

ITEM	6
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	28
COUNCIL MEETING	1979 04 09

RE: COURSE ON BURNABY MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT approval be given to have the course on Burnaby Municipal Government offered again during the fall quarter, 1979, with the understanding that a further report will be submitted to Council in the near future when preparations have been completed; and
2. THAT the Burnaby School Board be advised accordingly.

REPORT

The Municipality and the School District cooperatively developed a course on municipal government in November, 1975. The course was subsequently finalized and offered to the public during the spring quarter in 1976. It was offered again in the winter quarter of 1977. An evaluation of the course on both occasions disclosed that persons who attended had gained a practical knowledge of their local government, and members of staff who provided instruction without exception found it to be a highly rewarding experience.

The Municipal Manager and Superintendent of Schools are of the opinion that it would be appropriate for the course to be offered again during the fall of this year. A good response could be expected from the public because the civic election, which would stimulate an interest in and desire for instruction on matters pertaining to local government, would be held while the course is in session. A high level of involvement on the part of our citizens would also result from the fact that almost two years will have elapsed from the time that the course was last made available.

Council will obtain an appreciation for the format and content from the attached circular which was distributed when this material was last presented. The information as outlined in the circular essentially reflects the manner in which the course would be offered later this year although some minor changes would undoubtedly have to be made.

As before, the course would be designed to permit each department to either present a lecture or distribute a handout so that students would be given a broad overview of the entire municipal organization.

In summary, considerable success was experienced on two previous occasions when the course was offered to the community. Sufficient time has elapsed since the last occasion to warrant having it offered again. Public interest in the civic election this fall suggests that it would be particularly appropriate for the course to be offered at that time, and it is recommended accordingly.

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SESSION 6 — February 22 (Tuesday)

- A. Burnaby School Board
—Public Schools Act
—Organization and operation
—Budgeting and finance
—Departments and administration

SESSION 7 — March 1 (Tuesday)

- A. Burnaby School Board
—Community Education Services — Organization and services provided
—Role of the Department
—Adult continuing education
—Summer School
—Community Education
—Community Schools

SESSION 8 — March 8 (Tuesday)

- A. Human Resources Department
—Cost sharing for administrative services and an overview of benefits that are available for qualified recipients
—Programs offered — social assistance, adult placement, pensions and daycare; child welfare and youth services
B. Health Department
—Introduction by the Medical Health Officer; appointments, powers and responsibilities
—Review of community care facilities, schools, clinics, pre-natal and speech therapy; role of the Environmental Health Division

SESSION 9 — March 15 (Tuesday)

- A. Engineering Department
—Role of the Engineering Department; major services, including construction and maintenance of roads, regulation of traffic, refuse collection, water, sewer and other utilities.
B. Treasury Department
—Revenue budgets, taxation and other sources of revenue, capital budgets and finance and a review of the role of the B.C. Assessment Authority.

SESSION 10 — March 22 (Tuesday)

- A. Parks and Recreation Department
—Role of the Parks and Recreation Commission
—Role of the Parks and Recreation Administration
—Facilities, programming

B. Library

- Organization, philosophy, policies, finance and budgets; book selection and organization of materials
--Services: Branch and community; future development

SESSION 11 — March 29 (Tuesday)

- An overview of the regional district, senior levels of government and organizations that have been formed to serve and represent local government.
—Greater Vancouver Regional District, Provincial government; Federal government
—Union of B.C. Municipalities; Confederation of Canadian Municipalities.

A detailed outline of each session will be available at the first session. Handouts containing information on departments not listed above will be available during the course.
To pre-register phone 299-4361