

From: [Peter W. Rusland](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: Council public-speakers" sign-in sheet
Date: Thursday, October 5, 2023 11:58:12 AM

Dear North Cowichan Mayor and Council:

We urge council to revamp its public speakers' sign-in sheet policy to make addressing council equal for everyone. Mayor Rob Douglas explained an attendee at our Oct. 4, 2023 regular board meeting apparently signed the speakers' sheet five times, as penmanship was the same for each name.

We now suggest one speaker per signature. Signed names for others must be scratched from the sheet, allowing council to hear other views, aside from folks presumably of the same opinion.

In effect, no stacking the sheet for friends, family and acquaintances. To wit: The early bird cannot get the worm.

We also urge council to allow up to 10 speakers' names, not five, on the sheet. We respect agenda time constraints, but diverse public views are crucial for councillors. Many folks take precious time to attend our council meetings.

Thanks in advance.

Yours in democracy,
Peter W. Rusland,
North Cowichan