

ITEM 13

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 29

COUNCIL MEETING Apr. 16/73

13. Re: Letter dated March 26, 1973, from Mr. Frank H. Russell,
1555 Robson Street, Vancouver
Suggestions Regarding the Use of Architects

Appearing on the Agenda for the April 16, 1973 meeting of Council is a letter from Mr. Frank H. Russell, President of the Architectural Institute of British Columbia, regarding ways in which architects can assist in improving the quality of buildings in the Municipality. Following is a reply from the Chief Building Inspector.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT a copy of this report be sent to Mr. Frank H. Russell.

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13 April, 1973

Mr. M. J. Shelley
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

Dear Sir:

Subject: Architectural Institute of British Columbia

For the information of Council, the following comment is offered on the contents of the letter of March 26, 1973, by Mr. Frank H. Russell, President of the Architectural Institute of British Columbia.

"The letter of the President of the Institute has been sent out to the Mayors and Councils of all cities and municipalities having a population greater than 1500 persons to indicate the growing concern among members of the Architectural Institute of British Columbia for the number of breaches of the Architectural Professional Act committed in the Province with the erection of buildings and resulting in a lowered quality of buildings. The Architectural Institute recognizes its responsibilities under the Act and is implementing measures to correct or improve the situation, including a program aimed at making the public more aware of circumstances constituting breach of the Act. In this regard the Architectural Institute is seeking assistance of those Departments of Municipal Government which most frequently come in contact with members of the public engaged in building activity.

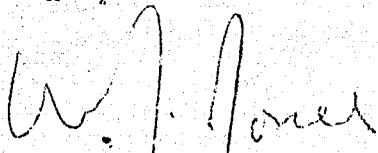
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Ever since 1955, when the Architectural Professional Act was amended to remove a direct responsibility on any Municipal Council or official empowered by any Municipal Council respecting certain enforcement of the Act and placing that responsibility on the Architectural Institute of British Columbia, the Building Department of the Corporation of Burnaby has nevertheless exercised a prerogative to advise the public on occasions when plans for building presented for examination have shown a breach of the Act could follow were the building erected. The general situation of which the Council of the Architectural Institute of British Columbia is alarmed varies with type of community and with degree of building activity. Under the authority and legislation available within our local Planning and Building By-laws and the Architectural Professional Act, the Corporation of Burnaby has steadily been improving the quality of buildings and land development within the Municipality. However, the rate of improvement might be increased by broader powers available to the Municipality enabling it to establish an Architectural Design Panel to act as an advisory body to Municipal Council and staff on the quality of buildings and developments.

Since the recommendation of the Mayor in his Inaugural Address on the establishment of a Design Panel has been adopted by Council, and since cooperation of Planning and Building Departments of the Corporation of Burnaby has always been forthcoming to the Architectural Institute of British Columbia respecting quality of buildings, it is recommended the Architectural Institute of British Columbia be so informed and be assured of the continuation of that cooperation in the endeavor of the Institute toward better buildings."

Respectfully submitted,



M. J. Jones
CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR

MJJ:cmg

c.c. () Planning Department