

ITEM 29

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 47

COUNCIL MEETING June 25/73

29. Re: Youth Social Problems
(Item 13, Manager's Report No. 19, March 12, 1973)
(Item 22, Manager's Report No. 27, April 9, 1973)
(Item 4, Manager's Report No. 33, April 30, 1973)

Council, at its meeting of April 30, 1973, received a report from the Manager which included an interim report dated April 19, 1973, from the Social Services Administrator with respect to the following recommendations adopted by the Parks and Recreation Commission at its meeting of March 7, 1973, and referenced with the Manager's Report of March 12, 1973 to Council:

"THAT the Commission advise Municipal Council that it feels there is a need in our community for a specialized service to deal with the problems of youth, and that this service should be available to all areas of Burnaby, with an adequate staff of trained personnel;

THAT the Council give consideration to the establishment of such a service provided through one of the Municipal Departments or Agencies."

Council will also recall that, at its meeting of April 9, 1973, when the matter of leasing Municipal Property to the Boys' Club was considered, Council requested advice as to whether the social problems of youth in the Municipality could be better served by some form of mobile facility rather than a fixed establishment.

Attached is the report dated June 21, 1973, of the Social Services Administrator in response to Council's direction and it should be considered as being preliminary only as we must establish some form of formal organizational structure if it is to be eligible for financial assistance.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT recommendations as contained within the report dated June 21, 1973 of the Social Services Administrator be adopted in principle; and

THAT the Social Services Administrator be asked to develop the formal organizational structure involved; and

THAT a copy of this report item be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Re: Youth Social Problems

In an interim report, which was included in the Manager's Report No. 33 dated April 30, 1973, it was indicated that a meeting would be called and a further report would be forwarded for consideration.

Meetings were held with the following organizations: Burnaby Detachment R.C.M.P., Burnaby Parks and Recreation Department, Burnaby School Officer, Burnaby Division of the United Community Services and Burnaby Probation Service, as well as the Child Welfare Supervisor of the Social Service Department.

The meetings commenced with a background of the material leading up to the meeting and a review of the four possible recommendations for the solution of the problems. The recommendations reviewed were:

1. Buying the services of detached workers from the Boys Club.
2. Staff with the social planning committee of the United Community Services.
3. A division of the Burnaby Social Service Department.
4. A division or commission administered by a Board or Commission consisting of representatives of the various organizations listed above.

Those present felt that the latter recommendation would be the most acceptable in that the problems of youth in the community are not directly centered in any one of the divisions above but are a joint problem and solutions should be shared by the independent Board. The Board should consist of representatives from the above organizations and added to it should be representatives from Burnaby Health Department, Provincial Mental Health, Burnaby Planning Department, and the Burnaby School Board. During the meeting a number of deficiencies were noted, namely the lack of remand facilities and lack of an assessment home where individual problems might be more readily identified. It was felt that the group that created the greatest problem would be those who are in the Grade 7 and 8 category. It was therefore felt that identification of possible problems might come from school personnel who are treating children in the younger age group as a preventative method as well as with the grades 7 and 8 in a more curative method. It was believed that the referrals would come primarily from the school counsellors. The Probation Officer advised the group that there are approximately 100 juveniles on Probation at any one time in Burnaby.

Should a Board or Commission be set up it was felt that the required staff to operate the program would entail a working supervisor and two social workers who have been trained in social group work sequences. It would also require a clerk-steno for this division. These staff members would be required to work the normal number of hours but on a flexible hourly system so that they would be more readily available when children are out of school. It was felt also that this Commission

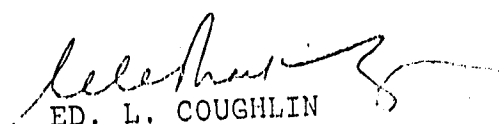
would attempt to secure the permission of the School Board to use their facilities both for office space and programs. In the light of the present staff salaries, mileage allowances, fringe benefits, space and rentals, an estimate of the actual cost to operate the program would be approximately \$45,000. It is believed that recovery under the Canada Assistance Plan would be 50% of salaries, transportation and fringe benefits, with a resulting cost to Burnaby of \$22,500.

In addition it would be advisable to present this program to the provincial Department of Human Resources and ask for their participation of an additional 25% of the cost.

It is proposed that administration of this program be in a fixed facility and that all program would be in a mobile facility, that is use of schools, parks, etc. or wherever a problem seems to present itself.

Recommendations:

1. That approval be granted to install a program and service to deal with the social problems of youth.
2. That an administrative body be created with staff representation from the following organizations:
 - (a) R.C.M.P. - Burnaby Detachment (Youth Division)
 - (b) Burnaby Parks and Recreation Department
 - (c) Burnaby School Board
 - (d) Burnaby Division of United Community Services
 - (e) Provincial Probation Service - Burnaby
 - (f) Burnaby Social Service Department
 - (g) Burnaby Health Department
 - (h) Provincial Mental Health (Children's Clinic)
 - (i) Burnaby Planning Department
3. That an operating division consisting of one working supervisor, two social workers and one Clerk-steno be created with direct accountability to the above-noted administrative body. The day-to-day administration would be provided by the working supervisor.
4. That the Burnaby School Board be requested to provide accommodation for operating staff.
5. That the Provincial Department of Human Resources be advised of the proposed program and requested to consider contributing 25% as its share of the cost of the program, as well as Federal sharing under provisions of the Canada Assistance Plan in the order of 50% of program costs.
6. That a copy of this report be provided to each of the above-noted organizations with representation on the proposed administrative body.


ED. L. COUGHLIN
ADMINISTRATOR

CCM/gp
21.6.73