – #3: Lynn Valley Youth Activity Space**
   Over $100,000 is allocated for this.

   **E3.1 - #5: Lynn Valley Library/Archives**
   Additional $3 million for this facility over and above the amount approved in the 1996 referendum slated, apparently, for Year 2003.

d) **E3.6 - #53: Parkgate Field House Design**
   2004 – Capital Budget 5-year summary shows an amount of $50,000 for the design only.
   This is mentioned to highlight that $3 million will not adequately cover the provision of quality facilities at Norgate Park, along with the Field House.

e) **E3.14 - #127: Inter River Park Field Referendum Project**
   This is the only referendum project mentioned for 2002 and subsequent years.

f) **C15.4 - #50 and #51: Lower Lonsdale Community Centre**
   New funding request for operation costs projected in 2003. This facility may be operational next year, although this has been in the “next year” column for a number of years.

g) **Intersection and Surrounding Roadways Improvements at Marine/Capilano Intersection:**
   Good example of how little information in this new Budget format.

   **E3.11 - #105: Marine Drive Improvements - $400,000 should not be cut from the Budget.**
   TransLink will pay $200,000 of this amount. Should be enough money to do this whole project. Residents would like to see work begun.

h) **C2.21 - #21: School Field Maintenance**
   This was a deferred item from 2001 of $40,000. Does the DNV maintain some school fields at this time, or are they planning to?

i) **C15.2 - #16: Dollarton Connector Landscape Maintenance**
   $29,000 allowed for this item. Lower Capilano area has never received monies for landscape maintenance and has Parks Service medians along Lower Capilano Road.
j) C15.3 - #39: Capilano School Outreach Phase II
$3,162 – What is this item and what was Phase I?

k) C15.3 - #38, 40 and 41 – Recreation Commission items
These appear to be for the City of North Vancouver area. Should they be in District of North Vancouver Budget?

Gary Young replied:
City of North Vancouver and District of North Vancouver share recreation facilities on a 70/30 split so whenever a new funding item comes up, it appears on both.

Regarding the Capilano School Outreach, the Phase II refers to the District program of developing further programming in community schools in concert with the School Principal.

The Mayor advised Ms. Adams to contact Mr. Young if she required further specifics on Items (j) and (k).

Capital Projects Not Funded (of particular interest to residents of Lower Capilano area):

l) E5.1 - #6 – Lloyd and West 1st (South of the tennis facility)
$87,500 – There has been no information given to Lower Capilano area residents or community associations that sale of this land is contemplated and that a residential development could be built in this area. If this is so, then hopefully there would be a public process.

Mr. Zerr advised that this item is on the unfunded list because of uncertainty as to what will eventually occur. The question of whether to sell or lease the land would require public process, including local community associations, and the land would also have to be rezoned.

m) E5.3 - #16 – New Traffic and Pedestrian Signal
This refers to a new traffic signal at Capilano Road and Curling Avenue, just north of Marine Drive. Approximately $100,000 of the requested $220,000 is for the signal. Hopefully, this item will be brought forward by Staff for funding in 2003, and this timing would be ideal as the Marine Drive/Capilano Intersection improvements would be underway by that stage.

15. Firefighters Local 1183 - Mr. Kent Hodson, Secretary/Treasurer

Proposed Cut to Fire Services Budget: $150,117

Mr. Hodson requested that Council direct any comments or questions they may have to Chief Calder.

Question:
With regard to the proposed cuts in the 2002 Budget, does the Chief recommend these cuts and how they would impact on the day-to-day operations of the Fire Department, especially in areas such as public safety, Manning (which could impact on citizen and firefighter safety), programs of public education and community events such as the annual Halloween Fireworks Display?

As a firefighter, union member and citizen of North Vancouver, Mr. Hodson was of the opinion that any cuts in the Fire Services Budget would adversely affect the exemplary service given to the District of North Vancouver.
Chief Calder responded:

- He recommends the retention of existing prereduction funding to meet the needs of the District of North Vancouver.
- He recognizes that Council may require the reductions.
- If cuts proceed, the funding of the fireworks program would be eliminated. An approach has been made to the Rotary Club to ask if they would be interested in adopting a park and funding the fireworks program. No reply has been received to date. The projection is that the Rotary Club would be able to fund only one or two displays. If this is the case, then other community groups may be approached.
- Staffing - elimination of two positions proposed:
  - Public Education Captain would move to another Captain’s position, made vacant through retirement May 1st, 2002.
  - This would reduce the public education programs to the citizens of the District of North Vancouver. The Chief does not recommend this elimination. However, this is the least “painful” method of achieving such a large reduction.
  - Elimination of one firefighter position through attrition. This would be accomplished effective May 11th, 2002.
  - Reduction to firefighter overtime of $37,000. This would probably include the Mr. Doo-Bee Life Safety Program ($11,000).
  - Reduction to the Health Service Budget by 50%.

Chief Calder does not recommend these cuts. However, if they are required, then these are the areas where they could be made. Should the reductions be approved, a level of security and safety would be maintained but this level will likely not be the same as the pre-reduction level.

Comments:

- Firefighter and Citizen Life Safety: “Floater” firefighters and overtime are used to assist in maintaining staffing of fire trucks. If these staff are cut and overtime is reduced, then manning of trucks may be incomplete.
- The 2002 Operating budget, apart from contractual obligations, is a zero budget. There are no increases.
- Equipment expenditures are dealt with through a reserve account funded by the Operating Budget. Funding for replacement of existing vehicles has been projected until 2020. No funding for vehicles in addition to the current fleet has been projected. There is some money in the Operating Budget for vehicle parts and supplies.

John McPherson advised that he will forward to Councillor Crist a list of Fire Department increases.

