

William Warren Munroe
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June 11, 2012

Peter McCully, Parksville Qualicum Beach News Publisher, Black Press
Steve Heywood, Parksville Qualicum Beach Editor, Black Press
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sent via email: editor@pqbnews.com, publisher@pqbnews.com

Regarding Parksville Qualicum Beach News article, “Ambling waves of grey”, by Steve Heywood, Parksville Qualicum Beach Editor, Black Press, June 1, 2012

To: The Publisher and the Editor, Parksville Qualicum Beach News

Corrections to Statements in “Ambling waves of grey” PQBNews, June 1, 2012.

1. Regarding the statement “[Westbroek said Munroe’s figures show more young families are moving to Qualicum Beach.](#)” These are not “Munroe’s figures”. The “figures” were from the 1996, the 2001, and the 2006 Census from Statistics Canada. Please ensure your readers are provided with the proper source. Such claims require confirmation with the person being named prior to publication. See draft script article **Should Local Parents Question Official Statistics?**”
2. Regarding the statement “[Westbroek said Munroe’s figures show more young families are moving to Qualicum Beach.](#)” Using 1996, 2001, and 2006 Census Count numbers from Statistics Canada, we can see, particularly between 2001 and 2006, that more people aged 5 to 17 and those 30 to 50, move in to the Parksville Census Agglomeration (includes Parksville, Qualicum Beach and Nanaimo G also referred to as Oceanside) than out. See www.wminfomatics/wmanalytics/articles/120108/PopSigSD.html
3. Regarding the statement, “[Declining enrolment, as a result, led to controversial discussions about the closure of Kwalikum Secondary School. At that time, Munroe had come to prominence in questioning the official numbers.](#)” My involvement was as a parent with two children enrolled in public school. I simply asked the Qualicum School District (QSD) administration staff for the historical enrolment numbers, at least since the high school had opened. Over 2 months later, I received enrolment numbers, from the QSD, from 1983 to 2010. I also asked for and received enrolment numbers from the BC Ministry of Education.
4. The enrolment numbers (from the QSD as well as numbers from the Ministry of Education....these are not Munroe’s numbers) since 1983 showed that enrolment had declined before and that the forecast “low point” was **higher** than the previous “lower point”. I was simply showing people that enrolment fluctuates. See my article at www.wminfomatics/popgeog/pgforum/qsdfriis.html.
5. Please recall in January 2011, I asked Mr. Heywood to print the chart in the PQB News showing enrolment numbers since 1983 (numbers provided by the QSD), also including the 3,800 students not shown in the chart on the front page of the October 5, 2010 edition of the PQB News. The PQBNews did not print the chart with the enrolment since 1983 when KSS opened. Mr. Heywood offered to do an interview, but would not allow me to check the article for accuracy prior to printing.

6. Indeed, the funding formula may penalize school districts that expand to accommodate growth only to close schools permanently during the decline side of the cycle. Recall the opening of the \$9.1 million expansion to the only high school in the Town of Qualicum Beach 7 years prior to the recommendation for a permanent closure. Please recall your newspaper reporter saw the presentation I gave at the town of Qualicum Beach town council meeting in April 2011, highlighting this point. The PQB News chose again not to report this important information which had added to the public debate on this issue.

7. Regarding the statement “It’s not true that the area is losing youth,” Westbroek continued, [noting that more current stats from Munroe show enrolment is recovering faster than those figures from the school district from close to two years ago](#). As mentioned, the “stats” were from 1996, 2001, and 2006 Statistics Canada Censuses.

8. Regarding the statement “It’s not true that the area is losing youth,” Westbroek continued, [noting that more current stats from Munroe show enrolment is recovering faster than those figures from the school district from close to two years ago](#). This statement is simply incorrect. It looks like you are comparing enrolment numbers with census numbers. How can the 1996, 2001, and 2006 census show that enrolment is recovering faster? This does not make sense.

9. Perhaps you are referring to the numbers from the QSD and the Ministry of Education? I did a chart that includes international students in the estimates and the forecast as these students were not included in the District Facilities Review, Qualicum School District report recommending a school closure (December 2010). May I suggest that you compare apples with apples and oranges with oranges. Again, see www.wminfomatics.com/popgeog/pgforum/qsdfri.html.

10. Regarding the statement “...[stats from Munroe show enrolment is recovering faster than those figures from the school district from close to two years ago](#). [However, the official census numbers show...](#)” Such claims can reasonably be seen to discredit the local parent, and local business person specializing Population Analysis. Such claims require confirmation with the person being named prior to publication.

11. Regarding your first reference to my name, “[Warren Munroe, a local, amateur statistician](#)”, you requested I provide you with a descriptor of one or two words (June 6, 2012), [for articles about “official numbers” you refer to as “documentation through School District 69 \(Qualicum\)”](#) please refer to me as **Warren Munroe, a local parent**.

Sincerely,



William Warren Munroe

Warren Munroe, M.A.

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cc Teunis Westbroek, Mayor Qualicum Beach