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PARKER CURRY

June 23/00

1145

GENTLEMEN

MY NAME IS PARKER CURRIE, RESIDENT OF NANAIMO, B.C AND A
CANADIAN CITIZEN.

I AM ADDRESSING YOU AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN AND DO NOT HAVE ANY
FINANCIAL INTERESTS OTHER THAN TAXES. I PAY ON THE SUBJECT OF SMOKING.

I WILL ALSO STATE THAT I DO SMOKE CIGARETTES.

I WILL ALSO ACCEPT THE FACT THAT SMOKING IS ADDICTIVE AND
MAY CAUSE HEALTH PROBLEMS. THIS LATTER STATEMENT HAS BEEN PROVEN
SCIENTIFICALLY BUT I HAVE YET TO SEE ANY SCIENTIFIC PROOF THAT SO
CALLED SECONDHAND SMOKE CAUSES THE SAME PROBLEMS. THERE IS NO DOUBT
THAT THERE ARE SOME "EXPERTS" WHO DISAGREE WITH THAT STATEMENT, BUT
YOU CAN FIND OTHER "EXPERTS" WHO WILL AGREE.

I WILL ACCEPT THE RIGHT OF BUSINESS, HOME OWNERS ETC. TO BAN
SMOKING OR OTHER THINGS IN THEIR PREMISES, THIS IS THEIR RIGHT AND
I WILL DEFEND THAT RIGHT.

WE HAVE GONE TO WAR SEVERAL TIMES TO DEFEND SUCH RIGHTS,
IN MOST CASES IT HAS BEEN GOVERNMENTS WHO HAVE INFRINGED ON THESE RIGHTS.
GOVERNMENTS HAVE ALWAYS CLOAKED THEIR DESIRES IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC
SAFETY OR SIMILAR TYPES OF RHETORIC.

THE PUBLIC HAS BEEN FED SUCH BULL FOR SEVERAL YEARS. IT HAS BEEN KNOWN FOR A LONG TIME THAT IF PEOPLE ARE TOLD FROM AUTHORITIES IN CHARGE THAT SUCH AND SUCH IS TRUE FOR A LONG ENOUGH PERIOD THE PEOPLE WILL ACCEPT IT EVEN IF IT IS NOT TRUE TO START WITH

WE USED TO CALL IT PROPAGANDA OR "BRAIN-WASHING". I THINK THE CURRENT PHRASE IS WHAT KIND OF "SPIN" DO WE PUT ON THIS.

THERE IS AN OLD SAYING "GOD MOVES IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS". I WILL PARAPHRASE THAT STATEMENT IN THIS WAY "GOVERNMENTS MOVE IN DEVIIOUS WAYS".

THEY KNOW THAT AN OUTRIGHT BAN ON TOBACCO WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTED AND THEY ALSO LIKE THE TAX MONEY IT BRINGS, SO WHERE DOES IT GO FROM THERE?

THE WCB LOOKS AFTER THE SAFETY OF WORKERS, SO AS CLAIMED "SECOND-HAND" SMOKE AFFECTS THEIR HEALTH WE CAN DO SOME BANNING IN THAT WAY.

GOVERNMENTS PERMIT ME TO BUY A LEGAL PRODUCT, TAX IT TO BEAT "H----" AND THEN ATTEMPT TO TELL ME WHERE I CAN SMOKE IT AND TELL BUSINESS OWNERS WHAT THEY MUST DO. WHAT RIGHT DO THEY HAVE TO DO THIS?.

OVER THE YEARS GOVERNMENTS AT ALL LEVELS HAVE REGULATED, PASSED LEGISLATION AND MADE LAWS WHICH IN MANY CASES ARE NOW SAID TO BE WRONG AND SHOULD BE CHANGED. SO WE PASS NEW LAWS AND REGULATIONS BECAUSE WE HAVE LEARNED MORE AND THEREFORE ARE SMARTER TODAY .

ITS POSSIBLE THEY ARE RIGHT AND WE ARE SMARTER AND MORE LEARNED THAN OUR FOREFATHERS, BUT IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THESE SO-CALLED "EXPERTS" ARE WRONG.

EVERY DAY IT SEEMS WHAT WAS GOOD YESTERDAY IS BAD TOMORROW AND VICE-VERSA. WHO ARE WE TO BELIEVE ANYMORE?

I UNDERSTAND YOUR PROPOSED RULING . ANY WORKER COVERED UNDER WCB CANNOT ENTER A PREMISE TO DO WORK IF THERE IS SMOKING IN THESE PREMISES.

DOES THIS MEAN MY HOUSE AND CAR?

ANECDOTICALLY I HAVE HEARD THAT SMOKING MUST CEASE TWO HOURS BEFORE THEY MAY ENTER. IF THIS IS TRUE I MUST PREDICT TWO HOURS IN ADVANCE OF A WATER PIPE BURSTING IN MY HOUSE SO THE PLUMBER MAY ENTER TO REPAIR IT. HOW REDICULOUS CAN WE GET?

I HAVE BEEN SMOKING FOR 60 YEARS, WHEN THE LEGAL AGE TO BUY TOBACCO WAS 16, AND FOR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES 21. LEGAL AGE IN B.C FOR BOTH PRODUCTS IS NOW 19. I MUST ALSO SAY THAT ADVERTISING DID NOT START ME ON EITHER AS THE LEGAL AGE IS NOW 19.

IT MAKES YOU WONDER WHY? IN TIMES OF WAR WE ARE ABLE TO SEND OUR YOUNG PEOPLE AT AGE 18 OFF TO FIGHT THE WAR, BUT THEY CANNOT SMOKE OR DRINK.

AS STATED EARLIER I AM A CANADIAN CITIZEN - FOURTH GENERATION.
WITH EVERYTHING GOING ON WITH RESPECT TO SMOKING I AM BEING
MADE TO FEEL LIKE A SECOND CLASS CITIZEN BECAUSE I SMOKE.
IF THIS IS THE INTENT YOU HAVE CERTAINLY SUCCEEDED. NO
CONGRATULATIONS FROM ME.

MANY PEOPLE HAVE TOLD ME THAT I AM WASTING MY TIME
AS YOUR MIND ISALREADY MADE UP. THIS MAY BE TRUE, BUT I
STILL HOLD OUT A GLIMMER OF HOPE AND TRUST THAT COMMONSENSE
AND JUSTICE MIGHT STILL PREVAIL.

THANK YOU FOR HEARING ME OUT.
