

REPORT  
Regular Council Meeting  
1991 November 12

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF BURNABY  
COMMUNITY ISSUES AND SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR  
AND ALDERMEN

RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF BURNABY HEALTHY COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council authorize the proposal for implementation of the Healthy Community Action Plan as outlined in Section 2.0 of this report.
2. THAT Council be requested to adopt the Healthy Community Policy outlined in Section 3.0 of this report.

R E P O R T

The Community Issues and Social Planning Committee, at its meeting held 1991 October 23 received and adopted the attached staff report outlining the proposed Healthy Community Action Plan and Healthy Community Policy.

The Committee therefore submits its proposals for the Healthy Community Action Plan and the Healthy Community Policy to Council for endorsement.

Respectfully submitted,

Alderman E. Nikolai  
Chair

Alderman J. Young  
Vice Chair

Alderman D. Evans  
Member

Alderman D. Lawson  
Member

Alderman C. Redman  
Member

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AGENDA - 1991 NOVEMBER 12  
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- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

TO: CHAIRMAN & MEMBERS  
 COMMUNITY ISSUES &  
 SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

1991 October 9

Our File: 17.818

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF BURNABY HEALTHY COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

PURPOSE: To seek Council's approval to pursue the implementation of Burnaby's Healthy Community Action Plan, including the adoption of a Healthy Community Policy.

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council be requested to authorize the proposal for implementation of the Healthy Community Action Plan as outlined in Section 2.0 of this report.
2. THAT Council be requested to adopt the Healthy Community Policy outlined in Section 3.0 of this report.

R E P O R T

1.0 INTRODUCTION

On 1989 March 13, Council adopted a resolution to undertake a Healthy Community project (See appendix 1 attached.)

UBC's Centre for Human Settlements (CHS) was hired to conduct research on Healthy Community principles and to recommend an approach for Burnaby to follow to become a healthier community. On 1990 July 23, Council received a report from the Community Issues & Social Planning Committee outlining CHS's recommendations for Burnaby's Healthy Community project. (See recommendations in Appendix 2, attached.)

The fundamental recommendation was the adoption of a policy approach to building a healthier community. The aim of this approach was to improve the consistency of Municipal decisions through the use of policies, guidelines and criteria which ensure that health impacts are explicitly taken into account. To support this recommendation, CHS suggested an Action Plan which included:

- a) the formation of a "Healthy Burnaby" staff working group;
- b) the implementation of an education program targeted to Municipal staff and Council members to enhance awareness of the opportunities for a Municipal role in promoting a healthier Burnaby;
- c) the preparation of health impact statements;
- d) the development of Healthy Community policies;
- e) the formation of a Healthy Community Advisory Committee; and
- f) the development of a program for future Healthy Community activities.

Council endorsed the proposed policy approach and authorized the use of a Provincial "Strengthening the Family" grant to retain a resource person to assist with implementing the Action Plan. The consulting firm, Health Management Resource Group, was retained to provide the resource person.

This report proposes means to implement Burnaby's Healthy Community Action Plan and recommends the adoption of a Municipal Healthy Community Policy.

2.0 IMPLEMENTATION OF BURNABY'S HEALTHY COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Rather than establishing a separate Healthy Community staff working group as suggested in CHS's Action Plan, staff have relied on the existing Social Planning Staff Liaison Group and the resource person to co-ordinate implementation of Burnaby's Healthy Community project. The Staff Liaison Group consists of representatives from Parks and Recreation, Engineering, Finance, Planning and Building, Health, Clerk's Office, Fire, R.C.M.P. and the Burnaby School District. The Group's mandate is to assist with the co-ordination of social planning matters which cross Municipal departmental boundaries.

Reporting through the Management Committee, the Staff Liaison Group has, over the past year, developed an implementation timeline and taken preliminary steps towards implementing the Healthy Community Action Plan.

