

**BURNABY  
HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT**



**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
1969**

**Metropolitan  
Health Services**

MANAGER'S REPORT

HEG No. 4

## A N N U A L R E P O R T

1969

### B U R N A B Y H E A L T H D E P A R T M E N T

I have the pleasure of submitting the Annual Report of the Burnaby Health Department for the year 1969.

#### MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM

##### Prenatal Classes

Prenatal classes held in St. Francis de Sales and Vancouver Heights Church halls are conducted regularly throughout the year. This service is in great demand. Five regular classes and one class for unmarried mothers are held each week. The public health nurses visited the general practitioners to discuss this prenatal service and to promote a closer liaison with them. The doctors appeared to have a very positive feeling toward the program and its benefits to their patients.

##### Home Visiting

The mothers of all new-born infants are visited by the district Public Health Nurse. The purpose of the visit or visits is for health supervision of both mother and infant, support, and to advise the mothers of the services available to her: V.O.N., child health centres, family planning, current literature and out-patient clinic. The majority of these mothers continue to attend a family physician and in addition attend one of the fifteen child health centres in the community for education and preventive services.

##### Child Health Centres

There are fifteen child health centres in the Municipality. Seven hold monthly sessions and eight twice monthly sessions. The clinics are strategically located in church halls, schools, and community centres so that all mothers have easy access to their services.

Health supervision of mother and child and education are stressed by both doctor and nurses in the centres. Examinations of infants and preschool children were conducted by the doctors at the centres as well as consultations regarding concerns of the mother. Many children were referred to the family physician for active treatment.

Over 95% of the parents attending, take advantage of the immunization program offered to their young children at all child health centres for polio, whooping cough, diphtheria, tetanus and smallpox.

Measles vaccine was offered to all preschool age children, this programme commenced August 1.

Many volunteers from the district assist with the weighing, filing, recording and making new appointments in the child health centres. There are approximately 75 ladies giving their time, thereby, greatly contributing to the smooth running of the fifteen centres.

Young children from four weeks to six years (school starting age) attend the centres with their parents on an appointment basis.

Preschool Program in Kindergartens, Nursery Schools, Group Day Care

There are 29 child care facilities throughout the Municipality. There is also one kindergarten for retarded children. The Public Health Nurse is available at any time for consultation regarding communicable diseases and other health problems and makes regular monthly visits to them.

All children receive an annual eye examination by the nurse and a dental check by the school dentist and are screened for other emotional and physical defects.

Children needing immunizations are referred to the nearby child health centre.

The nurses visit the homes of the children when this is indicated and also speak to parent groups in the evening when requested.

Health records are forwarded to the schools as a basis for the future school record and the physical examination of school beginners.

SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM

The school population in January 1969 was 29,262. Kindergartens were established in the school system for the first time with 1,985 five year olds registered.

There are a total of 50 public schools, 11 non board schools and 1 school for retarded children in Burnaby.

There is a very comprehensive health service for all school children with many screening programs to detect defective vision, hearing, dental caries and other physical and emotional difficulties as well as an immunization program.

Complete physical examinations were carried out by the Doctors on all Grade 1 children, some new pupils to the schools and referrals by the Public Health Nurses. Home visits were made by the nurses to follow-up defects located by these workers and to ensure adequate treatment for them.

Speech Therapist

Almost 200 new cases have been assessed this year. 54 children are treated regularly, and the waiting-list stands at 99. The work schedule remains basically the same as last year. As the School Board employed more resource teachers this year, it has been possible in a number of cases to set up regular speech and phonics help at school.

Eye Clinic

The eye clinic performs a very valuable service in Burnaby. Children of families unable to afford examination and refraction are referred here by the nurses. The ophthalmologist also acts as consultant to the personnel in questionable situations and emergency care following accidents.

The eye specialist attends twice a month to examine children referred at any age from infancy to grade 12 whose parents are financially eligible.

Dental Service

Prevention as well as treatment of dental disease plays an important role in any dental program. The initial appointment therefore offers the opportunity to go over the child's dental situation with the parent, show them the damage that has occurred and why it is so important to repair that damage. The parent is then

informed of the role they can play in the control of dental disease with an effective diet and oral hygiene program.

#### MENTAL HEALTH

We were fortunate to have Dr. Euntou's psychiatric assistance from January to June 1969 during Dr. Gundry's illness.

The agreement we had last year with the Burnaby Team of the Mental Health Centre to see children up to grade 3, while they saw those of grade 4 and up, has been discontinued - as this dichotomy of service didn't prove satisfactory.

Referrals for assessment have been more direct from the person(s) concerned with a mental health problem since last October; and the School Medical Officer and principals are now more active in the referral process.

