

Mr. John E. Kennett
41-8640 Bennett Rd.
Richmond B.C.
V6Y-3T9

City Clerk
Mr. Richard McKenna
6911 Number 3 road
Richmond B.C.
V6Y-2C1

May 30, 2000

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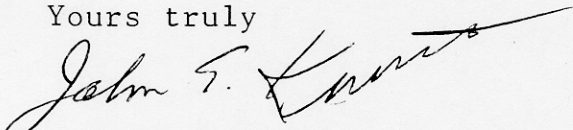
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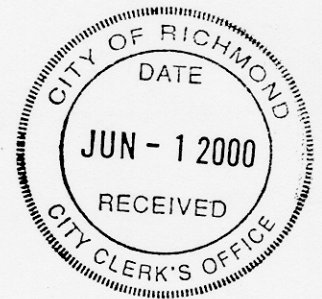
Dear Sir

I wish to address the Mayor and Council members in regards to the attached letter, as a delegation on June 12, 2000.

The attached letter has been distributed to the Mayor and Council members.

Yours truly


John E. Kennett



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In a recent news conference the new Translink system announced that it will tax all vehicles in the lower mainland \$75.00 per calender year to support the transit authority.

The very fact that an unelected body, or group of people feel they have the right to tax citizens without being elected to an office of the G.V.R.D., and without a mandate from the people is absurd.

You should be protecting the rights of the people and their constitutional right to a democratic solution by refusing publicly the terms brought forward by the G.V.R.D., and withdraw from the G.V.R.D. if necessary, to protect our democratic system.

This transit system is a failure, it will always be a failure, it does not belong in Richmond; we can do much better by giving tax credits to van pools, local taxi companies, and park and ride systems that operate today within Richmond. Much of the hotel industry operate mini busses free around Richmond, lets create a central dispatch system and combine all of these services to have door to door service for those who now use transit.

Transit busses we use today are too large, emit millions of pounds of hydrocarbons into the air, wreck the roads, tie up traffic, and carry airborne illness. (Transit drivers average 38 days of sickness per year).

T.B. has been on the increase recently, and Translink may be a conduit that may threaten the citizens of Richmond. Don't be a do nothing council like the P.U.C. in Walkerton Ont. All Transit drivers must be reglarly tested for T.B., before driving a bus into Richmond.

Drugs and prostitution are regularly found operating out of the bus shelters, they are filthy and a health hazard.

To point out how out of date Translink is, they still use some busses that are fifty years old, some busses do not have safe brake systems and have to rely on wooden blocks to prevent run-a-ways. Even their "New Logo" is a product from twenty years ago.

There are now hybrid vehicles being imported into Canada that get over 65 MPG., we should be concentrating on expanding our road systems and link these vehicles to Skytrain, sell the busses.

Richmond is too progressive, too modern, too technologically advanced, too adventurous to be held back by the 1940's mind set of Translink.

Over thirty years ago B.C. Transit was allowed to tax every gallon of gas that was sold within the lower mainland by 10 cents per gallon, that works out to almost 3 cents per litre. How much of this tax was collected by Richmond service stations last year? How much of this tax went to Richmond to help support B.C. Transit last year?

Please make available to the citizens of Richmond an accounting of taxes collected and spent in Richmond to Support B.C. Transit for the last 10 years. How much the province transferred to Richmond, and how much the federal gov't transferred, and how much tax revenue was collected by the City of Richmond.

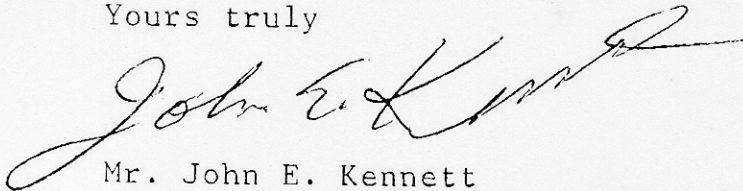
I believe that citizens of Richmond can no longer allow the G.V.R.D. to operate within Richmond's corporate limits, because it no longer respects our demoncratic rights, therefore they do not respect us.

I do respect the democratic system, therefore we should allow the G.V.R.D. the opportunity to recieve a mandate from the citizens through a referendum during the next mayoralty race, or the next B.C. general election.

I am formally asking the Mayor and Council members of the City of Richmond to allow me to ask the above questions and address the above issues at the next council meeting.

The following meeting would allow you to answer the questions and issues as well as let others participate.

Yours truly



Mr. John E. Kennett

cc all other municipalities