

12. Re: Letters dated January 23 and 25, 1974 from Mrs. Hannah Noble,
94 North Ellesmere Avenue, Burnaby, B. C.
Youth Harassment

Appearing on the Agenda for the February 4, 1974 meeting of Council are letters from Mrs. Hannah Noble regarding harassment by young people at the Kensington Plaza Shopping Centre.

The Superintendent, Officer in Charge, Burnaby Detachment of the R.C.M.P. has reviewed the complaint and advises as follows:

"Our members have been aware for some time of complaints regarding thefts from autos, wilful damage and harassment to businesses and customers' property at the Kensington Shopping Centre.

Burnaby North and Kensington Junior Secondary Schools are located nearby, and some of the less responsible students loiter around the shopping centre during noon hours making a nuisance of themselves.

To date the victims have been unable or unwilling to identify any of the culprits, and regular patrols in the area by our members have not remedied the situation. Our members have also tried to reason with the young people without much success.

Mrs. Noble and many of the Kensington Shopping Centre merchants favour a bylaw to prohibit the students from loitering around their premises; however, that could adversely effect the larger number of law abiding students in order to deal with real trouble makers.

Our members in that Zone are aware of the problem and will be continuing their patrols during the noon hour. In addition, our Youth Detail will be alerted to the situation and they too will be dealing with the situation."

Attached is a report from the Human Resources Administrator regarding a status on the Youth Advisory Committee that is being established in accordance with authorization received from Council on November 19, 1973 (Item 1, Report 86).

Mr. W.L. Wescott, Youth Officer for the Burnaby School Board and newly appointed Chairman of the Youth Advisory Committee, concurs with the Administrator's suggestion that Mrs. Noble's complaint be referred to the Committee for study and comment.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT the subject letters from Mrs. Hannah Noble be referred to the Youth Advisory Committee for study and comment; and

THAT a copy of this report be sent to Mrs. Noble.

Re: Youth Services

We wish to provide you at this time with an interim report on the progress of the formation of the Youth Services Division.

1. Committee

The Youth Advisory Committee has been meeting on a regular basis in an attempt to evolve the plans and program for the staff in the new division. A number of sub-committees have been formed to deal with specific details. There are committees for method of program reporting, personnel selection, job function, etc. At a meeting, following the approval of the formation of the division, Mr. Bill Wescott was elected Chairman of the Advisory Committee.

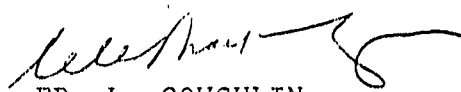
2. Accommodation

We have not had a concrete development in our plans for accommodation. However, negotiations have been underway with the local Y.M.C.A. regarding the possibility of rental space for use of the division until such time as the West Building is completed in October.

3. Personnel

We have advertised for the positions in the division and were somewhat amazed at the number of responses to our need for professional staff. The Personnel Department advises that approximately 150 applications have been received from social workers, with varying amount of training, for the three positions. We have had only a few applications for the position of Clerk-Stenographer and the Personnel Department will be advertising further for this position.

We understand the Municipal Council has received a complaint from the merchants in the Kensington Shopping Plaza regarding loitering by students in large numbers in that area. We would anticipate that matters such as this will be attended to by the division when we have it completely organized. We regret that we are unable to attend to this matter until such time as we have the division in operation. We would feel that the division should be in operation in approximately one month.


ED. L. COUGHLIN
ADMINISTRATOR

CCM/gp
31.1.74