

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF BURNABY

TO: MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
RE: "PIONEER TALES" - HISTORICAL RECORD

FILE: 2111

Madam and Gentlemen:

In response to the item of correspondence from Mrs. Pixie McGeachie appearing on this week's Agenda, I must report the status of Burnaby "Pioneer Tales".

On November 16, 1981, the then Mayor, Mayor David M. Mercier, reported and received approval from Council for the expenditure of \$10,000. for the publication of this historical document (report attached). This amount was not placed in a reserve.

Since that time, we have contacted some of the persons who attended the 1981 Pioneer Tea, using the resources of the Journalism classes of B.C.I.T. and Burnaby Secondary Schools. This information has added to the essay file that we have for this publication.

I have discussed with the former Mayor the commitments that he had with Mr. Michael Sone, the author, as well as the costs that would be associated with Mr. Sone's work. There appears to be some commitment to have Mr. Sone do the work for the fee of \$10,000.

Several months back, Mrs. McGeachie offered her services to myself as a potential author to complete the work to publishable form, the fee for her services to be based on the amount of time required. Mrs. McGeachie was the author of "Bygone Days Of Burnaby".


Because I am informed that the total cost for publishing such an historical record could be as high as \$30,000., with a recovery by sales of the book, I investigated the possibility of a Canada Council Grant through our local M.P., Mr. Svend Robinson. He reported that Canada Council Grants are only available to individuals. It was suggested that the author who does the re-writes of stories could qualify for a Canada Council Exploration Program Grant. When the re-writing is done and passed through a publisher under the program, the publisher may then apply for a publisher's grant. The deadline is September 15th but approval will not be allocated until January of '84. Again, no grants can be given to municipalities or cities.

I would therefore recommend:

- (1) That the Mayor be given the authority to select the author.
- (2) That the author make application for a Canada Council Grant under the Exploration Program.
- (3) At the completion of the manuscript, the Mayor be authorized to select a publisher.
- (4) The publisher make application to the Canada Council for a publisher's grant.
- (5) That the Mayor report from time to time on the progress of this project.

AGENDA 1983 AUGUST 08
COPY - MANAGER
- DIRECTOR FINANCE

Respectfully submitted,


William A. Lewarne,
MAYOR

~~REPORT
Regular Council Meeting
1981 November 16~~

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF BURNABY

TO: MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

RE: "BURNABY PIONEER TALES" - HISTORICAL RECORD

There were two major events which highlighted the current term of office of this Council and stimulated an overwhelming response from our early "pioneers". One was the "Tea With The Mayor And Council" held in May, 1980, and the other was "Burnaby Pioneer Tales Contest" culminating in a reception and presentation of prizes to the finalists in August of this year.

We have since received many calls from the "pioneers" as well as those who read their stories, and all have expressed keen interest in having a book made of the "pioneer tales" and other interviews that would be conducted with almost 500 pioneers who attended the "Tea".

For obvious reasons, the sooner such a project is underway, the better.

The financial exposure for the production of the book is estimated to range from \$10,000. loss after the sale of the books at say \$10.00 a book, to \$10,000. profit within a three to four-year period.

It is recommended that Council sponsor the book from Contingency funds in the Budget, subject to an acceptable financial report showing publication costs and expected revenues.

Respectfully submitted,



David M. Mercier,
M A Y O R