Otherwise the main focus of our Mental Health Program continues to be the early recognition and assessment of mental problems, consultation to school and other community personnel, and, if necessary, referral for more specialized assessment or treatment. In practice too, our work has over the last year, been with the younger age group - in the 5 to 6 year range.

#### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROGRAM

##### Immunization Program

The Health Department conducts immunization programs for the many diseases that can now be prevented by this method.

An intensive immunization program commences as early as three months in the child health centre and continues through the infant and preschool years. Reinforcing doses follow at regular intervals upon completion of the series. These are also offered in the school program in grades 1 - 5 - 10. The immunization program at these periods in life is geared for protection against Smallpox, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Poliomyelitis and Measles. There is a high rate of protection in Burnaby because of the continuity of the program.

Two immunization clinics are conducted every week in the Health Department. These clinics offer a wide variety of immunizations to adults travelling to foreign lands, for students entering schools of nursing and allied fields and to adults wishing to keep their immunization protection up dated. Protection against Smallpox, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Typhoid, Paratyphoid, Cholera and Typhus are administered at these clinics free of charge to any individual requesting it.

##### Incidence of Communicable Disease

There were 253 measles, 246 chickenpox, 173 mumps, 61 infectious hepatitis, 30 salmonella, and 28 scabies.

There were 67 new cases of tuberculosis discovered in Burnaby this year as compared to 22 in 1968.

The demand from the Public for chest x-rays in the survey chest x-ray unit operating in the Health Department offices is steadily increasing. Skin tests are given through the office P.P.D. clinic and known contacts are referred to this clinic.

Clinics are held twice weekly in the office for the administration of streptomycin for those patients for whom it is ordered by the Willow and New Westminster clinics.

The public health nurses visit the tuberculosis cases at home when this is indicated and supervise the care of patients and contacts as directed by the two chest clinics. The public health nurses distribute or administer all antimicrobial drugs prescribed for the T.B. out patients.

The two x-ray clinics at Burnaby General Hospital and at Oakalla continue to operate and play an important role in case finding.

#### Rheumatic Fever Prophylaxis Program

The rheumatic fever prophylaxis program in which penicillin is distributed to all children for whom it has been prescribed by the family physician continues. This preventive program protects the rheumatic fever patient from future heart complications and is another forward step in preventive medicine.

#### DIVISION OF SANITATION - FOOD AND FOOD INSPECTIONS

Regular inspections of all eating and drinking establishments were made, i.e. - restaurants, coffee shops, cafes, caterer's premises, beer parlours, clubs, cocktail lounges, and all other eating and drinking establishments where food and drink is cooked, prepared, or served, as well as kitchens or other places in which food or drink is prepared for sale or consumption elsewhere. Twenty-one food premises were either temporarily or permanently closed due to non-compliance with health regulations.

#### QUARANTINE DUTY

The case histories and quarantine, if any, of patients or contacts of communicable diseases were compiled and information issued to persons affected, or in some cases, their employer. Follow-ups on stool samples are continued until such time as a negative reaction is obtained from two consecutive stool samples.

70 quarantine notices were issued and

71 stool specimens were submitted to the Provincial Laboratories and reported upon.

#### WATER SAMPLING

Swimming Pools - The B.C. Government Regulations governing Swimming Pools passed by the Government in 1967 was completely enforced during 1969. A full and comprehensive routine inspection and testing programme was organized and is being maintained. The plans of all new pools now being constructed must be approved by the Medical Health Officer before construction commences. Operators' permits are issued annually when regulations are fully complied with. Regular routine bacteriological testing of all pools is performed.

Deer Lake - Regular routine bacteriological sampling of this lake and tributary creeks was carried out during the summer period. During 1969, the bacteriological results showed a very marked improvement with all results well within the standards set down by the provincial Government.

Still Creek & Brunette Dam - These are sampled on a regular routine basis as controls on pollution emanating from all sources.

Samples Taken

259 Swimming pool samples  
172 Municipal water samples  
80 Deer Lake water samples  
15 Brunette River water samples  
15 Still Creek water samples  
30 Barnet Beach water samples

571 Total Samples

ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION

Air and Water Pollution

Considerable progress has been made in this area. Regulations banning "backyard burning" were brought into force. Inspections and corrective action pertinent to air pollution and water pollution continues.

Survey of Sub-divisions

This Division continues to report on sub-divisions situated within septic tank areas. A total of 160 sub-division applications were processed by this Division during 1969.

