

West Vancouver, B. C.
May 30, 2009

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Mayor Goldsmith-Jones and Members of
West Vancouver Council
City Hall
West Vancouver, B. C.

Your Worship and Councillors,

Congratulations on the work that has so far been accomplished in the beautification of Ambleside. The sidewalk running to Park Royal was brilliant and has encouraged many people to walk to the shopping centre who heretofore would have been driving or taking a bus.

Sad to say, no amount of money spent on beautification will achieve the desired results if we cannot convince coffee drinkers and newspaper readers to deposit used cups and discarded newspapers into cans provided for that purpose. Slum-like conditions quickly surface if we can't control the mess these items produce. Sadly, I don't have an answer to the problem but much is at stake if we can't find a solution.

With regard to landscaping, I would like to bring to your attention the area behind North Vancouver's Klehanie Senior housing which extends from the easterly end of the walkway and ends at the soon-to-be-revitalized trestle bridge entering West Vancouver. It is my understanding that a dedicated senior devoted many summer months last year to beautify the pathway with rocks and flowers and I believe he is at it again this year with outstanding results. I believe many of his ideas would fit into any Ambleside beautification project and our area would profit tremendously by their adoption. He has a wonderful gift, no doubt about it. The Ambleside trees along Marine Drive were beautified a few years back with rocks and plants. For some reason it was ruled the rocks should be removed and the results have never come close to the original designs. I was told City Council worried old and blind people would stumble over the rocks. As someone who is old and was nearly blind a few years ago, I can vouch for the fact that the sprawling signs along storefronts are far more dangerous to the sight impaired.

Just passing along a few thoughts about Ambleside which I believe has the potential of being another (not quite but almost) Carmel-By-The-Sea attraction for tourists.

Sincerely,

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