16. Mr. John Hunter, 300 Block, Roche Point Drive

Mr. Hunter presented as follows:
a) **Tax Target Formula**

This approach is faulty:

- It seems to have become a real target.
- Encourages reliance on a formula rather than human judgement for trial budget runs.
- Does not allow for potential surprises or political factors that may suggest a different initial target tax increase.
- Programs are not eliminated.

b) **“State of the Nation”**

- Since 1997, DNV debt has increased from Nil to $12 million, with authorization to $26 million.
- Continued spending of both capital and interest of Heritage Fund.
- Costs are increasing as residents ask for more services and facilities.
- Ability to handle any further “surprises” in the future is limited.

c) **The Future**

DNV financial situation and flexibility are deteriorating due to:

- Residents in Seymour area wish for less than 1% growth – transportation issues need to be addressed.
- Many residents object to using the Heritage Fund to pay operating and maintenance costs.
- DNV taxes are the highest in the GVRD.
- Utilities are approximately 30% of total budget.
- Reserve funds may well be the lowest in the GVRD.
- PPP, privatisation and commercialisation to generate savings or revenue may not be well received by community.
- Future cost of maintaining capital infrastructure estimated by Staff at $11 million/year. With $2 million from Heritage Fund and $4.5 million from tax levies, there is no allowance in Budget for $4.5 million deficit.
- No allowance for the $745,000 unfunded budget requests under Section C.
- No allowance for the $5 million unfunded capital projects under Section E.
- No allowance for $3 million to fulfil guarantee to purchase the North Shore Winter Club, if it defaults on its loan.
- Participants have an unfunded actuarial liability of $548 million in the pension fund for BC employees, to which DNV employees belong. There is no reserve should future top-up be required for the District’s share.
- No allowance for “surprises” in the Budget.
- Unbudgeted costs plus $4.5 million unbudgeted infrastructure maintenance costs would raise the tax increase to the 17-20% tax range or higher.
- The general public is unaware of the true situation.

**Recommendations:**

1) Do a “core review”, department by department.
2) Focus on the big dollar items and sort out the smaller dollar items later.
3) Look at revenue sources, such as the rate of return on District land, false alarm penalties, move to more user fees. Revenue increase needs as much attention as cost reduction.
4) Change the Staff incentive system.

**Summary:**

The 2002 Budget document does not present a fair and clear picture of the District of North Vancouver.
It was suggested that Mr. Hunter be invited to discuss former process reviews with Rick Zerr.

17. **Mr. Corrie Kost, 2800 Block, Colwood Drive**

Mr. Kost presented as follows:

The DNV website represents material pertaining to the District and this should be enhanced. It is an equitable way for materials to be accessed by everyone.

The draft 2002-2006 Financial Plan Report and the Inventory of Municipal Services By Division Report, which provides background information, should have been integrated into one document.

A core review is absolutely essential, with cuts proposed of 30-50% in all programs. The District should encourage community feedback – simple surveys do not provide the required information.

Increases in user fees are downloading by the District of North Vancouver of costs to the consumer.

**Why are fire costs per capita so high?** Public are highly overpaying the amount for fire taxes.

Mr. Kost referred to C-11.2 “Fire and Administrative Services” which listed five full-time people and personnel benefits of $2.5 million. Chief Calder explained that the five staff members were budgeted at $317,212 and the balance covered administration of the entire Fire Department of 143 employees, and all benefits exclusive of salary. Mr. Kost opined that this should have been itemized more appropriately.

West Vancouver District has posted a 1.8% tax increase for 2002. This is more in line with what the District of North Vancouver tax increase should be. It has held many public budget meetings and presentations. **Why does the District of North Vancouver not get the public involvement process working?**

December 19, 2001: Leaky condo costs. The insurance ran out at the end of 2001, so how is the District of North Vancouver going to deal with possible litigation on leaky condos?

**Dog Bylaw:** This is a trivial $3 item but it is a matter of principle. What is the justification for the $20 fee? What service does this provide? Abusers of the system should pay. Dog owners should only pay once.

Lynn Valley Library: There is a need to promote a national centre. Replication of electronic services in every library across Canada is a monumental waste and this should be reduced. Instead, there should be a central electronic Library.

E3.10 - #94: Sidewalks. Last year there was zero expenditure but this year there is some. However, why does this funding come from the Heritage Fund? This Fund should never be used for something that is non-sustainable. The better route is to spend this money to buy more property.

Recreation Commission: The District is spending more and more money in this area. Has the new technology actually saved any money? The price of computers has dropped and this reduction should show up in the Budget. Total cost to operate is $15.7 million for the City of North Vancouver and the District of North Vancouver. This equals $130/capita. Every home is paying essentially $180/year, whether they use the recreation facilities or not.
Seniors: Some consideration should be given to the way in which the programs are subsidized.

The Mayor requested that Mr. Kost summarize his presentation. Mr. Kost replied that the Budget document requires page-by-page study as it is, in his opinion, “strewn with errors”. This allows for no possibility of taking a calculator and checking it over.

Councillor Mackay-Dunn would like to discuss with Mr. Kost ways to recover operational and maintenance costs.

Discussion followed regarding the advertising of the Public Workshop and the wording of the advertisement. There was no indication that there would be committee input. The Mayor advised that this matter would be reviewed for future public input process.

Councillor Muri left the meeting at 3:00 pm.

Councillor Dunsford requested clarification of the Item C11-1: $2,505,599 from Chief Calder. He advised that this is total administration costs.

Councillor Crist raised the issue of a Central Federal Information Station (electronic) and queried Mr. Kost what specifically should be done in the process of building the new Library. Mr. Kost replied that the new Library should anticipate the new technology and infrastructure grants should be applied for.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10pm.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Confidential Council Clerk