

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL**

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: KUSHIRO CUP AWARD  
2021 OUTSTANDING CITIZEN OF THE YEAR**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. THAT this report be received for information.

**REPORT****INTRODUCTION**

Each year, the City of Burnaby presents the Kushiro Cup to its Outstanding Citizen of the Year. The Cup was presented to the City of Burnaby by its Sister City, Kushiro, Japan, in 1982.

A call for nominations for Burnaby's 2021 Outstanding Citizen of the Year award was made in January through advertisements in the Burnaby Now newspaper, the City's website, Twitter account and Facebook page, and direct emails to City employees and non-profit agencies.

The Executive Committee of Council, at its Closed meeting held on 2022 March 01, received and reviewed nominations that were submitted by community members, and recommended Mary Gates as the Kushiro Cup recipient and 2021 Outstanding Citizen of the Year.

Council, at its Closed meeting of 2022 March 07, adopted the recommendations of the Executive Committee and recommended Mary Gates as the 2021 Outstanding Citizen of the Year. This report is provided for public information.

**POLICY**

The Outstanding Citizen of the Year award honours Burnaby citizens who have made tremendous contributions to their communities, and supports the following goals of the City's Corporate Strategic Plan:

To: His Worship, the Mayor and Councillors  
From: Executive Committee of Council  
Re: 2021 Kushiro Cup Award – Outstanding Citizen  
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## Goals

- A Connected Community
  - Social connection – enhance social connections throughout Burnaby
- An Inclusive Community
  - Create a sense of community – provide opportunities that encourage and welcome all community members and create a sense of belonging
- A Healthy Community
  - Healthy life – encourages opportunities for healthy living and well-being

## 2021 OUTSTANDING CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Mary Gates has been chosen as the Kushiro Cup recipient and 2021 Outstanding Citizen of the Year for her kind approach to community building and inclusion.

Mary has been the Chair of the District 4 (Southwest) Community Policing Advisory Committee since 2013 where she leads the committee in addressing key public safety concerns. In addition, Mary is a member of Burnaby Citizens Crime Watch, a volunteer at the Southwest Community Police Office, and a Block Watch Co-Captain. But Mary's outreach extends much farther than the public safety of her community. Mary also finds time to volunteer with Girl Guides of Canada, where she has been leading and mentoring for over 30 years.

Mary's nominees note that she is a natural leader, who has made community volunteerism her lifestyle and is constantly striving to make the world a better place. To quote from Mary's nominator, *"Mary Gates is a testament to the sentiment best described by Plato many centuries ago; "This city is what it is because our citizens are what they are."*

Council agrees with Dawn Virginillo, Supervisor Crime Prevention Services, and Cynthia Helgason, Manager Community Programs and City Services, and is pleased to honour Mary Gates as the City of Burnaby's "2021 Outstanding Citizen of the Year".

Respectfully submitted,

His Worship,  
Mayor M. Hurley  
Chair

Copied to: Chief Administrative Officer Deputy CAO/CFO GM Corporate Services
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Councillor M. Hillman  
Vice Chair