

# DEBATE

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**ROSES AND ROTTEN TOMATOES:** Do you have someone you would like to thank? Or maybe something to get off your chest? Email your rose or rotten tomato to [edit@surreynowleader.com](mailto:edit@surreynowleader.com).

Rotten tomatoes to the complainant who is throwing rotten tomatoes to fast-food restaurants for charging \$0.25 per bag. They are doing that because that is the bylaw requirement. Shame on you for shaming those who follow the rules.

Roses to my new favourite reality show: The Surrey Police Transition. It's quite entertaining to watch! It almost feels like a cross between a screwball comedy and daytime soap opera. These storylines are sure getting more intense every week and boy, are we in for lots more climactic episodes! The saga continues.

Huge piles of rotten tomatoes to people who won't stop arguing about the police transition. It doesn't matter which side you're on. Let's all try to get along and be more respectful of each other.

A mailbox full of roses to the thoughtful neighbour on my Surrey Now-Leader paper route who left two baggies of candy out, one for the newspaper and flyers carrier and one for the mail carrier, as a thank-you for braving the snow.

Beautiful roses to the woman who found my phone on 138th Street and 72nd Avenue in Newton and brought the phone to the local Circle K for safe keeping. You have restored my faith in humanity! I thought I'd never see it again. Thank you so very much.

Rotten tomatoes to snobby people who use too many big-sounding words and phrases. I cannot understand a word you say half the time. You sound very confusing and arrogant. Try speaking to me in clear simple English and then maybe I'll have more respect for you.

Rotten tomatoes to me for not cleaning the bathroom like I said I would and making my wife very angry and disappointed. I've got some sucking up to do.

Rotten tomatoes to Mayor Doug McCallum for being photographed not wearing a mask at a recent Canucks game while those around him did. Great role model for Surrey. I hope our tax dollars didn't pay for those hockey tickets.

## Your letters

# Community rallied for maternity ward

### The Editor,

Re: "Fraser Health reverses decision to close Peace Arch Hospital maternity," the *Now-Leader* online.

A heartfelt thank you to Bev, moms Savanna, Jenny, Penelope and many others, plus neighbours of all ages for mobilizing to get Fraser Health to revert its decision to close Peace Arch Hospital's maternity ward.

The impact of our emails, calls and tweets to elected representatives, community champions and decision makers was awesome.

I appreciate that White Rock Mayor Darryl Walker and MLA Trevor Halford both attended a rally and spoke up for us as well.

Thanks to media for sharing our angst and telling the story using solid data, reasoning and care.

The next generation will be emboldened to continue strengthening our caring community.

Pat Petrala, Surrey

## McCallum is desperate

### The Editor,

Re: "White Rock mayor blasts tweet claiming McCallum averted maternity ward closure," the *Now-Leader* online (and page 8 in today's issue).

A special thank you for publishing the story of White Rock Mayor stating that Doug McCallum had nothing to do with the reversal of the closing of the maternity ward at Peace Arch Hospital.

This goes along with McCallum's statement that he is the one responsible for Wal-Mart deciding to stop the use of plastic bags. This shows how desperate this man is to gain any votes for the upcoming election.

Hopefully, he will be found guilty on his mischief charge.

Michele Bruce, Surrey

## Much thanks to media

### The Editor,

Re: "Fraser Health reverses decision to close Peace Arch Hospital maternity," the *Now-Leader* online.

Our community has overwhelmingly expressed gratitude for your support and media coverage regarding Fraser Health's decision to close Peace Arch Hospital's maternity ward. As you can imagine, we are elated that this decision was reversed.

Media played a huge roll in helping us attain this. Thank you for your attention to this vital matter.

Bev Bell, Azra Mann and Dr. Semion Strovski on behalf of PAMC doctors

## Area needs protecting

### The Editor,

The scientific evidence is irrefutable (global warming, diminishing access to healthy food and clean water) and the physical and emotional evidence is in our face (heat dome deaths, rampant forest fires, savage weather events/floods).

These things should drive our decisions on our interactions with the natural world.

The development of South Campbell Heights is a flagrant injury to our remaining natural assets and wrong.

The Semiahmoo First Nation was not consulted. Without a deep sense of gratitude and reciprocity motivating us, we risk losing a human habitable British Columbia (and earth).

Besides the wrongness of this project, it is not necessary as the City of Surrey has much unused and vacant industrial land available. "The City of Surrey currently has 18 per cent of Metro Vancouver's industrial lands, of which 32 per cent is undeveloped or vacant. It also has eight industrial

parks, including the 1,900 acres Campbell Heights Business Park located just minutes north of the 600 acres now up for discussion."

The natural assets being sacrificed are far more valuable in the long run than this short-sighted project. Protect – do not degrade – this area.

Robert Winston, MD, Surrey

## Reprint letter on front

### The Editor,

Re: "Keep hands off tax dollar to defend Doug McCallum," the *Now-Leader* letters, Jan. 20.

I read Adam Farrell's letter and was in complete agreement with his opinion. His letter should actually be reprinted on the front page of the *Surrey Now-Leader*.

The Indemnification clause that is being quoted to the public has not been fully read. The 7.3 portion states the city will not seek indemnity against its Municipal Officials, unless the Municipal Official has been guilty of dishonesty, gross negligence, or malicious or wilful misconduct.

So will Doug McCallum have to repay the costs to the people of Surrey if he is proven guilty of any of the highlighted section above? Just asking.

Allen Forster, Surrey

## Cartoon was tasteless

### The Editor,

Re: Jan. 20 editorial cartoon.

Your cartoon was on the side of tasteless, to say the least.

Check the record books of history. Where do you draw the line?

One such country, not too long ago, drew that line and crossed it.

It starts with comments just like those in your cartoon. Don't fan the flame of hatred, it can get away on you.

Dorian Harvey, Surrey

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