

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS **DATE:** 2015 March 30

FROM: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

SUBJECT: 2014 OUTSTANDING CITIZEN OF THE YEAR
KUSHIRO CUP AWARD

PURPOSE: To recommend Council award the 2014 Outstanding Citizen of the Year to Ms. Elsie Dean.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Ms. Elsie Dean receive the Kushiro Cup as Burnaby's 2014 Outstanding Citizen of the Year and that the presentation take place at the City Appreciation Dinner on 2015 May 01.

REPORT

Nominations for Burnaby's 2014 Outstanding Citizen of the Year were invited through advertisements in the Burnaby NewsLeader and Burnaby NOW newspapers, the City's website, Twitter account and Facebook page and posters were displayed at Burnaby Parks and Recreation facilities and Burnaby Public Libraries.

The Executive Committee of Council, at its 'Closed' meeting held on 2015 March 19, received and reviewed nominations that were submitted by the due date of 2015 March 09.

2014 Outstanding Citizen of the Year

The Executive Committee of Council is recommending Ms. Elsie Dean as the 2014 Outstanding Citizen of the Year and recipient of the Kushiro Cup Award. Ms. Dean was selected for her dedication, passion, indomitable spirit and drive to improve the lives of Burnaby citizens.

Growing up during the depression and WWII taught Ms. Dean exactly how to be happy with very little, learning to be resourceful, the benefits of hard work and perseverance established the foundation for understanding the importance of community. These traits were learned at a young age and have been exemplified throughout her life. With her war background and knowledge of the military, she first raised awareness of humanitarian rights and the need to preserve the peace. Ms. Dean started a group promoting a dialogue on the effects of war on local communities and was instrumental in Council passing a motion to make Burnaby a nuclear free zone.

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Another of Ms. Dean's many passions has been the environment. Through her drive to increase awareness and involvement in waste reduction, keeping Burnaby free from garbage, protection of water resources, World Water Day and Burnaby Residents Opposed to Kinder Morgan Expansion (BROKE) her dedication to improve our community for future generations is clearly evident.

Ms. Dean is also a keen advocate for seniors' rights and affordable health care as demonstrated by her extensive activities in support of public health in Canada. She has selflessly and energetically devoted hours and days to these causes. She is a truly committed citizen of Burnaby and an inspiring model for younger generations to follow.

Many Burnaby and Canadian organizations have had the great fortune of Ms. Elsie Dean's volunteerism, a few of these include:

❖ PEACE

- Canadian Peace Congress – BC Peace Council – Burnaby Peace Council
- Canada-USSR Friendship Society
- End the Arms Race – Vancouver Society
- The Canadian Peace Alliance – Canada Society
- StopWar.ca – Vancouver
- Pastors for Peace – USA/Canada
- World Peace Forum 2006 – Vancouver

❖ WOMEN'S

- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
- United Nations 4th World Conference of Women – UN Platform for Action 1995
- World March of Women International
- Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women CRIAW
- Rape Relief Vancouver
- Vancouver Status of Women
- Women Elders in Action (WE*ACT)

❖ SOCIAL JUSTICE

- Action Canada Network
- Council of Canadians Board of Directors & Vancouver Chapter COC
- BC Health Coalition
- Seniors Network BC
- 411 Seniors Centre Society – Vancouver
- Network of Burnaby Seniors
- Voices of Burnaby Seniors

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❖ EDUCATION

- Relevant High School Society & Diamond Elementary – an Experimental School
- BC Teachers Union

❖ RECREATION

- Nordic Wrecks
- Cross Canada Cycle Tour Society

❖ ENVIRONMENT

- Burnaby Residents Opposing Kinder Morgan Expansion (BROKE)

In conclusion, one of Ms. Dean's many nominators summed her up by saying '*Elsie has been a fantastic contributor to our community for decades and I consider her one of our most important local leaders. Elsie is ethical, committed and has clear and strong values. She is an intelligent and creative person, whose skills and compassion have served our community well. She is a very worthy recipient of this award.*'

The Executive Committee of Council agrees that Ms. Elsie Dean is truly worthy of receiving the honour of "*Outstanding Citizen of the Year*" and is pleased to recommend this award for Council consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Sav Dhaliwal
Chair

Councillor Paul McDonell
Vice Chair

Councillor Dan Johnston
Member

Copied to: City Manager