

It was with a great surprise and trepidation that we heard the residents associations had formed a coalition called RACK (Residence Association Coalition of Kelowna). It is always great when more citizens get involved in discussing present and future Kelowna issues, however, balance must be maintained. We may, in fact, be witnessing the birth of the ultimate local NIBMY organization. It is with this danger that the citizens of Kelowna must keep a watchful eye on this new organization.

As individual groups these associations have already shown that they are willing to fight any type of development in their respected associative areas, (we can list the individual associations and what they fought against) with the hope that the city will become stagnate, and return to the 1980's and early 90's when there was limited development in the city. So how are we to believe that they will not be fighting all major developments (and minor) in the city?

With regard to their first issue of the Simpson Covenant, MoveKelownaFoward.com is disappointed that this coalition has decided to back the Simpson Covenant, as it stands today in it's modified form, with a clear attempt to stop the development of the Lawson Landing Project.

It is obvious to anyone that has looked at the last set of public plans that Lawson Landing will provide increased parkland, increased public access to the lake with the building of larger walkway paths and a pier. Also, the economic benefit of increasing business for our local merchants due to an increase of local residence, the draw of Kelowna citizens and the always welcome and important tourist, must be realized.

With regard to RACK's role in the upcoming municipal election, they have publicly stated that they have their sights set on campaigning for the municipal election.

Several days later, the Mission Association announced that they will be using their association funds to promote and select candidates for the next municipal election that will be happening in Nov/05. They stated it was the protection of the Mission area as they feel it is growing too fast.

MoveKelownaFoward.com, feels that this one group will now try to decide the future of the city and the surrounding area, instead of giving all the citizens in Kelowna a chance to voice their opinion.