

10. Re: Camping in Central Park

Council on July 31, 1972, was informed that the R.C.M.P. was not enforcing a regulation that prohibits overnight camping in Central Park. The Officer in Charge, Burnaby Detachment, R.C.M.P., investigated the matter and advises as follows:

"A search of our records indicates that this became somewhat of a problem in 1969, at which time we took steps to eliminate it and no further complaints can be found.

The procedure of late has been for our patrols in the Central Park area to check camper-type vehicles where it is obvious they intend staying overnight and advise them to move on as this is not permitted. I am not aware of any instances where this request was not complied with. If such vehicles are not seen until late at night and the family occupants are sleeping, then our members use discretion and do not normally disturb them in view of the lack of suitable alternate accommodation.

Camping in the strict sense of the word (with a tent), has not been noted.

As this has apparently now become a problem, we will step up our patrols in the area and I would recommend this move be facilitated by the posting of suitable signs advising the public that overnight camping is prohibited."

The Parks and Recreation Administrator advises that his Department is presently installing appropriate signs in Central Park.

The corrective steps that are being implemented by the R.C.M.P. and the Parks and Recreation Department should eliminate the camping problem. If they do not, the closing of Central Park parking areas during evening hours may have to be considered as an alternative course of action.

This is for the information of Council.

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