

TransLink CEO Ian Jarvis stepping down

Ian Jarvis will stay on as an advisor while collecting his full salary until contract concludes in June 2016

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TransLink's board announced at a hastily called news conference Wednesday afternoon that CEO Ian Jarvis is stepping down. (Jesse Johnston/CBC)

The TransLink Board admits its not happy about paying two salaries simultaneously for management of the top position at TransLink, but points to the move as positive confirmation that change is underway. I disagree. In fact, the move strikes at the very heart of the issue.

Ian Jarvis is being paid to stay on as an adviser during Doug Allen's period in the top seat. But Allen will only occupy the chair while TransLink's head hunters search for a replacement for Allen. Jarvis will serve out Allen's term, and then over-lap with who ever is eventually chosen to replace Allen longer-

term. Jarvis will essentially maintain his grip on both his salary and the power seat at TransLink. If not,

why does Jarvis need to stay on and advise Allen. Or are they trying to tell us that Allen and his predecessor won't listen to Jarvis, and will discard any advice he might give. If so, why keep paying Jarvis for advice were going to reject? It all sounds a little crazy to me. So is was no surprise to read that Mayor Moon-Beam himself thinks the Jarvis debacle was a good decision.

Paying 2 CEOs' salaries

Jarvis's duties will be assumed by interim CEO Doug Allen, who had run the division operating the Canada Line.

Szel admits she's not happy to be paying two CEOs' salaries. Allen will make \$35,000 a month and will also participate in the hunt for a replacement.

The whole tawdry mess reminds me of two quotes made famous by Albert Einstein. The first has to do with the gyration to which TransLink is going to keep the PST taxation plebiscite from capsizing:

It is the duty of every citizen according to his best capacities to give validity to his convictions in political affairs.

Albert Einstein, 'Treasury for the Free World,' 1946

The second is TransLink's latest attempt to full-fill the obligations as described above. In seeking to follow even more of the great mans advise they have attempted to create the impression that Jarvis has been removed from top management and therefore the issues regarding governance, wisdom and waste have all been addressed, the TransLink Board have done nothing more than catch themselves up in yet another lie, an even more poignant example of waste:

If the facts don't fit the theory, change the facts.

Albert Einstein, (attributed)

TransLink, if you want to pay someone \$400k+ a year so you can ignore their advice then I'm available, as I am sure millions of other Lower Mainland residents are as well. So I offer up as further proof of your wasteful ways that if you had really turned over a new leaf and were truly now efficient, you wouldn't pay Jarvis for what I'm giving you free of charge. That wouldn't be inefficient, it would be down-right stupid!