Houses and Unsightly Premises

Routine inspections were carried out on all types of housing within the municipality. Special attention was given to premises in contravention of the Burnaby Unsightly Premises By-Law. Seventy-eight written notices were sent to owners or tenants of premises requesting that they bring their premises into compliance with the By-Law only one of which was necessary to take legal action.

Septic Tank and Sewage Control

The problem of septic tank nuisances within the municipality has decreased due to the installation of sewers. During 1969 a total of 63 notices were sent to owners of premises having faulty septic tank systems, requesting them to abate the nuisance and/or to connect their premises to available sanitary sewer.

Rodent Control

The rodent control programme, a baiting service on private residences, as well as public buildings, Municipal and Parks Board properties, Provincial and Municipal institutions, and the Municipal Dump is continuous.

Baiting

648 complaints re rodents were received  
700 initial inspections  
650 re-checks were carried out

Vermin

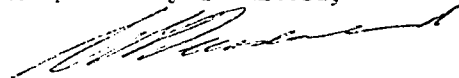
The mosquito control programme was carried out between the months of May and September 1969.

CLOSING REMARKS

I would like to express my thanks to each and every member of the staff for their loyal cooperation during the past year. The Health Department continues to maintain a close liaison with the Burnaby Department of Social Service and the Victorian Order of Nurses.

In conclusion, I should like to express my appreciation for the interest and support given to the Department by the Mayor, the Aldermen, Officials and staff of the Municipality of Burnaby, and also the Trustees and Officials of the School Board.

Respectfully submitted,



W.F. Sunderland, M.D., D.P.M., D.Obst., R.C.C.C.  
MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER

VITAL STATISTICS

Population of Burnaby (estimated as of June 30, 1969) . . . . .	123,100
Population (Preliminary Dominion Census - June 30, 1966) . . . . .	111,093
Number of School Children (as of January 1969) . . . . .	29,262
Number of School Children (as of December 1969) . . . . .	31,351
Number of Schools in Burnaby (including annexes) . . . . .	62
Area Square Miles . . . . .	38.1

Births . . . . .	1,995	Rate per 1000 pop. . . . .	16.2
Deaths . . . . .	391	Rate per 1000 pop. . . . .	7.2
Infant Deaths . . . . .	27	Rate per 1000 births . . . . .	13.5
Still Births . . . . .	26	Rate per 1000 births . . . . .	13.0
Neonatal Deaths (within 1st month) . . . . .	19	Rate per 1000 births . . . . .	9.5

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH	1967		1968		1969	
	No.	% of total deaths	No.	% of total deaths	No.	% of total deaths
Diseases of the heart and blood vessels	323	39.6	307	36.8	340	38.2
Cancer and other Malignant Growths	149	18.3	160	19.2	177	19.9
Cerebral Haemorrhage and Accidents (Strokes)	102	12.5	108	12.9	96	10.3
Accidents	53	7.1	45	5.4	44	4.9
Pneumonia	29	3.5	37	4.4	44	4.9



VITAL STATISTICS

INFANT DEATHS

	1967		1968		1969	
	No.	Rate Per 1000 live births	No.	Rate Per 1000 live births	No.	Rate Per 1000 live births
Stillbirths	20	11.7	20	11.4	26	13.0
Neonatal Deaths (Died in 1st month)	19	11.1	20	11.4	19	9.5
Infant Mortality (Died in 1st year of life)	26	15.2	31	17.7	27	13.5

TOTAL DEATHS BY AGE GROUP

0 - 29	63	78	62
30 - 49	68	58	69
50 and over	<u>685</u>	<u>699</u>	<u>760</u>
	<u>816</u>	<u>835</u>	<u>891</u>

ACCIDENT DEATHS BY AGE GROUP

0 - 29	26	25	13
30 - 49	10	8	15
50 and over	<u>22</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>16</u>
	<u>58</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>44</u>

CANCER DEATHS BY AGE GROUP

0 - 29	3	6	5
30 - 49	20	23	16
50 and over	<u>126</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>156</u>
	<u>149</u>	<u>160</u>	<u>177</u>

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

	<u>Board</u>	<u>Non Board</u>
No. of Schools supervised as of December 1969	50	12
School Enrolment	29366	1985
No. of Visits to schools by P.H.N.	8021	678
No. of Visits to schools by M.H.O.	516	61

