

INSULT OR CONFUSION, HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE IT ?

By: Kerry Morris - June 23, 2015

Monday night, and I'm sitting on the bench located on the Eastside of the foyer, outside North Vancouver City Council chambers, immediately across from the agenda display and sign-up table.

Approximately 10 minutes before the 6:00 PM start of Monday night's council meeting, Ken Tollstam, the City of North Vancouver's CAO leaves the pre-council dinner room and walks across the foyer and into his card-access security protected office.

As he passes in front of me, I'm sitting beside Ivan Leonard and Sue Conn, I look up from my conversation, make eye contact with Ken Tollstam and say:

"...Good Evening Ken..."

Ken Tollstam replies:

"...Good Evening Frank..."

My father, Frank Morris spent nearly 40 years as a loyal hard working employee of the City. He finished his City employment as the Director of License and Permits. The closest parallel position in the City today would be Gary Penway's job. Dad hired Gary and many other City workers, past and present.

Frank past away at the age of 77, on March 26th 2005. For those of you who suffer from poor math skills, that is 10 years ago last month. That fact is not new news to Ken Tollstam. Ken was in attendance at Dad's funeral, which was presided over by then Mayor Barb Sharp.

When I hear Ken's response, addressing me as Frank, I become concerned that he had lost his bearings and that he's having a medical event of sorts, possibly even a stroke. In response I say:

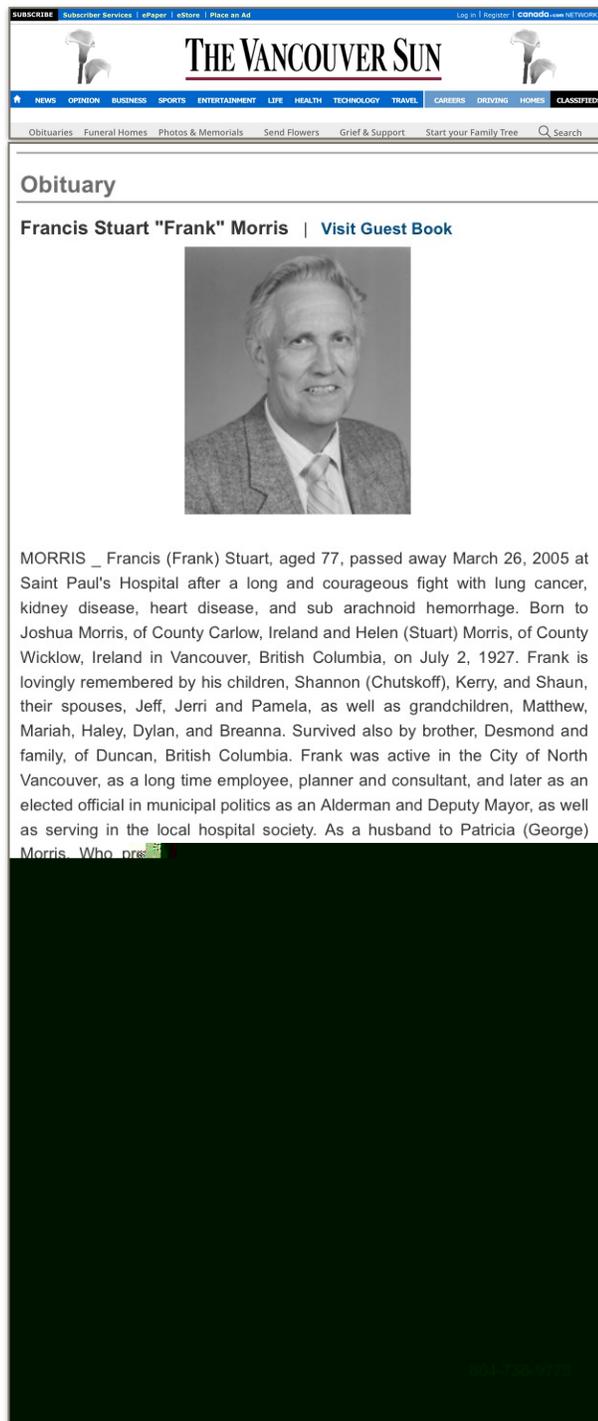
"...Ken, It's Kerry. Frank past away 10 years ago..."

To my amazement Ken Tollstam responds:

"...Yes, I know..."

Very clearly, Ken, in his own unusual way, is making reference to me as if I have all the traits he so disliked in my father. Traits like honesty, integrity, high morals, strong ethics, and a tenacity to discover, uncover and expose wrong doing, false statements, untruths, and inappropriate conduct. So I am proud for the comparison. That said, Ken Tollstam, for City Staff and Council have all demanded a higher standard of conduct from the public. They allege that council and staff have been the recipients of inappropriate 'Ruff Justice' at the hands of residents. To counteract this allegedly inappropriate conduct, the City last night brought in a new 'Council Procedures Bylaw' to limit and police the behaviour of council and residents while in Council chambers and City Hall. Thus I think it is important that those seeking heightened respect display respect in return. I therefore believe the insult which Mr. Tollstam sought to deliver should cause him personal sanctions!

If Mr. Tollstam refuses to treat people with respect, he must forfeit the right to claim entitlement !



The screenshot shows the obituary page for Francis Stuart "Frank" Morris on The Vancouver Sun website. The page includes a navigation bar with links for NEWS, OPINION, BUSINESS, SPORTS, ENTERTAINMENT, LIFE, HEALTH, TECHNOLOGY, TRAVEL, CAREERS, DRIVING, HOMES, and CLASSIFIEDS. Below the navigation bar, there are links for Obituaries, Funeral Homes, Photos & Memorials, Send Flowers, Grief & Support, and Start your Family Tree. The obituary title is "Francis Stuart 'Frank' Morris | Visit Guest Book". A portrait of Frank Morris is shown. The obituary text reads: "MORRIS _ Francis (Frank) Stuart, aged 77, passed away March 26, 2005 at Saint Paul's Hospital after a long and courageous fight with lung cancer, kidney disease, heart disease, and sub arachnoid hemorrhage. Born to Joshua Morris, of County Carlow, Ireland and Helen (Stuart) Morris, of County Wicklow, Ireland in Vancouver, British Columbia, on July 2, 1927. Frank is lovingly remembered by his children, Shannon (Chutskoff), Kerry, and Shaun, their spouses, Jeff, Jerri and Pamela, as well as grandchildren, Matthew, Mariah, Haley, Dylan, and Breanna. Survived also by brother, Desmond and family, of Duncan, British Columbia. Frank was active in the City of North Vancouver, as a long time employee, planner and consultant, and later as an elected official in municipal politics as an Alderman and Deputy Mayor, as well as serving in the local hospital society. As a husband to Patricia (George) Morris. Who presided over the funeral." The text is partially cut off at the bottom.