

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF BURNABY

April 13, 1964.

HIS WORSHIP THE REEVE
AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Gentlemen:

REPORT OF THE AIR POLLUTION COMMITTEE

Your Committee met on March 24th and would report as follows:

A general discussion was held by the Committee on Air Pollution problems for Burnaby and consideration was given to two items of correspondence received; one from a resident outside the Municipality and another from a resident of the South Slope area; the former complaining about infiltration from the Oil Industry and the other complaining of the alleged emission of fly-ash from industries south of the South Slope area.

While your Committee is fully cognizant of the fact that Burnaby is only one area amongst many where there may be air pollution causes from different sources and that if only Burnaby takes action to introduce controls, the effectiveness will not be too great from the point of view of the actual pollution problem; however, if Burnaby does proceed with a concerted effort to introduce regulations, it will provide a much stronger leadership hand in encouraging tighter controls amongst the other municipalities and will also be much more effective in dealing with local complaints.

In considering specifically the problems of air pollution within the Burnaby community, it is recognized that some air pollution comes from industrial concerns, some from the movement of automobile traffic within the community, but one of the greatest causes is through burning of waste material in the open air, according to the Health Department.

At the present time Burnaby Fire Regulations require that no burning is permitted in the open air unless a permit is obtained from the Fire Department. The Fire Department is interested primarily in the control of burning for purposes of safety from the fire viewpoint; however, since the Health Department is more concerned in pollution problems, it is felt by your Committee that an investigation should be made into the practicability of introducing a second permit to be issued by the Health Department to control all open burning of a commercial nature and burning resulting from demolition of old buildings and land clearing.

Your Committee would recommend that such a course of action be followed from the legal aspect and from the viewpoint of the effect of such regulation on the Health Department, and latterly the Fire Department which presently controls all burning.

Your Committee has considered the pollution problem caused by the flows of traffic through a community and since Burnaby is "blessed" with five major highways, a considerable flow of other than local traffic passes through the Municipality. A good deal of this is heavy transport traffic and it is anticipated this will increase when the Freeway opens.

It has been noted that in the City of Los Angeles no heavy transport truck is permitted within the city limits unless a special device is constructed into the truck which reduces the emission of fumes and carbon into the air.

Continued --

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There are no known laws or regulations in Canada which require that manufacturers provide these devices and it is recommended that the local Members of Parliament be asked to investigate the possibility of such regulations being introduced in Canada as a further deterrent to the effect of air pollution.

Respectfully submitted,

R. E. Hicks,
Chairman,
AIR POLLUTION COMMITTEE

JHS:mw