CHILD HEALTH SERVICE

No. of Child Health Centres		15
No. of Child Health Centre Sessions		259
Total Attendance at Centres -		
Under 28 days	<u>New</u>	<u>Revisit</u>
28 days to 1 year	25	3
1 year - 4 years	912	3303
5 years - 19 years	301	3628
	125	1359
No. of Visits to Child Health Centres - by P.H.N.		1324
- by R.N.		164
No. of Visits to Unit Clinics - by P.H.N.		25
- by R.N.		187
No. of Volunteer hours donated		1098½
No. of Visits - Maternal Health - ante-partum		109
- post-partum		70
Health Promotion		6345
Disease Control - Tuberculosis		407
- Other Communicable Disease		70
- Mental Illness		85
- Other Non Communicable Disease		293
Home Assessment		123
Visits by Age - Under 28 days		1439
28 days to 1 year		588
1 - 4 years		562
4 - 19 years		3524
20 - 59 years		1148
60 years and over		222
	TOTAL	<u>7432</u>

TUBERCULOSIS NURSING

As of December 1969 - No. Pulmonary Cases Under Supervision	48
No. Non Pulmonary Cases Under Supervision	11
No. Patients on oral drugs	44
No. Patients receiving Streptomycin	0
No. Streptomycin injections given	244
No. Tuberculosis Visits	407
No. Survey X-rays taken	2230

CLASSES FOR IMPROVING PARENTS

No. Sessions held	236	Attendance - New - Female	479
		- Male	167
No. P.H.N.'s visits to classes	281	- Revisit - Female	2020
		- Male	516

IMMUNIZATIONS AND TESTS GIVEN

	<u>Under 1 yr.</u>	<u>1-4 yrs.</u>	<u>5-19 yrs</u>	<u>20-59 yrs.</u>	<u>60 &amp; Over</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Smallpox	235	244	6146	859	135	7619
Polio	1424	1556	5630	69	2	8681
Completed Series D.T. and D.P.T.	532	97	140	-	-	819
Other Immunization	1563	1214	4959	552	28	8316
Measles	1	409	62	-	-	472
P.P.D. (T.R. Skin Test)	2	14	76	39	-	131
Other Tests	-	5	10	31	3	49

ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION

No. Inspections	6247
No. Complaints	1967
No. Water Samples	615
No. Samples for Communicable Disease	71

FOOD AND FOOD CONTROL

No. Inspections	1969
No. Complaints	26
No. Dairy Samples Taken	33

MENTAL HEALTH

Psychologist - No. Evaluations	152
No. Cases	132
No. Conferences	12
No. Consultations	224
No. Treatment Sessions	33
No. Discussions	19

AUDIOLOGIST

No. Routine Screening Tests (Gr. 1 & 6)	5950
No. Referral Screening Tests	740
No. Failing Tests Referred to S.H.O.	157
No. Failing Tests	287
No. Audiograms	257

SPEECH THERAPIST REPORT (May-Dec. 1969)

Attendance - for Assessment - New	109	No. Therapy Sessions - Individual	673
Revisit	102	Group	279
- for Therapy - New	64	No. Referrals - to Private Physicians	3
Revisit	424	to Others	14
No. Consultations	43		

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

1968 - 1969

	JAN.		FEB.		MAR.		APR.		MAY		JUNE		JULY		AUG.		SEPT.		OCT.		NOV.		DEC.		TOTALS	TOTALS	
	68	69	68	69	68	69	68	69	68	69	68	69	68	69	68	69	68	69	68	69	68	69	68	69	1968	1969	
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	3	2	
Chickenpox	35	31	113	4	46	27	36	28	12	9	13	18	2	1	-	2	-	-	9	15	16	44	19	67	301	246	
Measles	3	3	17	-	17	4	3	5	1	1	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	4	69	-	155	47	253	
Scarlet Fever	2	2	14	-	5	2	3	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	2	1	1	29	11	
Rubella	-	1	11	2	13	1	7	2	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	2	3	44	10	
Impetigo	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	7	2	2	-	7	4	20
Mumps	31	9	54	5	33	1	12	4	9	2	22	9	1	-	-	-	-	8	7	20	5	32	3	33	177	173	
Ringworm	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	4	6	-	1	6	9	
Conjunctivitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	10	
Scabies	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	26	-	-	9	28	
Pediculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9	
Polio	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Salmonella	1	-	1	2	1	1	-	1	1	2	1	5	1	6	3	2	5	8	2	3	2	-	2	-	20	30	
Meningitis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Inf. Hepatitis	-	4	-	6	1	3	-	2	7	10	7	9	-	3	3	4	5	3	10	8	4	4	15	-	52	61	
Tuberculosis (Newly Diagnosed)	-	2	2	8	2	11	-	7	5	7	-	6	3	6	-	1	5	7	-	4	3	3	2	5	22	67	
1968	74		215		123		61		44		47		7		6		20		32		45		44		718		
TOTALS: 1969		53		27		55		58		35		69		16		9		31		65		190		322		930	

25