

Re: ROYAL COMMISSION-BRITISH COLUMBIA RAILWAY

On April 12, 1977, Council adopted a resolution in connection with a letter from Mr. Morrey M. Ewing, Acting Secretary for the Royal Commission British Columbia Railway, regarding the Commission's Public Hearings which will be held in the near future for the purpose of inquiring into matters concerning the Railway Corporation. Following is a report from the Municipal Engineer on this matter.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT authority be given to submit to the Royal Commission the statement on at-grade crossings as contained on the second page of the Municipal Engineer's report.

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2 May, 1977

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER
FROM: MUNICIPAL ENGINEER
SUBJECT: ROYAL COMMISSION - BRITISH COLUMBIA RAILWAY

At its meeting of 12 April, 1977, Council adopted the following resolution with regard to the captioned subject:

"THAT the Municipal Manager prepare a submission on behalf of the Corporation of the District of Burnaby for presentation to the Royal Commission, British Columbia Railway, and that this presentation be submitted to Council for review prior to forwarding to the Royal Commission."

Regarding the resolution, the Municipal Clerk wrote to the Royal Commission (see Commission's reply dated 25 April, 1977 attached). It will be noted that should Burnaby wish to make a verbal presentation, we have been provided with a time for appearance before the Commission, i.e. 10:30 a.m., Thursday, 26 May, 1977, in the Hotel Georgia.

I have had discussions with Mr. Martin R. Taylor, Senior Counsel for the Royal Commission, concerning the principal subject matter of Burnaby's possible presentation to the Commission. The following points were noted as being relevant:

- (1) Burnaby's principal concern, being the matter of adequate protection at grade crossings of roads and railways, is rather specific and narrowly-defined in the sense that it

(cont'd)

does not bear directly on the larger question of examining over-all corporate matters affecting the British Columbia Railway, and,

- (2) Having regard to the foregoing point, the specific matter of at-grade crossings in Burnaby cannot be linked directly to the British Columbia Railway because it does not exist in Burnaby.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, and in recognition of my explanation to Mr. Taylor of Council's broader concern with policy matters involved in at-grade crossings, Mr. Taylor suggested that it probably would be appropriate to submit a generally-worded proposal setting out the concern of Council. Accordingly, Mr. Taylor and I worked out the following wording, which is considered suitable for the situation at hand:

"The Municipal Council of the Corporation of the District of Burnaby, having been increasingly concerned with the growth of problems associated with accommodation of road and rail traffic at conflict-creating at-grade crossings, wishes to bring to the attention of the Royal Commission inquiring into the British Columbia Railway the need for a Provincial policy for at-grade crossings."

"Although it is recognized that several Railways other than, but not including, The British Columbia Railway have rail lines traversing Burnaby, the Council nevertheless wishes to take this opportunity to seek the cooperation of this Royal Commission in presenting to the Government of the Province of British Columbia a formal recommendation for formulation of an effective policy for dealing with the problems of at-grade crossings. In particular, the policy should recognize the serious growth of the problem and should provide for fair and equitable means of resolving the problem, through removing or alleviating the conflict between road traffic and rail traffic."

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Corporation submit to the Royal Commission - British Columbia Railway the immediately foregoing description of its concern with the problem of at-grade crossings.

EEOlson
MUNICIPAL ENGINEER

EEO:cmg

Attech.

ITEM 17 Supplementary
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 33
COUNCIL MEETING May 2/77

1-5-50-1



Province of
British Columbia

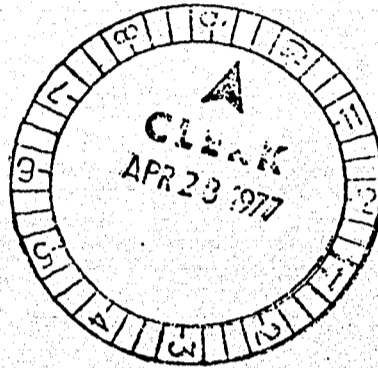
Royal Commission
British Columbia
Railway

7th Floor
111 Melville Street
Vancouver
British Columbia

HON. L.G. MCKENZIE
Chairman
SYDNEY W. WELSH
Commissioner
DAVID H. CHAPMAN
Commissioner
MARTIN R. TAYLOR
Senior Counsel

April 25, 1977

The Corporation of The
District of Burnaby
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, B.C.
V5G 1M2



Attention: James Hudson
Municipal Clerk

Dear Sirs:

We are pleased to be able to confirm the following details regarding your presentation to the Commission.

As we have stated on the telephone, the Commission would be pleased to hear from you at ~~11:00~~ 10:30 A.M., Thursday, May 26 in the Hotel Georgia. We require 25 copies of your submission in writing by May 12, in order that the response to your presentation by the Commission staff, as well as other intervenors, may be properly informed.

As has been announced, the Commission will be resuming its sessions in Vancouver on May 4. The location of our first day sitting has been moved, however, from the Four Seasons Hotel to the Hotel Georgia and will begin at 10:30 A.M., rather than 10:00 A.M. The next day, May 5, the Commission will be resuming at the Four Seasons Hotel. This is for your information; you are not, of course, required to attend the other Vancouver sittings unless you wish to do so.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours very truly,

Morrey M. Ewing
Acting Secretary

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- COPY - COUNCIL
- MANAGER