

ITEM 7
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 21
COUNCIL MEETING 85/03/18

RE: BURNABY YOUTH SERVICES REPORT -
1984 ANNUAL REPORT

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. *THAT the recommendation of the Officer-in-Charge in the Burnaby Detachment be adopted.*

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TO: Director, Administrative & Community Services

FROM: OIC Burnaby Detachment R.C.M.P.

RE: Burnaby Youth Services Report - 1984 Annual Report

RECOMMENDATION: That the following unedited annual report is accepted for information purposes.

N.L. Fuchs
(N.L.FUCHS) Supt.
OIC Burnaby Detachment

TO: Superintendent FUCHS - Officer in Charge, Burnaby Detachment

FROM: Cathy BELLAMY - Supervisor, Burnaby Youth Services

SUBJECT: BURNABY YOUTH SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT - CAPSULE REPORT

The following provides a brief summary of the major points covered in the 1984 Annual Report. The full text of the report is accompanied with statistics and graphs; any persons interested in further details are welcome to contact me at 294-7720.

Introduction

Youth Services has felt the impact of two major environmental influences:

- a) outbacks and restraint in the economy and specifically, their effects on the social service community;
- b) implementation of the Young Offender's Act, effective April 1, 1984.

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Program Activity

Counselling services were augmented by the following activities:

- a) a survey was conducted to determine the community's perception of our service;
- b) supervision of a social work student from the University of British Columbia, fulfilling the requirements of a field practicum in our program;
- c) staff development, including:
 - i) attendance at the annual meeting for police based youth and family counselling;
 - ii) a workshop regarding the interpretation and implications of the Young Offender's act;
 - iii) a two day course on Crisis Intervention at the Justice Institute;
 - iv) the supervisor's completion of the requirements of a master's degree in social work from U.B.C., including a major paper on police based social service programs.
- d) ongoing liaison with police members and the community, including:
 - i) participation with police in a display set up in Loughheed Mall for Crime Prevention Week, November 5-10, 1984;
 - ii) the supervisor's representation on the Governing Committee of the United Way of Burnaby.

Statistical Analysis

1. There has been a slight decrease in referrals to Youth Services in 1984 by 7.13 percent. A consistent pattern of decline was evident between January and September, followed by a dramatic increase in referral activity between October 1 and December 31.
2. The recidivist rate for 1984 is extremely positive and an improvement over 1983. This year, 257 three month recidivist checks were completed and of these, only 31 youths or 12.1 percent became re-involved with the police, compared with 13.2 percent of the youths who were checked three months following termination of our service last year. Two hundred forty-nine 6 month recidivist checks were

made of which 26 or 10.4 percent of the youths incurred repeat offences. This is a 5.1 percent decrease from last year. Finally, twelve month checks, which would normally be higher due to the longer period of time following intervention indicated that only 46 or 16.5 percent of the youths had repeat offences. This is a 5.3 percent decrease from last year's 12 month checks.

3. There has been an increase in referrals for youths 12 years of age and under, particularly 8-10 year olds. There has been a corresponding decrease in referrals for youths 13-14 years of age and 15-16 years of age. Both these changes may be related to changes in juvenile legislation.
4. There was a significant increase in vandalism by 10.8 percent in 1984 over the previous year and a decrease in shoplifting offences by 7.8 percent.
5. There have been consistently fewer inappropriate referrals received by the program each year since its inception. Likewise, refusal by clients to make use of the service is lessening each year.

Summary

Despite environmental factors, which out of necessity, have had some impact on the direction of our program, Youth Services has continued to provide a positive, necessary and well utilized service. Although referral activity has been less stable in response to internal and external changes, Youth Services received referrals for and worked with 275 youths and families in 1984. This is only a slight decrease of 7.1 percent from the previous year.

More impressive are the promising low recidivist rates among the youths referred to our program. The program's prime target goal is the prevention of further delinquent behaviour in first time offenders and in this goal, we appear to be succeeding.

The program staff have taken a positive stance in regards to some of the changes and uncertainties the program must face. Staff maintain close contact with police administration and the community agencies to determine how we can best adapt to

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changing needs and demands. There is every indication that the forthcoming year will be an equally challenging one and that Burnaby Youth Services will be able to meet these challenges without jeopardizing the professional service we now provide.

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Cathy BELLAMY
Supervisor, Youth Services