

To Mayor & Council

I have read the agenda for council meeting 05 Dec. I am in hopes that council **will not** vote in favour of sending the three resolutions drafted by Council Craig to AVICC, below I state my reasons. I have stated many times, since my resignation on 13 Mar 2020, that it is not my wish to get be involved in local politics I am John Q citizen, however I must let my thoughts be known about these resolutions and only wish that council have a vision and priorities to move forward for the betterment of the Village of Sayward..

First and foremost, with the past election the residents have spoken. Speaking for myself as a taxpayer for the village of Sayward I was in hopes that council would move forward for the sole benefit of the Village of Sayward such as economic development, infrastructure, growth, OCP update and following the VOS Strategic plan. The three resolutions put forward by Councillor Craig have nothing to do with moving forward but in my own opinion are being submitted to boost the Councillor's ego, he had previously stated he was going to change the entire CC and LGA to have a nation wide system and if that is the reason he ran for council he certainly took the wrong avenue. There is no doubt in my mind that Councillor Craig went to great lengths researching his references etc being put forward in the resolutions he submitted, that being said I consider the resolutions a waste of time and energy and his time could have been put to better use looking at ways to encourage growth and economic development for Village of Sayward.

AVICC and UBCM have laid out procedures for submitting a resolution and one of the first things they state is each resolution should have a maximum of 1 or 2 Whereas clauses, on occasion I have seen 3 whereas clauses, for Sayward to submit the three proposed resolutions would be an embarrassment to the drafter, seconder and Village of Sayward. I am positive they would be rejected, and to be quite honest we (Sayward) would be referred to as a municipality not to be taken seriously unless we cleaned up our act and gave resolutions serious thought and consideration prior to submission. Sayward has in the past submitted resolutions to AVICC and UBCM which have been put on the floor to the delegates for discussion and a vote, we have, as can be expected, been both successful and unsuccessful, with our resolutions. Whenever a resolution has been made that the Village of Sayward has submitted it was always (to the best of my knowledge) discussed with our CAO on content and format prior to going to council for ratification, undoubtedly these resolutions were not discussed or vetted with our CAO or temporary CAO prior to hitting the agenda.

I must respond to Councillor Crais's first resolutions(6) to amend FOIPPA. I am not one to say if it is not broken then why try and fix it this does not work for most circumstances. Over the years I have been involved in a few FOI requests, most of which can and are settled at the municipal level by our staff, much forethought went into drafting and completion of the FOIPPA, this was vetted thru UBCM and then back to the communities before implementation. What councillor Craig suggests would be time consuming for staff, and expensive. I am positive if a FOI was beyond staff's capabilities then our lawyers would become involved (normal procedure) or it would be sent up the chain to the ministry for clarification. We presently have all the tools required to respond to a FOI.

Secondly Implementation of a BC provincial licensing program & certification program for municipal politicians. I am sure Councillor Craig is aware of the certification program for councillors and mayors which is part of the LGLA mandate. Every year at UBCM in front of all the delegates those who have

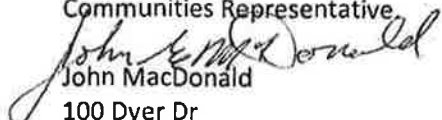
completed the certification program are presented their certificates of completion. When an individual decides to run for council the CEO gives them the nomination forms for completion which require a

mover and seconder, for the very few that have invaded our ranks and may have a criminal background or be considered a corrupt politician they are I would say usually weeded out, in a small village like Sayward everyone knows each other and at the voting poles most of the "bad apples" do not get elected. All newly elected politicians should attend, which is not mandatory but is encouraged, the newly elected seminars, but should go there with an open mind and not attend with their own agenda, they certainly should return to council with a wealth of knowledge. I have always said it takes one year at least for a councillor to "know the ropes" and that is only if he/she puts a maximum effort into reading the CC, LGA and other pertinent publications. There is a cost factor involved for newly elected councillors to attend "Newly elected seminars" that should be included in the budget, I do have a problem with education standards as put forth by Councillor Craig's resolution, there are many people in communities that are not highly educated but do have life experiences. I do remember many years ago when one of my superiors walked into my office and queried a message I was sending out, his final comment was "I am the smartest person here" my reply was, "well Sir you may have the education but you sure are not smart". Elected council's are not professional associations and should not be held to the same standards as other professional associations.

Next resolution(3), CAOs are 90% of the time hired for their qualifications: ie: an engineering background, planning, finance, HR, and most certainly previous experience as a D/CAO or CAO of a community usually like size to those who are hiring the individual. The Village of Sayward has always hired CAOs using the criteria "What can this individual do for Sayward" and of course checking thru references and past history of the candidate, we have also had to look at the financial aspects of hiring a CAO. LGMA does as Councillor Craig states offer courses for CAOs for which the municipality foots the bill, I may stand corrected, but I believe our last individual(CAO)who attended these courses had a bill of around 10K for course registration, travel and accommodation, this was paid for by the village (taxpayers). Yes I agree that CAOs should be a Statutory position under the CC and would say that is the only part of this resolution that should be supported if council chooses to support any resolution to move forward to AVICC. I have always said that our most important commodity is staff and I do believe in staff professional development, council should approve CAO professional development taking into account the need and the financial implications.

I believe Councillor Craig has best intentions for the resolutions he has submitted to council for ratification. I would suggest that council not endorse these resolutions, refer them back to staff and that Councillor Craig approach your CAO and take direction on how to form a resolution, which could then go back to council for discussion.

As an aside from these resolutions if it is Councillor Craig's ambition to be in on the policy making he should look for a nomination to put his name forward to AVICC delegate at large or UBCM as the Small Communities Representative

  
John MacDonald  
100 Dyer Dr  
Sayward