

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

TO: *MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: **2024 PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENT WEEK PROGRAM**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the proposed approach for the 2024 Environment Week, as presented in Section 3.1 of the report titled “2024 Preliminary Environment Week Program,” dated February 21, 2024, be approved.

REPORT

The Environment Committee, at its meeting held on February 21, 2024 received and adopted the *attached* report seeking Council approval for the proposed approach for the 2024 Environment Week Program.

On behalf of the Environment
Committee,

Councillor J. Keithley
Chair

Councillor M. Santiago
Vice Chair

TO: ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (EC)
FROM: GENERAL MANAGER PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
SUBJECT: **2024 PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENT WEEK PROGRAM**
PURPOSE: To seek approval for the proposed approach for the 2024 Environment Week.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the proposed approach for the 2024 Environment Week as presented in Section 3.1 of the report titled “2024 Preliminary Environment Week Program,” dated February 21, 2024, be approved.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

Civic promotion of environmental awareness, stewardship and climate action aligns with the following Council-adopted plans and strategies:

- *Corporate Strategic Plan (2022);*
- *Climate Action Framework (2020);*
- *Environmental Sustainability Strategy (2016);*
- *Social Sustainability Strategy (2011);* and
- *Official Community Plan (1998).*

2.0 BACKGROUND

The 2024 Environment Week is proposed to be from Sunday, June 2 to Saturday, June 8 to coincide with Canadian Environment Week and World Environment Day on Wednesday, June 5.

The City of Burnaby’s Environment Week program aims to promote environmental awareness, stewardship and climate action through a range of environmentally themed public events and activities. It is coordinated by the City and provides an opportunity for Burnaby residents, local community groups, businesses and other government agencies to come together to recognize and celebrate our community and the environment. This report summarises the activities, events and communications that are proposed for 2024 Burnaby Environment Week to align with this goal.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

The Environment Week program is comprised of free, family-friendly activities occurring at various locations throughout the City. A second report presenting a more detailed

program for the 2024 Burnaby Environment Week will be brought to Environment Committee and Council for approval in April.

3.1 Proposed approach for the 2024 Environment Week

The following events and programs have been confirmed and are proposed to take place as part of Environment Week.

2024 Dates	Event
June 3 to June 9	Go By Bike Week
June 2 to June 8	Commuter Challenge
June 2 to June 8	Environmental awareness, stewardship and climate action digital content (promoted on City social media channels)
June 2 and June 8	Two ecosystem restoration events led by Lower Mainland Green Team, in partnership with local stewardship groups and City of Burnaby
June 2 and June 8	Two instructor-led workshops on urban streams and tree identification
June 2 and June 8	Two guided Forest Bathing sessions in Burnaby parks
June 4 and June 5	Four guided canoe trips on Deer Lake
June 2	City Hall pop-up activities at the Amazing Brentwood
June 2	Guided nature walk led by the Cariboo Heights Forest Preservation Society
June 2	First Nations Photography Tour at Deer Lake
June 8	City Hall pop-up activities at the Edmonds Park Plaza
June 8	Eco-Centre Open House

Details of all finalized events are anticipated to be presented in a future report to the Environment Committee in April. The following events are pending confirmation by community partners at this time:

- Repair Café;
- Coquitlam Search and Rescue presentations to high school classes; and,
- One guided nature walk led by the Burnaby Lake Park Association.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Led by Marketing and Communications, the Environment Week campaign launch date will be May 12, 2024 and will run until the end of Environment Week on Jun 8, 2024. This community engagement intends to inform the public of the events and encourage participation.

The Environment Week program will be promoted to the public through the City’s regular communication channels, including the City webpage at www.burnaby.ca/environmentweek, social media channels, and posters at civic facilities.

Staff will also promote Environment Week directly to partners in the environmental stewardship community, School District 41, the Burnaby Youth Sustainability Network, Burnaby's Inter-Agency Council post-secondary institutions, and others. City partners, such as the Lower Mainland Green Team, Cariboo Heights Forest Preservation Society and Burnaby Lake Park Association, will further promote their events and the larger Environment Week program to their networks.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Funding for the 2024 Environment Week program is provided from the annual operating budget of the Planning and Development Department.

Respectfully submitted,

E.W. Kozak, General Manager Planning and Development

ATTACHMENTS

None

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

This report was prepared by Hafsa Salihue, Environmental Planner, and reviewed by Mark Sloat, Senior Environmental Planner, Wendy Tse, Director Community Planning, and Lee-Ann Garnett, Deputy General Manager Planning and Development.