

Saturday, October 1, 2005

Letter to The Vancouver Sun

Dear Editor,

Bravo for Pete McMartin's article (*"Festival poorly planned, badly run – October 1st*) I was one of the creditors that was devastated by the financial mess. I am owed over \$44,000 for services rendered.

I never would have taken on the contract had the event not been city endorsed. In fact one of the artists I hired asked months before the event – 'will this festival go belly up, My family was badly hurt when Celebrate BC (*a 2003 Festival*) suddenly declared bankruptcy.' I reassured him that this was backed and financed by the city so all would be well.

The fact that Pete McMartin's investigation leads him to conclude that it is City Halls fault and responsibility fuels my rage at getting ignored by our two front-runners for Mayor. I wrote them on July 15th, 2005, along with all the city councilors for their help and advice. Since Jim Green touts himself as being the 'big on culture' guy I dropped off the letter in person to his office.

The only city leaders who should the least bit of interest in the artists and me were Mayor Larry Campbell who wrote a letter and Tim Louis who personally called me. I heard from no one else and the silence or indifference from Jim Green's office was deafening.

I am disgusted that he and the rest of City Hall think that is not their responsibility to pay the creditors who were left holding the bag. Actors, singers and dancers are the most vulnerable often living from cheque to cheque, the effects of Sea Vancouver have hurt many families and the fact that Vancouver City Hall won't show leadership and compassion the way the City of Richmond is vulgar.

It is my hope that Pete McMartins' researched series will finally provoke some action.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David C. Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being the most prominent.

David C. Jones

Please find attached a picture of the Mayor enjoying one of my comedy creations, Crabby The Crab. The actor voicing him, James Rowley, the designer

George Grove as well as myself all have not been paid but at least we made the Mayor smile.



CC: Pete McMartin, Sam Sullivan, Jim Green and the 49 artists I hired on the city's behalf.