

REPORT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
1986 MAY 20

File: 1889

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF BURNABY
FAMILY COURT AND YOUTH JUSTICE COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND ALDERMEN

Madam/Gentlemen:

REPORT OF THE JUSTICE COUNCIL/FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE
AND THE FAMILY COURT AND YOUTH JUSTICE COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATIONS:

2. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Mr. Gary Hoskins, Special Projects Officer, Ministry of Attorney General, 4th Floor, Weiler Building, 609 Broughton Street, Victoria, B.C., V8W 1C8

R E P O R T

The Revised Statutes of British Columbia 1979, Chapter 341, "Provincial Court Act" - Section 4.(4)(c) provides as follows:

4. (4) The family court committee shall
 - (c) report annually to the municipalities involved and to the Attorney General respecting their activities during the past year.

In compliance with this statutory requirement, contained hereunder is a summary of activities of the Justice Council/Family Court Committee from 1984 January to 1985 March and the Burnaby Family Court and Youth Justice Committee from 1985 April to 1985 December.

NOTE: Council, at the regular Council meeting held on 1985 April 09, upon receipt of a report from the Committee, adopted the recommendations contained therein which changed the Committee's title from JUSTICE COUNCIL/FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE to FAMILY COURT AND YOUTH JUSTICE COMMITTEE.

1984

Community Standards Committee

The Justice Council/Family Court Committee, at their meeting held on 1984 March 28 entertained Reverend Terry Hibbert from the District of Coquitlam Community Standards Committee and six members of the United Way Community Standards Steering Committee who were investigating the establishment of a Community Standards Committee in Burnaby.

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Arising out of subsequent discussions that arose with respect to the establishment of such committee, your Committee agreed that their Chairman make a formal presentation to Council, together with a representative of the United Way Community Standards Steering Committee at the regular Council meeting 1984 May 07 requesting the establishment of a Council appointed Community Standards Committee.

Council, at the regular Council meeting held on 1984 May 07 demonstrated a positive response to the presentations and subsequently established a Community Standards Committee.

Guest Speakers

The following guest speakers were invited to attend meetings of the Justice Council/Family Court Committee during 1984:

- Mr. Jamie Reid, Probation Officer (Juvenile Specialist)

Mr. Reid addressed the Committee at their meeting held on 1984 September 26 with respect to the implementation of the Young Offenders Act and the changes that have been brought about and are being experienced by the Probation Offices when dealing with juveniles.

- Ms. Wenda Erickson, Life Line Society

Ms. Wenda Erickson addressed the Committee at their meeting held on 1984 October 31 and provided an update on the services provided by the Life Line Society and of the Society's the selection process for the location of a new Transition House.

Tour

The members of the Justice Council/Family Court Committee attended at the Willingdon Youth Detention Centre on 1984 November 28 to tour the facility and observe the recreation and living accommodations provided. The Committee arranged this tour as a result of their concern regarding recent reports of slashings that had taken place at the facility.

1985

Committee Title Change

With respect to the passing of the Young Offenders Act, it was brought to the attention of the Committee by Mr. W.G. Hoskins, Senior Projects Officer, Special Projects Division, Ministry of the Attorney General, that there was provision within the Act for the establishment of a "Youth Justice Committee".

Following your Committee's deliberations respecting this matter a report was forwarded to Council with the following recommendations contained therein:

1. THAT Council approve the title change from the JUSTICE COUNCIL/FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE to FAMILY COURT AND YOUTH JUSTICE COMMITTEE, and
2. THAT the Attorney General be requested to designate the Burnaby Family Court Committee as a Youth Justice Committee.

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Council, at the regular Council meeting held on 1985 April 09 adopted the recommendations of the Committee as contained within the report and subsequent approval and designation as a Youth Justice Committee was received from the Ministry of the Attorney General on 1985 August 01.

The Ministry of the Attorney General further provided the following as the general mandate of a Youth Justice Committee:

1. Consider and examine the resources of the community available for young offenders.
2. Assist the Court when requested.
3. Make such recommendations to the Court and the Attorney General as it considers advisable.
4. Assist the judges and officers of the Court, where requested, to provide a community resource or assistance in individual cases referred to the Committee.
5. Report annually to the municipality and the Attorney General on the activities of the Committee during the past year.

Guest Speakers

The following guest speakers were invited to attend meetings of the Justice Council/Family Court Committee from 1985 January to 1985 March:

- Mr. Ted Palmer, Burnaby Teachers Association Racism Committee
- Mr. Palmer addressed the Committee at their meeting held on 1985 January 30 regarding multiculturalism in general and, in specific, the racial problems being experienced within the school system.
- Ms. Beverly Nann, Coordinator of Burnaby Multicultural Home/School Workers

Ms. Nann also addressed the Committee at their meeting held on 1985 January 30 and provided the Committee with an overview of the history of multiculturalism and also commented on the racial problems within the school system.

The following guest speakers were invited to attend meetings of the Family Court and Youth Justice Committee from 1985 April to 1985 December:

- Ms. Cathy Bellamy, Supervisor of Youth Services Division, Burnaby Detachment, R.C.M.P.
- Ms. Bellamy appeared before the Committee at their meeting held on 1985 April 24 providing statistics and information regarding the Youth Services Program and also advised of her involvement with United Way's Youth in Crisis Committee. The Youth in Crisis Committee functions with a mandate to develop strategies to assist youth in crisis (from the ages 12 to 20) to overcome low self-esteem, despair and negativism.

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- Mr. David Dyer, Manager, Sheriff Services, Burnaby Justice Building

Mr. Dyer appeared before the Committee at their meeting held on 1985 November 27 to discuss concerns of the Committee regarding the provision of duty counsel services at the Burnaby Courts on an on-call basis rather than on a full time basis as had been previously provided.

Media Sub-Committee

Arising out of discussions held with guest speakers regarding the services available in community for youth in crisis and their families, your Committee determined it appropriate that youth activities and services available should be brought to the attention of the community and that the media would be the appropriate avenue to follow to accomplish this task.

Therefore, a Media Sub-Committee was struck, consisting of three members of the Committee, to look into the programming schedule of Cable 10 to determine whether they could accommodate a short series of promotional advertisements of the services available to residents of the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Gordon McDonald
Chairman
Family Court and Youth
Justice Committee