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Contests

On Your Mind

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E-edition



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Vancouver Top 20 CD's

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Horoscopes

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Rebel with a Clause



Rebel with a Clause

Return of the caravan

By ALEX G. TSAKUMIS

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There is a wooly dynamic being played out in Mr. Robertson's Silly Hall. Indeed, it makes for a non-departure from the previous administration, when Gregor Robertson tells you that, after almost a year of viral floundering, he now has a new vision that will transform Vancouver into an environmental powerhouse (while having, thus far, wrestled every possible peripheral initiative from the lunatic fringe).

I must wonder aloud just how far afield this group of social engineers and radical activists will go before they have either completely destroyed our ability to commandeer our city finances or simply admit failure by trying to sell the inherent, but ultimately false, feel-good narrative of saving your children from industrialization's nasty carbon-spewing cauldron.

At the Board of Trade yesterday, the Happy Mayor tried to do just that. He's going on a sales tour. He's going to fly to Copenhagen and talk with the hundreds of eco-fraudsters that are selling green nirvana, all while their pals are, for example, collecting billions of dollars in Swiss 'green' equity funds and doing, frankly, nothing for the environment.

His Greenness will also travel to the Excited States of America, to, presumably, kiss the hem of St. Barry's robes, for further PR and photo-ops. There will be a lunch with Al Gore and ice cream cone with Mickey and Minnie.

Recall for me when Vision objected to Sam Sullivan's useless trips to Ottawa: The mystery, intrigue, steaming press releases. The Mayor was frittering away your hard-earned tax buck.

Apparently, it's Vision's turn, but they certainly aren't going to limit themselves to a fireside chat with Stephen Harper. Sam's old snake-oil caravan, having sat idle in the parking lot at 12th and Cambie for 10 months, looks more and more appealing. They're going to fix the axle, straighten the frame and buy new tires. The only difference will be that the snake-oil will be organic.

There is nothing like an unashamed effort to spin the public into complacency when you're in trouble.

And while the mayor is off in eco-lala-land, expect to hear more faux rhetoric from city manager Dr. Ballem, whose emergent proclivity for bare-knuckled intimidation is spreading through city hall like yellow fever.

But, how the mayor burning money on a pipe-dream and the good Dr. Ballem's oratory will merge, or even meet, is beyond comprehension.

The former will waste money like a twice lubricated sailor on shore-leave, while the latter will tell you how wonderfully they're going to emerge fiscal conservatives - by "realizing efficiencies" (read: slashing and burning).



Poll

Are you concerned free speech will be a casualty during the Olympic Games?

 Yes No

SUBMIT

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Are You A Business Owner?

What happened to Vision's promise of being able to manage our ills regardless of the then looming economic brouhaha?

Where is the consistent agenda? It seems they have already bought a burial plot, after only a cursory examination - proper diagnosis be damned.

If only we could take refuge, or be exempt entirely, from being lulled by such joyful triviality. Or such monumental incompetence.

Homelessness has been lessened by co-opting provincial government policy; drug treatment isn't even on the radar; lobbying for the re-opening of Riverview is on the back-burner; converting density issues into development problems is deemed a success; destroying neighbourhoods by forcibly housing street thugs next to day cares and playgrounds; churning out defensive policy based on lies when they are caught trying to gut the Parks Board (which they will do anyway, just watch); crafting wild-eyed personal attacks against Parks Commissioner Ian Robertson, the current NPA mayoral favorite in 2011; intimidating civic employees into retirement (and one unprejudiced and useful member of the Board of Variance, thank you Penny) -- the list of glaring hypocrisy or, moreso, failures since they assumed command last year is endless.

It is a remarkable phenomenon, then, to watch Gregor now pile thick straws to the back of a camel whose knees are shattered.

Vision were to be our agents of change for the better. Remember? They don't.

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More Rebel with a Clause



Talking Tasers, HST and one hapless Mayor



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