

ITEM	22
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	42
COUNCIL MEETING	92/06/15

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1992 June 15

FROM: CHIEF FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER

SUBJECT: "FIREWALK" SEMINAR AT:

PLACE: The Sons of Norway Lodge,  
6540 Thomas St., BURNABY, B.C.  
DATE: Saturday, 1992 June 20  
TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

PURPOSE: TO OBTAIN COUNCIL APPROVAL FOR A "FIREWALK" SEMINAR

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT the request to conduct a "Firewalk" Seminar at The Sons of Norway Lodge, 6540 Thomas St., Burnaby, B.C. on Saturday, 1992 June 20 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. be approved, subject to full compliance with all the conditions as required by the Burnaby Fire Department.
2. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to Ms. Julie Hansen, Vortex Enterprises, 5467 Hardwick St., Burnaby, B.C. V5G 1R2 [291-9466].

R E P O R T

The igniting of a fire for the purpose of producing embers for a "Firewalk" Seminar in Burnaby is not permitted by Bylaw 8047, which restricts the issuance of fire permits to training purposes and necessary municipal burning. However, Section 700(e) of the Municipal Act permits Council to "regulate the use of fires in the open air or elsewhere". Council may therefore authorize the issuance of a permit to a person or organization for the use of a fire, and may specify terms and conditions.

Attached is a copy of a letter received from Ms. Julie Hansen requesting permission to hold a "Firewalk" Seminar on Saturday, 1992 June 20 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Also attached, for the information of Council, is a copy of the letter K.Fox, Chief Fire Prevention Officer, Vancouver Fire Department forwarded to the applicant in the case of a similar request. The purpose of this report is to authorize, with Council approval, the use of a fire for this seminar with the following comments and conditions.

The Burnaby Fire Department has no objections to the subject Seminar provided that:

1. A competent person shall supervise the fire at all times while it is burning or smoldering to ensure the safety of the public.

2. The applicant named on the fire permit shall provide proof of a minimum of Two (2) Million Dollars Liability Insurance, with the Corporation of Burnaby named as an additionally named insured for this event. The policy must include a Cross Liability Clause and a thirty (30) day written Notice of Cancellation Clause. In addition, a "copy" of this Liability Insurance is to be mailed to the Fire Prevention Division.



D.H. Ward  
CHIEF FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER

DHW/mdw

Attach.

c.c. Director Finance

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COUNCIL MEETING 92/06/15

June 9, 1992

HAND DELIVERED

The Honourable Mr. Bill Copeland, Mayor of Burnaby  
Municipality of Burnaby  
City Council  
4949 Canada Way  
Burnaby, B.C.

Dear Sirs:

Re: Special Fire Permit Application

For the last two years I have been conducting Firewalking Seminars in the Lower Mainland. I received my training and certification from The Firewalk Institute of Research and Education, Twain Hart, California from the Founder, Mr. Tolly Burkan. He has trained over 2,000 instructors. Tony Robbins, who is well known to many, also received training from Tolly Burkan.

It is my understanding, speaking with the Fire Prevention Officer, Chief Ward, in Burnaby, that a Special Fire Permit Application is necessary and needs approval from the City Council. Chief Ward has no objection to the request as he feels that all safety requirements would be met. He is willing to issue a letter which I will provide for you.

I also spoke with Chief Ward about training Fire Fighters to provide them with invaluable information to educate and safeguard them against burns. He expressed interest and will discuss this matter with Fire Chief A. Nixon upon his return.

Last year we were given permission to use Stanley Park Second Beach for Firewalking Seminars. The stipulation was that the beach be left in perfect condition as when we began our Firewalking Seminar. We used the beach four times in total and each time the beach was left in excellent order. The dates were January 26, February 16, March 2, 16, 1991. Approval was obtained from Ms. Joslin Kobylka, Manager, Central Recreation Services.

Now we are interested in obtaining permission to hold Firewalking Seminars in Burnaby at The Sons of Norway Lodge, June 20, 1992 and future dates. Please note that there is a Fire Station which is around the corner from the lodge.

The area would remain in perfect condition. To prevent burning of the grass we would place sod (turf) over the area and of course, we would clean up immediately after the seminar. We also

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The Honourable Mr. Bill Copeland, Mayor of Burnaby

would have someone attending the fire at all times. If necessary, a contained fire in barrels could be utilized rather than having an open fire.

Another Firewalk was held recently at a prominent hotel in downtown Vancouver. The hotel and Fire Department were both satisfied that the procedure was safe in order to grant permission for the event to be performed.

My preference is to use quieter locations versus a hotel environment, because liquor is prohibited in our sessions. Each participant is required to sign a waiver that stipulates no alcohol, drugs etc. have been consumed prior to the seminar and also releases all sponsors and land owners from claims.

I would appreciate your attention in this matter and would like to receive an answer as soon as possible as I have interested paid customers who need to be informed of the location.

Yours truly,



Julie Hansen  
(604) 291-9466

cc: Aldermen: Derek Corrigan  
Doug Drummond  
Doug Evans  
Dorren Lawson  
Egon Nikolai  
Lee Rankin  
Celeste Ridman  
Jim Young

Sons of Norway Lodge

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City of Vancouver



**FIRE WARDEN'S DIVISION**

Department of Permits and Licenses: City Hall, 453 West 12 Avenue, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5Y 1V4, (604) 873-7595

January 21, 1991

Mr. Fred M. B. Sullivan  
 #501 - 2001 Beach Avenue  
 Vancouver, B.C.  
 V6B 1Z2

RE: FIREWALK

This correspondence will verify that the Vancouver Fire Department will permit you to ignite a small bonfire on 2nd Beach at Stanley Park for the purpose of demonstrating a "firewalk" to approximately 35 to 50 persons.

In accordance to Section 6 of the Vancouver Fire By-law a competent person shall supervise the fire at all times while it is burning or smouldering to ensure the safety of the public.

The fire and "firewalk" demonstrations may be carried out between the hours of 7:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on the following five Saturdays, January 26, 1991, February 16, 1991, March 2 - 16 - 30, 1991.

Yours truly,

K. Fox  
 Chief Fire Prevention Officer

KF/sb

Attachment

