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**Sent:** Monday, 23 November 2015 13:39  
**To:** McPhail,Linda; Brodie,Malcolm; Au,Chak; Dang,Derek; Day,Carol; Johnston,Ken;  
Loo,Alexa; McNulty,Bill; Steves,Harold; Weber,David  
**Subject:** LUC  
**Attachments:** LETTER TO COUNCIL.docx; Letter re LUC.docx  
  
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**City Clerk's Office**  
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**LUC Correspondence**

Our family has lived in Richmond since 1939. There were 10,000 residents then, a mix of nationalities, mostly British Isles stock and us—the newcomers. It was a true community, a place where individuals live together, knowing that the place is shared, where they are concerned for each other, trust each other and respect each other. We even walked slowly to the interurban on occasion, helping our perpetually late friend make it to the train! We can't go back to the feeling of Richmond then although visits to the City Archives give a glimpse of what it was, but we can, within our population of 200,000, still reach for a vision of what community means as a way of enhancing each citizen.

We applaud ourselves as a community, diverse and tolerant and we have a Highway to Heaven with places of worship which exemplify this diversity. We have festivals featuring the customs, dances, costumes, language and food of the many nationalities represented in our schools. We have groups, societies, and organizations which attest to Richmond's caring for and about the vulnerable in our community.

Despite these admirable traits, there is, in recent years, antagonism, anger and dissension which pits neighbour against neighbour and frankly causes many to leave our "Garden City". This deep feeling of anger comes from a loss of the ideals of community, a place where we acknowledge and respect each other, not imposing ourselves but adopting "We" instead of "Me". Fortunately many young people have the opportunity to be a part of WE Day which encourages this philosophy. Maybe Richmond could have its own We Day for residents of all ages! We share the same piece of the earth; it is not what is best for me but for all of us together. This is what it means to be a community, the foundation of a healthy society.

Community is more than just where we come from or what religion we are. A *genuine community* is one in which individuals exemplify loyalty toward an ideal, one that extends beyond their individual lives. It is a recognition and acceptance of common human values that are good for all of us. True meaning in life is found in community and is the fear of its loss that hurts.

In 2016, one practical way to move closer to this sense of community, is to eliminate the Land Use Contracts and re-establish the values which enhance our community, give back a sense of peace to those of us who feel imposed upon and continue to build a happy and healthy community.

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We support City Council's decision to proceed with the process for the termination of Land Use Contracts, because:

--Land Use Contracts are not fair

-- Some neighbours have to endure an excessive overbuild next to them, behind them, or in front of their property.

--The Provincial government has provided the opportunity to regain control over Land Use Contracts.

--Richmond joins with other municipalities who are undertaking early termination of Land Use Contracts; this is part of Richmond's Official Community Plan.

--The City of Richmond has a leadership role in supporting Land Use Contract early termination