

ITEM	5
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	14
COUNCIL MEETING	1981 03 09

Re: USE OF BURNABY LAKE PAVILION

Mayor Mercier passed the attached letter from Mrs. Gail Hutchinson to the Municipal Manager with a request that a report be submitted to Council. A report from the Parks and Recreation Administrator follows.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the report of the Parks and Recreation Administrator be adopted.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1981 March 04
FROM: PARKS & RECREATION ADMINISTRATOR
RE: USE OF BURNABY LAKE PAVILION

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Miss Gail Hutchinson, 1602 - 4288 Grange Street, Burnaby.

SUMMARY

Miss Hutchinson booked Burnaby Lake Pavilion for a wedding reception for 1981 March 28. Due to the strike all bookings have been cancelled. Miss Hutchinson advises that to date she has failed to obtain alternate accommodation and her letter requests permission to use Burnaby Lake Pavilion on March 28.

REPORT

Attached is a letter from Gail Hutchinson dated February 26, 1981 addressed to the Mayor which the Writer has requested be placed before Municipal Council. The letter requests the use of Burnaby Lake Pavilion on 1981 March 28 for a wedding reception which had been pre-booked by the applicant and subsequently cancelled by management due to the strike by C.U.P.E. Local 23.

Cancellation of Allotments

Due to the strike the Corporation has cancelled all allotments for use of our community halls. This includes for business meetings, recreation activities (such as square dancing), banquets, social dances and wedding receptions. Prior to the commencement of the strike (i.e. between January 22 and 29) all persons holding allotments for the month of February were telephoned at the number which appears on the file copy of their allotment form, and advised that their allotment would be cancelled if the strike took place. On or about the 10th February all persons holding allotments in the month of March were telephoned under the same circumstances. Many of the allotment holders were already aware of the strike and that the municipal facilities were closed. The call was accepted by them as confirmation of the closure. All allotment holders contacted for each of our halls plus the museum church accepted the notice of closure and made alternate arrangements.

The telephone number that Miss Hutchinson gave on the allotment form was that of her place of work. When this number was telephoned we were advised

that she no longer worked at that location, and the person answering the phone was unable to give a forwarding telephone number. There was no Hutchinson listed in the telephone book at the address given on the allotment form. Learning of the closure from an acquaintance, Miss Hutchinson telephoned the Parks and Recreation Department early in the week of February 16 and the closure was confirmed to her at that time.

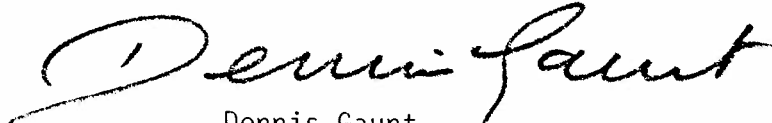
In her letter Miss Hutchinson also states that her acquaintance had eight weeks notice of a cancellation of a wedding reception scheduled for 1981 March 14. The Department does not have a record of a wedding reception booked for March 14 and therefore, we are unable to comment on this point.

Use of Burnaby Lake Pavilion on Saturday, February 07

In the first week of the strike the Pavilion had been scheduled for a celebration in honour of Mr. Doug Drummond, Freeman of the District of Burnaby. This is an honour awarded to only a few citizens whose service to the community is of such an order that this highest of honours is considered the most appropriate reward. There are only four such Freemen at the present time. A Freeman is awarded lifetime access to all municipal facilities. Therefore, a management decision was taken to make an exception and to open Burnaby Lake Pavilion for that evening. Miss Hutchinson has been misinformed when, as she states in her fourth paragraph, that she understands that the hall was opened for a Burnaby employee. Such an exception would not have been made for an employee or for any other allotment holder.

With this one exception, management has unfortunately had to cancel approximately 300 events in the past five weeks including 4 wedding receptions and 8 wedding ceremonies. Similar numbers of cancellations are taking place also in the near future because of the uncertainty of the strike situation, and because we cannot guarantee allotment holders scheduled occupation of our church and halls.

Under the circumstances, it would not be our intention to make an exception in the case of the Hutchinson reception planned for March 28.



Dennis Gaunt,
ADMINISTRATOR.

DG:ag
attachment

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Gail Hutchinson
1602 - 4288 Grange Street
Burnaby, British Columbia
V5H 1P2

434-8461 (Home) 266-0211 Local 534 (Work)

February 26, 1981

DELIVERED BY HAND

Office of The Mayor
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, British Columbia

Attention: Mayor Dave Mercier

Your Worship:

Re: The Burnaby Lake Pavilion

The situation I am faced with is one of dire circumstances. In September of 1980, I made arrangements with the Burnaby Parks & Recreation Department to rent their premises more commonly known as "The Burnaby Lake Pavilion" for my wedding reception scheduled for March 28th, 1981.

In October of 1980, I attended at the offices of the Burnaby Parks & Recreation Department to pay the fees due and owing for the rental of these premises and to enter into a contract for the same purpose.

Through hearsay, I was advised, that due to the recent C.U.P.E. labour strike, all parties who had entered into a contract for the rental of these premises would be barred from using same. I was never notified of this action. On the other hand, the party who had advised me of this fact, and whose wedding reception is scheduled for March 14th, 1981, had been notified by the Burnaby Parks & Recreation Department eight weeks in advance of their wedding date. To this date, I have never received either verbal or written confirmation that I would not be able to use these premises for my wedding reception, whereas, the above party was given ample notice to arrange for an alternate hall.

I was further advised that the Burnaby Lake Pavilion was opened for the use of a 50th anniversary party for an employee (as I understand it) of the Municipality of Burnaby four days after the beginning of the C.U.P.E. labour strike. I also received confirmation of the above, from an employee of the Burnaby Parks & Recreation Department.

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In my opinion if you are able to open these premises for one party, this practice should be carried out for all parties who have entered into a contract for the rental of these premises. Further, I would say that favouritism was shown towards this employee for the Municipality of Burnaby, and I cannot stress enough, that if you are able to open these premises for one party, you should be able to do the same for all parties concerned.

To date I have been unable to locate a suitable hall for my reception and I would ask that your offices look into this matter and advise me whether you are able to allow me the use of these premises for my wedding reception.

I trust this matter will receive your most earliest attention and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

Gail Hutchinson

GAIL HUTCHINSON

/gdh

c.c. City Manager,
Burnaby Parks & Recreation Office

c.c. C.U.P.E. Strike Headquarters
Attention: Chief Picket Marshall