

I would like to address council on the relationship that exists between councillors and the many boards and groups that councillors are appointed to as representatives of the City of Richmond. As an example I speak of Councillor Kichii Kumagi as Richmond's appointed representative to the boards of the GVRD and Translink. Does the simple fact of his appointment, allow this council to deny all interest and accountability for Councillor Kumagi's decisions as your representative? Does not Richmond city council still have a responsibility to give input and direction to Councillor Kumagi? Does not Richmond city council still need to have an interest in his activities since he is acting under the legal and moral authority of his being elected by the citizens of Richmond and then appointed by this council to represent the City of Richmond?

We have a dispute between the CAW Local 111 and Coast Mountain Bus Co. and Translink that has caused transit service in the lower mainland to be absent for over 3 months. The citizens that elected you to city council have a right to know that; your representative to these regional governing bodies is seriously addressing their interests.

Translink is responsible for planning, funding, managing, and operating the transit system. Coast Mountain receives its authority and the funds to operate directly from Translink. Just because Translink is using a subsidiary to achieve its purpose does not relieve Translink of its responsibilities to manage and operate the transit system. Just because Richmond City council is using Councillor Kumagi as your representative to achieve your purposes, does not lessen your accountability in this dispute.

It is up to each and every council member across the lower mainland to decide if the actions taken by Translink and Coast Mountain and your representatives are correct for you, your voters and ultimately the voters will decide if you have fulfilled your mandate.

Thank you,

Jim Kane





City of Richmond

6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1
Telephone (604) 276-4000
www.city.richmond.bc.ca

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City Clerk's Office
Telephone: (604) 276-4007
Fax: (604) 278-5139

Mr. Jim Kane
10300 Albion Road
Richmond, BC V7A 3E4

Dear Mr. Kane:

Re: Relationship between Councillors and the Boards Which They Represent and the Transit Strike

In response to your undated request received in the City Clerk's Office on July 3rd, 2001, this is to confirm that arrangements have been made for you to appear as a delegation on the above matter, at the Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, July 9, 2001, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Richmond City Hall. Because this item is not on the agenda you will be heard at or near the end of the Council meeting. It is noted that you declined the opportunity to appear before a Council Standing Committee to discuss this matter.

If possible, please provide me with either a copy of your submission, or a written summary thereof, prior to the Council meeting.

Council procedures allow five minutes for you to make your presentation, not including any questions which Council members may ask. This five-minute limit is strictly enforced to ensure that all business for the meeting is dealt with.

Please conclude your presentation with a specific request on what you are seeking by appearing before Council as a delegation.

Yours truly,

J. Richard McKenna
City Clerk

JRM:fja