The Staff Liaison Group proposes that implementation of the Action Plan be approached in two phases. Phase 1 is directed "in house" with the focus on Council, committees and staff. It consists primarily of an education and awareness program regarding the Healthy Community concept and Burnaby's Healthy Community project. Phase 2 is community-based. It involves expansion of the awareness program into the community as well the establishment of increased community direction over ongoing Healthy Community activities. The proposed two phase plan is as follows:

- 2.1 PHASE 1: In-house Municipal Program (1991 October - 1992 June)
- Development of a Municipal Healthy Community Policy to affirm the Municipality's support for Healthy Community principles.
  - Development and delivery of an orientation program regarding the Healthy Community concept and Burnaby's Healthy Community project for Municipal staff, Council and committees.
  - Preparation and distribution of an edition of the Trends Social Planning newsletter and an information brochure on Burnaby's Healthy Community project.
  - Preparation of Healthy Community Guidelines to assist staff in applying Healthy Community principles in reports to Council and committees.
  - Creation of a Recognition Program for exemplary Municipal reports, projects, and initiatives which utilize or further Healthy Community principles. Administration of the Program will require development of selection criteria and formation of a Municipal Advisory Committee.
  - Development of a logo and slogan for Burnaby's Healthy Community project which can be used in publicity for the project and in the Recognition Program.
- 2.2 PHASE 2: Community Based Program (1992 July Onward)
- Development of a promotional strategy to raise community awareness of/interest in the Healthy Community concept.
  - Expansion of the Recognition Program to include corporate and community initiatives as well as Municipal.
  - Creation of a community-based Advisory Committee or expansion of the Municipal Advisory Committee to include an inter-sectoral group of key Burnaby executives and active community members.

To date, the Staff Liaison Group has accomplished the following Phase 1 activities:

- a) Healthy Community orientation sessions for Management Committee, the Social Planning Staff Liaison Group and an inter-departmental group of interested staff. Additional sessions are in the planning stages;
- b) development of draft Healthy Community guidelines to assist staff in applying Healthy Community principles in their work;
- c) development of the basic components of the Recognition Program, including a logo and slogan; and
- d) development of a draft Healthy Community Policy for Council's endorsement. (See Section 3.0 of this report.)

### 3.0 PROPOSED HEALTHY COMMUNITY POLICY

The key to implementing a policy approach to promoting a healthier community is to ensure that Healthy Community principles are considered in Municipal decision-making. The intent of the proposed Healthy Community Policy is to articulate and affirm the Municipality's position regarding Healthy Community principles. The policy reflects the Municipality's commitment to follow a Healthy Community approach in the development of Municipal bylaws, policies, programs and services. It also provides a necessary policy framework upon which implementation of the Healthy Community Action Plan can proceed.

It is recommended that Council be requested to adopt the following Municipal Healthy Community Policy:

1. Burnaby recognizes that the quality of Municipal bylaws, policies, programs and services can be improved by adhering to Healthy Community principles.
2. Burnaby ensures that Municipal bylaws, policies, programs and services appropriately consider gender equity concerns and the needs of the following subsections of the general population:
  - . children
  - . youth
  - . the elderly
  - . persons with mental and physical disabilities
  - . persons of diverse ethnic or cultural backgrounds
  - . persons who are functionally illiterate
  - . persons of low socio-economic status
  - . other relevant groups
3. Burnaby provides opportunities for a wide cross-section of the community to be involved in the development of Municipal bylaws, policies, programs and services, as appropriate and feasible.
4. Burnaby promotes collaboration among relevant Municipal departments, senior government levels and other parties to ensure that an appropriate balance among competing interests is maintained when developing recommendations for Council, committees, and commissions.

4.0 CONCLUSION

Over the past year, the Social Planning Staff Liaison Group, with the assistance of the project resource person, has been developing a strategy to implement the Healthy Community Action Plan outlined in the CHS report "Working Towards a Healthier Burnaby". Activities have largely been developmental in nature, with the focus being on increasing staff's understanding of the Healthy Community concept as well as on examining strategy options for implementation of the Action Plan. The Management Committee has been involved in this process through meetings with the Healthy Community resource person and the Chairman of the Staff Liaison Group, and supports the Municipality's Healthy Community project.

