

ITEM 3

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 86

COUNCIL MEETING Dec. 30/74

Re: Tree Planting Programmes in Burnaby

During the November 12, 1974 Council meeting, Alderman Lewarne requested that we investigate the possibility of the B.C. Forest Service providing trees for planting by Burnaby.

In checking with the Parks and Recreation Department we are advised that that Department has been obtaining one year and two year old cedar, hemlock and fir tree seedlings from the B.C. Forest Service (Green Timbers Division) for approximately the past fifteen years. These seedlings have been lined out in such growing-on areas as have been available to the Department from time to time. When the trees have reached a suitable size, they have been used in our Park Planting Programme. It should be noted that the B.C. Forest Service has provided seedlings only and they require nurturing until they have matured to a size suitable for planting.

A major problem with this programme is the lack of suitable space for growing the seedlings on; and at this time, we would only be able to take part in a reduced programme because of lack of suitable space. Such a programme could only be directed at specific Park plantings and could not possibly support a major programme of green belt and screen plantings, however the species provided are native to British Columbia and as such would be suitable for planting in areas which would benefit from natural landscape screens. Examples of their application could involve beautification programmes along major highways and other heavily travelled traffic routes, the screening of an incompatible land use such as an industrial use from adjacent residential areas and public open space such as parkland, golf courses, etc.

Burnaby could well use a long term comprehensive tree planting programme, but in order to accomplish such a programme, it would be necessary for us to obtain the use of between fifty and one hundred acres of land. The Parks and Recreation Administrator advises that he is now examining this very question and he will be reviewing the matter further in 1975. Now that Mr. Gaunt is becoming more settled in his work, this is one of the items that he wishes to pursue, but it must be fitted into his priorities.

In summary then, Burnaby for the last fifteen years has been obtaining one year and two year old cedar, hemlock and fir tree seedlings from the B.C. Forest Service (Green Timbers Division). Whether or not we can take a greater advantage of the programme will depend upon our success in obtaining the use of fifty to one hundred acres of land for nurturing these seedlings. This matter is in hand by the Parks and Recreation Administrator.

This is for the information of Council.