

REPORT  
Regular Council Meeting  
1992 October 19

CITY OF BURNABY

ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCILLORS

Re: Burnaby Lake Regional Nature Park  
Management Plan - Planning Process

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council receive the attached report for information.

R E P O R T

The Environment and Waste Management Committee at its meeting held on 1992 October 13 received and adopted the attached staff report providing a progress report on the updating of the Burnaby Lake Management Plan.

The Committee therefore submits the report on the Burnaby Lake Regional Nature Park Management Plan - Planning Process for Council's information.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor L. Rankin  
Chair

Councillor D.P. Drummond  
Member

Councillor D. Evans  
Member

Councillor D. Lawson  
Member

Councillor C. Redman  
Member

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: - AGENDA 1992 OCTOBER 19

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- DIRECTOR PLANNING & BLDG. INSP.
- ACTING CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

TO: ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1992 OCTOBER 06

FROM: ACTING DIRECTOR  
PLANNING & BUILDING

RE: **BURNABY LAKE REGIONAL NATURE PARK  
MANAGEMENT PLAN - PLANNING PROCESS**

PURPOSE: To provide a progress report on the updating of the Burnaby Lake Management Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. THAT this report be received for information.

**R E P O R T**

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

A process for preparing a contemporary management plan for Burnaby Lake Regional Nature Park was adopted by the Environment and Waste Management Committee and the City Council in 1991 September. The work plan for completing the management plan consists of four phases: I - data collection; II - analysis; III - concept alternatives; IV - management plan. Burnaby and GVRD staff worked together to develop the work plan and have been working cooperatively on the park management planning process.

Students from the Renewable Resources Program at BCIT conducted a number of studies to collect baseline biophysical data on Burnaby Lake in 1991/92. Some studies continued through the summer of 1992, and additional studies are being undertaken in 1992/93. The Burnaby Parks and Recreation Commission and GVRD Parks each provided a grant of \$5,000 to support the 1991/92 studies. Similar funding is being provided in support of 1992/93 BCIT studies.

This report summarizes progress to date and outlines the process and schedule to be followed to complete a management plan for Burnaby Lake.

**2.0 BCIT STUDIES**

**1991/92**

During the 1991/92 academic year students and faculty in the BCIT Renewable Resources Program undertook studies on water quality, sediment quality, vegetation, fish, reptiles and amphibians, wildlife (birds and mammals), and recreation at Burnaby Lake. Measurements of lake depth were taken for use in preparing a preliminary bathymetric map of the lake. Student reports document the study methods and results. The bathymetric data and many of the data collected in other studies are stored in a GIS (geographical information system) computer system at BCIT for use in preparing maps for data analysis and park planning purposes. An overview of study results was presented by BCIT faculty at the 1992 June meeting of the Environment and Waste Management Committee and copies of the executive summary were distributed to committee members.

BCIT funded several students to continue studies at Burnaby Lake during the summer of 1992. Summer studies included continuation of wildlife surveys of birds and mammals, summer fish habitat evaluation, reptile and amphibian surveys, and a GVRD park user survey.

### 1992/93

In 1992/93 BCIT students are continuing several studies at Burnaby Lake. The purpose of these studies is to address information gaps from the 1991/92 work and to provide Burnaby and the GVRD with the necessary baseline information to generate alternate concept and management strategies.

Wildlife surveys and collection of water quality data will continue through 1992/93. This data will be useful in documenting annual trends and patterns of variation. New studies include a forestry survey of the park, mapping of the mudflat area between high and low water levels, baseline monitoring of purple loosestrife, preliminary inventory of visual resources and studies of lake sedimentation. A series of computer-generated maps displaying data on vegetation, wildlife, bathymetry, etc. will also be produced. At the end of the year, the students will prepare written reports on each study.

### 3.0 SCHEDULE

An updated schedule for completing the four phases of the work plan is outlined here.

#### Phase I - Data Collection

Data collection will be complete at the end of 1992 with the exception of BCIT studies that continue through the spring of 1993. Burnaby and GVRD staff are compiling outstanding information on heritage resources, land ownership, zoning and park facilities. Issues and concerns such as management of introduced species, water levels, etc. will also be identified for consideration in developing concept alternatives.

#### Phase II - Analysis

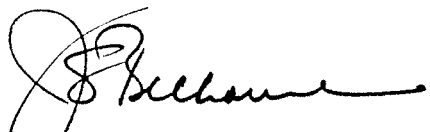
The GIS maps of biophysical data from Burnaby Lake will form an important part of the analysis. The maps will be used to identify opportunities and constraints for developing alternative park concepts. This will include mapping of sensitive areas (i.e. wetland habitats), existing park facilities (i.e. trails), heritage sites and features of interpretative interest. Meetings with various community groups and individuals will also be held to identify any issues or concerns they may have. The analysis phase is scheduled for completion in January, 1993.

#### Phase III - Concept Alternatives

Alternative concepts for the park will be prepared by a park designer to be hired by Parks and Recreation in January, 1993, subject to approval of the 1993 budget. The park designer will work with Burnaby and GVRD staff and specialists such as geotechnical engineers, as required. Concept alternatives will show land use (e.g. sensitive areas to be protected), park facilities, trails, interpretative opportunities, order of magnitude cost estimates, etc. A public open house will be held in May or June, 1993 to seek comments on the various concept alternatives. Background information in the form of maps and reports will also be available for review at the public open house. The public open house will mark the completion of phase III.

#### Phase IV - Management Plan

Once a preferred park concept has been selected, a management plan for implementing the preferred concept and managing the park will be prepared. Completion of a management plan ready for adoption by Burnaby Council, Burnaby Parks and Recreation Commission and GVRD Parks is scheduled for the fall of 1993.

  
D.G. Stenson, Acting Director  
PLANNING & BUILDING

SG\db

cc: Director Recreation and Cultural Services  
Acting Chief Public Health Inspector  
Director Engineering  
GVRD Parks - Superintendent, Central Area