It is recommended that the Community Issues and Social Planning Committee request Council to authorize staff to pursue implementation of the Healthy Community Action Plan as outlined in Section 2.0 of this report. It is also recommended that the Committee request Council to adopt the proposed Healthy Community Policy detailed in Section 3.0. No additional funds will be required for Healthy Community activities in 1991. Although funds will likely be required for 1992 and future years, it is expected that funding may be available through an extension of the Province's Healthy Community Initiative Funding Program. If the recommendations are accepted, staff propose to identify the cost requirements and make application to the Province. Staff will keep the Committee and Council informed of progress both in this regard and in implementing the Action Plan.



A.L. Parr  
DIRECTOR  
PLANNING & BUILDING

cc: Municipal Manager  
Director Finance  
Director Recreation & Cultural Services  
Director Administrative & Community Services  
Director Engineering

JS/LP/JF/jp

NOTICE OF MOTION

ALDERMAN G. BEGIN

ALDERMAN J. SAWICKI

INITIATIVES FOR STRENGTHENING THE FAMILY  
-COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECTS

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS the Ministry of Health has given this Municipality a grant of \$15,000 to be devoted to Strengthening the Family activities, and

WHEREAS healthy families flourish best in healthy communities, and

WHEREAS the Municipality of Burnaby prides itself on the high standard of health and safety provided to its citizens, and

WHEREAS the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion states "The fundamental conditions and resources for health are peace, shelter, education, food, income, a stable eco-system, sustainable resources, social justice and equity, " and

WHEREAS Burnaby Council can play an important role in ensuring a Healthy Community by their actions and cooperation with others in such areas as parks and recreation, community planning, protection of the environment, provision of social services, roads and transportation, education, housing, and

WHEREAS there is a strong national and international movement underway to support the project of Canadian Healthy Communities endorsed by the Canadian Institute of Planners, the Canadian Public Health Association and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve, in principal, the expenditure of the aforesaid funds, on a project to promote a HEALTHY COMMUNITY,

and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

the committee designated by Council, Alderman Sawicki, Alderman Begin, School Trustee, Carol Jones, be authorized to prepare the Terms of Reference and hire a consultant to carry out an overview assessment of Burnaby as a "Healthy Community" and to identify areas for possible further study and Municipal Action.

and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

the Municipality of Burnaby become a participant in the Canadian Network of Healthy Communities.

## APPENDIX 2

UBC Centre for Human Settlements  
*Burnaby Healthy Community Project*

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approach is often used together with the policy or planning approach because it can produce tangible results in a shorter time horizon.

There is generally a wide range of activities underway across Canada under the name healthy communities. Each type of approach can present its own problems or pitfalls (See Appendix E).

### 4. Recommendations

The following are recommendations intended to assist Council, staff, community groups and business organizations to "work towards a healthier Burnaby". It is recommended that:

- \* Council reaffirm its commitment to "work towards a healthier Burnaby";
- \* Burnaby adopt a policy supporting this commitment. A proposed declaration would be as follows: "Burnaby undertakes to work to enhance the health of all Burnaby residents by ensuring that health is a consideration in land use, social and economic decision-making";
- \* Burnaby implement a program of staff and Council education and discussions regarding the healthy community concept to enhance awareness within the organization of the opportunities for a municipal role and to facilitate implementation of the recommended strategy;
- \* Burnaby follow the policy approach to building a healthier community as described in the implementation plan;
- \* Following implementation and evaluation of the usefulness of the policy approach as recommended above, Council consider the merits of proceeding with either an issue based plan or a healthy community project;
- \* Council consider reviewing or expanding upon existing municipal actions in the following two high priority healthy community challenge areas: housing and transportation; and
- \* The Community Issues and Social Planning Committee (or other Committees as deemed appropriate) recognize the material generated at the workshops as a valuable source of information to assist in ongoing priority setting and other activities.

### 5. Implementation

Implementation of the proposed strategy is intended to be incremental to allow for staged use of resources and for awareness and understanding of the utility of the healthy community idea to grow. The principle guiding implementation is that the Municipality will first take the lead role in initiating healthy community actions with the intention of stimulating community interest and involvement later in the process.

For the purposes of the implementation plan, it is assumed that the newly formed Community Issues and Social Planning Committee will be responsible for the Burnaby Healthy Community Project and that implementation of the strategy will be the responsibility of resource staff to the Community Issues and Social Planning Committee.

Six implementation recommendations follow.

- A) Form "Healthy Burnaby" Staff Working Group

