



July 11, 2003

Mr. Bill Mauer
Chair, Seymour Valley Community Association
2403 Riverside Drive
North Vancouver, BC
Canada V7H 1V8

Dear Mr. Mauer:

I am writing in response to your letter of June 4, 2003 on behalf of the Seymour Valley Community Association following the May 12, 2003 meeting held to review the noise issues related to spoil recycling on the North Vancouver Cemetery property. Though repeating some of the points made in your summary, I felt it was important to add some context to the issue.

The land on which the City of North Vancouver operates the North Vancouver Cemetery on behalf of the City and District of North Vancouver is zoned for cemetery use. It was recognized during the zoning process that the City could continue to dump clean excavation spoil on the eastern section of the property as they had been doing for many years. The site provides the only North Shore location for the City to dump excavation material and the landfill process is creating an area suitable for the future expansion of the cemetery.

Within the spirit of the landfill process, the City began a spoil recycling operation in the spring of 2001. In recycling; blacktop, concrete and excavation spoil is processed through crushing, grinding, screening and mixing to produce ranges of material from large diameter rock to gravel to soil. The recycled material can then be reused for backfill and surface applications. The driving forces for spoil recycling are that it meets the principle of sustainability and the amount of waste material going into the landfill is reduced thereby extending the life of the landfill. You may be interested to know the District of North Vancouver is running a similar landfill and recycling operation on the western section of the cemetery property under lease from the City.

There is a significant financial benefit to having a North Shore landfill for both the City and the District of North Vancouver. As the life of the two landfill areas comes to an end, excavation spoil must be trucked directly off the North Shore or dumped at a transfer site, recycled and the waste product hauled to available landfills in containers. Whether the spoil is trucked directly or transferred the financial impact is considerable to both capital and maintenance budgets of the City of North Vancouver and the District of North Vancouver.



It is the City's wish to continue the selective spoil recycling operation at the cemetery. With respect to the comments made by the Seymour Valley Community Association regarding noise, all rock crushing has been eliminated. The only soil screening session since November 6, 2002 started June 24, 2003 and ended July 10, 2003 and the only gravel production session was the workweek following May 12th as discussed with your group. It should be noted no spoil recycling activities have taken place on weekends or outside of workday hours. **Only landfill activities are presently taking place within the City site.**

It is the City's intention to end spoil recycling in the cemetery no later than the completion of the proposed GVRD watermain construction through the cemetery in 2004. The design for the expansion of the cemetery is underway and the reshaping of the landfill area to meet the cemetery development will follow the watermain construction. As stated during our May meeting, the City and District are actively seeking alternative sites for spoil recycling operations.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Mahood". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "B" and "M".

Brent Mahood
Operations Division

cc: Mayor and Council, City of North Vancouver
Mayor and Council, District of North Vancouver