

# 'Bronco' retires after 27 years



With the Cultural Centre in the background, 'Bronco' Moncrief looks ahead to his future

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by Jodie Zuccato

Cumberland's usually feisty mayor was misty-eyed Wednesday after announcing his resignation from council after 27 years.

But though Mayor Bill (Bronco) Moncrief is retiring from politics, his heart will remain true to his community, he told *The Record*.

Moncrief admitted it isn't easy leaving after being so involved in the community for so long. "But my job was just getting a little bit stressful," he explained.

"And although I may not have always done the best job, I certainly worked hard trying to do the right thing," he confirmed, adding he always prided himself on listening to what people have to say.

"And past councils and present have done a hell of a good job ... anything we accomplished is not just something I did," he said.

Moncrief's resignation comes at a time when the Comox Valley is growing and development is the buzzword of the day.

But ever an environmentalist, and believing in the unique lifestyle Cumberland possesses, Moncrief warns "growth is not necessarily good."

During his years, Moncrief always tried to keep taxes low.

"And Cumberland's identity has always been important to me," said the mayor, whose past includes working in the logging industry at age 14 and working in Number Eight Coal Mine.

"During my time as mayor, I always wanted other people to think of Cumberland as more than just a little hole in the ground," he said. "It's a pretty good little town ... there aren't too many places left where you can walk out your back

Continued on p. 2  
See 'Hospitality'

Photo by Jodie Zuccato