

ITEM 5
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 25
COUNCIL MEETING April 1/74

Re: Greater Vancouver Library Federation

Following is a report from the Chief Librarian regarding the Greater Vancouver Library Federation.

This is for the information of Council.

* * * * *

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

27 March 1974

FROM: CHIEF LIBRARIAN

RE: GREATER VANCOUVER LIBRARY FEDERATION

For a number of years Burnaby Public Library Board has been prominent in the Lower Mainland in encouraging the co-operative development of library services. The Board feels that citizens can best be served by working closely with other libraries.

This has been done informally in the past: Burnaby citizens, for example, have been able to make free use of New Westminster Public Library for the last couple of years.

The Greater Vancouver Library Council, the purpose of which is to promote co-operative library development and whose membership includes Burnaby Public Library, has now produced a formal Plan of Service that will enable participating libraries within the area to develop library services co-operatively by such means as establishing comprehensive inter-library loan services, permitting readers free access to participating libraries, and allowing more specialised development of collections of books and other materials for the benefit of all.

This Plan of Service will be carried out under the aegis of a formally constituted Greater Vancouver Library Federation, the basic function of which is to permit the development of library services of a type, scope and magnitude which individual libraries would find impossible to attain. Such a federated library system permits library boards to retain autonomous control of their individual libraries while, at the same time, achieving a high degree of formal co-operation.

The Greater Vancouver Library Council intends to present this Plan of Service to the Provincial Government in April to determine the level of financial support that might be provided.

This brief progress report is presented now to Council by the Burnaby Public Library Board since the Board wishes to inform the Greater Vancouver Library Council of its support for the Plan of Service and this statement must be in the hands of the organisation by 11 April 1974.

This report is for the information of Council and will be followed by additional reports since Council's approval will be eventually sought when the Provincial Government has responded to the Plan of Service as presented by the Greater Vancouver Library Council.


CHIEF LIBRARIAN

BLB:mk