

# Who advises this guy anyway?

The late Bill Clancey, former advisor to five premiers of B.C., was a great friend of mine and I learned much from him over the years. Our all-afternoon, Martini-fuelled lunches included an endless stream of political wisdom (and the best dirty jokes I'll never be able to tell you).

My favourite nugget? "Politics is an ugly business, nowadays, Alex ... and most Goddamned politicians never really understand that. In the old days, you could lose both a wife and girlfriend all in the same week! Not bad work if you wanna clear your dance card. But now you've got people showing up on doorsteps in the middle of the bloody night! Makes the job of advisor tough for guys like you and me. Politicians have to give the people something they can believe in."

And with that, you have to ask: "Who is giving Scott Young advice?"

The embattled Mayor of Port Coquitlam is fighting for his political life. He was arrested April 4 on criminal charges ranging from break and enter, criminal harassment to three counts of breaching a previous release order, all stemming from a soured relationship with his ex-girlfriend.

While your tots were searching for East-er eggs, Scott Young spent that entire



-file photo

**It may be time for embattled PoCo mayor Scott Young to pack his bags and resign.**

weekend behind bars. Seems His Worship's problems started earlier in the year, though, when he was charged with harassing his ex-girlfriend. He allegedly breached the conditions of that release one month later. This last series of charges was just the culmination of what is, obviously, a break-up gone very sideways.

But the personal issue isn't just what's relevant here. Mayor Young, since his latest arrest, has been missing from PoCo city hall, almost losing his mayoralty for consecutive absences from council, and has refused to answer any questions related to the series of dis-

turbing allegations – offering up, instead, the Britney Spears-type apology.

Politicians should be held to higher standards because they're there to protect our collective interests. Sure, Scott Young might not be legally required to step down as mayor but his moral compass should have lead him there some time ago.

"I apologize for my actions", says Mr. Young. "But resignation is not something I'm considering at this time."

Ex-squeeze me?

While the mayor is fondling his ethical ambiguity, I'm wondering aloud if he's watching what this is doing to his community, to the people who gave him the mandate he claims to be so honour-bound to carry?

His monumental folly in believing that he can ride this out, in light of the justifiable public outrage and unanimous council resolutions asking for his resignation, is contemptible nonsense.

Sanity may have fled Mayor Young at some point. However, upon its return, he should have seen fit to proffer something more palatable than a severe allergic reaction to this situation by becoming wedded to the galling, fictional platitude that this is only about the legal process.

At some point, Scotty, you've got to give 'em something they can believe in.

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**GUEST SHOT**