

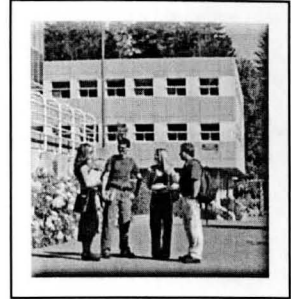
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Plainly Malaspina

Malaspina University College - A View from the Depths

Vote YES for Bigger and Better Twin Towers

A GUEST EDITORIAL FROM PROF. MALA HAT



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MUC is seeking an MFA member to be seconded to the position of Dean of somewhere between one and three Faculties. Interest in faculty evaluation and ability to take direction essential. Preference will be given to candidates who are able to convince their underlings that the governance system is one in which power is shared with all sectors of the MUC family.

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Recently returned from research leave in Tabiti, Prof. Mala Hat has graciously consented once again to adorn our pages with her mellifluous prose. (This piece has been edited for prolixity.)

I attended a recent meeting concerning the building of towers in Downtown Nanaimo, and quite frankly I can't see what all the fuss is about. I understand that some have raised ill-informed objections to putting up skyscrapers in the downtown core, in particular some self-appointed "urban design and planning specialist" who gave a presentation claiming you could actually build higher density and much more liveable housing with carefully planned low-rise development. What on earth does he know about it?! He's not even a developer!

It's about time this limping excuse for a City Council had the courage of its convictions, instead of pandering to flaccid and irrelevant processes involving consultation with the general public, most of whom, it is perfectly clear, would rather stay at home watching reruns of *Trailer Park Boys* in any case.

The new proposal for high-rise development downtown is a real winner, particularly if we also improve Nanaimo's airport, so that we can launch international flights from it, and then put the two towers up together to create a really significant landmark.

For those nay-sayers who suggest such a thing might be a monstrosity, putting the downtown core into permanent shadow and preserving the heretofore "free" view for those willing to pay \$1 million--and if you're paying that much for it, why would you want to share it with a bunch of freeloaders?--we could always decorate the buildings carefully.

Using bold, vibrant colours, like red, white, and black, we could paint a rainbow and its own reflection--with a ring of red around the outside, a ring of white in the middle, and a dashing black dot in the centre. This would both mimic the natural environment, and improve its appearance by simplifying the colour scheme. We could make Nanaimo a "target" destination for all those who seek to escape the rural sprawl that makes the rest of Vancouver Island such an eyesore.

Yours sincerely,
Prof. Mala Hat

Since receiving this editorial, PM has learned that Malaspina University College, never a slouch when entrepreneurial opportunities rear their heads, is negotiating with Twinarc Inc. of Albuquerque with a view to occupying at least part of one of the towers. 'This will give us the downtown presence we've been seeking for years,' said an MUC official sporting a YES button. 'We'll be descending the ivory tower and taking our true place among the people, where the real money is.'