

RE: LETTER FROM WILDLIFE RESCUE ASSOCIATION OF B.C., 5216 GLENCARIN DRIVE,
BURNABY, B.C., V5B 3C1
FUNDING FOR THE WILDLIFE RESCUE ASSOCIATION OF B.C.

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendations of the Director Finance be adopted.

* * * * *

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1989 December 05
FROM: DIRECTOR FINANCE FILE: L34
SUBJECT: FUNDING FOR THE WILDLIFE RESCUE ASSOCIATION OF B.C.
PURPOSE: To respond to a request from the Wildlife Rescue Association of
B.C. for municipal funding.

=====
RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Wildlife Rescue Association of British Columbia, 5216 Glencarin Drive, Burnaby, B.C. V5B 3C1, Attention: Mr. Bill Marshall, Administrative Coordinator; and
2. THAT the municipality provide a letter of support for the Wildlife Rescue Association to aid in fundraising.

SUMMARY

This report considers the Wildlife Rescue Association's (WRA) request for an annual fee of \$28,500 to provide care and rehabilitation for injured, orphaned or pollution-damaged wild animals and birds.

We have concluded that, unlike domestic animal control which is clearly the responsibility of the municipality, the care of injured wildlife is beyond our jurisdiction and resources. The WRA does provide a useful and valuable service to the community. Therefore, it would be appropriate for Council to reinforce their support by providing a letter to aid in fundraising.

REPORT

Appearing under Correspondence on this agenda is a letter from the Wildlife Rescue Association of British Columbia (WRA) dated 1989 September 28 asking Burnaby for an "annual fee" of \$28,500 for their services.

The WRA is a non-profit organization whose primary function is to provide care and rehabilitation for injured, orphaned or pollution-damaged wild animals and birds. They have been operating from Burnaby Lake Regional Park since 1979.

ITEM 18
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 80
COUNCIL MEETING 89/12/11

Wild animals and birds are regulated and protected by the federal Wildlife Service and the provincial Ministry of the Environment. The WRA are one of the few organizations in British Columbia that holds Federal and Provincial permits for the care of wildlife. Oil damaged and injured birds from around the Province are often brought to their Burnaby Lake facility for treatment.

Funding for this organization comes from grants and donations. The organization also relies heavily on the assistance of volunteers. In addition, the G.V.R.D. provides and maintains a building at no cost to the WRA. The municipality, through our poundkeeper, provides support by capturing and transporting injured wildlife.

Burnaby has supported the objectives of the WRA since its inception, and at the regular council meeting of 1980 March 10, provided a letter of support to aid them in fundraising.

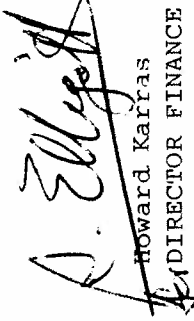
In their September 28th letter, the WRA compare their activities to those of the S.P.C.A. and indicate that they feel the Municipality should provide funding for saving wildlife, in the same manner we support the S.P.C.A. for domestic animal control.

Burnaby, through the Municipal Act, controls domestic animals to ensure public health and safety. We contract with the S.P.C.A. to provide animal control services including the operation of the pound and the general enforcement of our animal control bylaw. The municipality, through the S.P.C.A., deals with wild animals that have been mortally wounded.

While the work performed by the WRA is complementary to our animal control service, it is not essential to public health and safety. Unlike domestic animal control, which is clearly the responsibility of the municipality, the care of injured wildlife is beyond our jurisdiction and resources. For this reason we are not recommending support of the WRA's request for direct funding in the form of an annual fee for services.

Recognizing that the WRA provides a useful and valuable service to the community, it would be appropriate for Council to reinforce their support by providing a letter to aid in fund raising.

We have spoken with Mr. Bill Marshall and explained our position. It is our understanding that Mr. Marshall will be making a presentation to council on behalf of the WRA in the near future.


Howard Karfas
DIRECTOR FINANCE

DWM:ah