



How will Funcouver Work?

While it is an irrefutable fact that Vancouverites want a municipal government that will let go the leash and drop the whip when it comes to having a little fun, it is far from a certainty that they will elect such a government. It can be said that the current city council has only been doing what's expected of them, by the people who put them there, when they've acted as wet blankets for the past decade. Most of the people who voted for this council seem to be allergic to fun. But that is not true of all Vancouverites, **especially not young people**.

Historically, younger voters don't vote in municipal elections. But previous generations of young Vancouverites have never faced the stultifying cultural repression that this one has. They are restless and their voices are shouting out to be heard this time around.

You don't have to be under-35 to understand that we don't live in a thriving, cultural metropolis. Those who have had a chance to see some of the world understand that other cities are perfectly capable of putting on festivals and having a vibrant night life without devolving into prehistoric barbarism. When Vancouverites travel to truly great cities they realize what they're missing back home. And they long ago began to question why they are constantly treated like children by the people who are supposed to represent and serve them.

Restless too, are the **people involved in the hospitality and tourism industries**. Nobody knows better than they what will become of this city if Vancouver's reputation as **No Fun City** continues to spread around the world. Just as nobody wants to *live* in a beautiful but bland city, nobody wants to *visit* a beautiful but bland city.

The **Funcouver** campaign is a venture of the hospitality industry to bring together all those amongst us who are seriously dissatisfied with the brick wall lined with red tape that we confront at City Hall every time we have a good idea. We have agreed to take the quantum leap of promoting certain candidates directly to our clientele, in the expectation that the potential voting power of bar and restaurant patrons will be unleashed on November 16, thereby effecting change in the membership of council.

All the motivation that is necessary to shake things up is already in place. What could be more simple to understand than the undeniable fact that people want to have fun?

Never before has it been more possible to inspire, enflame and mobilize people. The Internet has made it possible to reach tens upon tens of thousands of people with the push of a button. And it doesn't cost much. The Funcouver campaign will collect a huge email database and keep all concerned up to speed with what the various council candidates have to say about our concerns.

www.funcouver.com

What's the process?

- Candidates for city council will receive a questionnaire, asking them a host of questions on where they stand on issues such as late night openings, festivals, street parties, and general beliefs on what the city should do to “control’ behaviour.
- Responses will be vetted by a tripartite committee of hospitality industry employees, managers, and patrons.
- A database of email addresses will be compiled from those who register online. Existing businesses’ databases will also be requested to send the list of recommended candidates to their subscribers.
- Five or six ‘fun loving’ candidates will be chosen, and these names will be publicized through advertisements, ballot cards distributed at multiple venues, and via an email campaign to the extensive database.
- Operators subscribing to the Funcouver campaign have agreed to take the quantum leap of actually suggesting to their patrons, individuals who are worthy of their support.

Realistic Expectations

We expect that we can deliver up to 5,000 votes to the supported candidates, which could make the difference on Vancouver’s City Council.

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