

1992 DECEMBER 07

An Inaugural meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, B.C. on Monday, 1992 December 07 at 8:00 p.m.

PRESENT: His Worship, Mayor W.J. Copeland
Councillor D.R. Corrigan
Councillor D.P. Drummond
Councillor D.G. Evans
Councillor D.A. Lawson
Councillor E. Nikolai
Councillor L.A. Rankin
Councillor C.M. Redman
Councillor J. Young

STAFF: Mr. W.C. Sinclair, Acting City Manager
Mr. D.G. Stenson, Acting Director Planning and Building
Mr. R. Earle, Director Finance
Superintendent B.A. Beaudreau, O.I.C., R.C.M.P., Burnaby Detachment
Deputy Fire Chief, Mr. W.D. Brassington
Mr. C.A. Turpin, City Clerk

O P E N I N G P R A Y E R

Reverend B.A. Rossi, J.C.D., St. Michael the Archangel opened the Inaugural Meeting with a prayer and blessing.

I N A U G U R A L A D D R E S S

His Worship, Mayor W.J. Copeland then delivered his Inaugural address. The following is the text of the Mayor's Inaugural address:

It is a privilege and an honour to present to the citizens of Burnaby the first Inaugural address as a city.

Our city status was confirmed on September 22, 1992, which was 100 years to the day from the establishment of the Municipality of Burnaby.

It was therefore appropriate that Burnaby celebrate its Centennial throughout 1992. And while the year is not yet over, we have had many outstanding events. We cannot mention all of the activities since there were over 100, but we can give you a highlighted brief summary of some our 100th birthday party events.

The Centennial twilight parade followed by our opening ceremony at Swangard was exciting and fun for all. At this ceremony, Honourable Joan Sawicki, Speaker of the House, presented Burnaby with the title to Central Park as a Centennial gift from the government. This excellent park will continue to be a benefit to all of our citizens.

The Mayor's Centennial Pioneer Tea was a great event for seniors who turned out in their finest to have tea and present our now famous quilt. The quilt was given to us and was then carefully transported to the Metrotown branch of our Library and officially placed there for all our citizens to enjoy.

Our Sister City friends from Kushiro—all 114 of them joined with us for a weekend of celebrations.

The most moving ceremony was the Flag Raising/Citizenship Court held on the evening of the 22nd of September here at City Hall in our courtyard. New citizens of Burnaby were sworn in as Canadians and were welcomed to our country and to our city.

There were of course many more activities that deserve mention, but we believe that our Centennial Committee has prepared a summary of Centennial events for distribution here this evening.

We want to take this opportunity to thank Don Brown, Chairman of the Centennial Committee and his two deputies, George McLean and Joe Cranswick. They put in many thousands of hours work to plan the activities of our Centennial. We all owe these gentlemen a vote of thanks for their service to our City. We also owe a debt of gratitude to the hundreds of citizens who helped make our 100th birthday so great.

Now I would like to turn to the activities that have taken place here at City Hall and describe for you our progress for 1992 and to give you some indication of our plans for 1993.

In financial terms, Burnaby has once again had a good year. Our tax rate continues to be among the lowest in the region averaging only a little over 3% per year since 1987.

At the same time our reserves since 1987 have risen substantially. One measure of the financial health of a City is reflected in the amount of total reserves. These monies are used primarily to finance capital projects, replacement of equipment and purchase and development of land.

One of our two recently acquired office towers, Deer Lake One, across from City Hall on Canada Way is now ready to receive staff relocation related to our Asbestos Removal Program.

An important part in the running of any city is the collection of taxes which is not always popular. However, our finance people set up cookies, tea and incentive draws for payment of taxes that surprised all of us with its success.

Altogether, the City of Burnaby is in good solid, financial shape.

1992 has been a very busy year for our Parks and Recreation Commission and our Parks and Recreation Department. The Centennial events added substantially to the workload and to the facilities usage.

Outside of the Centennial, 1992 has been a busy time for our Recreation and Cultural Services staff.

One of the activities sponsored was the Club Metro Youth Centre which has completed its first full year of operation and is successful in serving the Metrotown area youth. We are looking into the feasibility of establishing youth centres in other parts of the city.

We are very pleased to inform our citizens that a financial assistance plan to be implemented in 1993 will ensure that all of our citizens have access to our recreation facilities and our programs.

1993 will certainly be another banner year for parks and recreation with the scheduled opening of our carousel at Burnaby Village Museum. This project is an outstanding group effort that will provide our children with a first class carousel. We want to thank all of the people and companies who helped to obtain and restore the carousel. This was a very large undertaking. Don Wrigley and his Committee are to be commended for the thousands of hours they have volunteered to bring the carousel back to life.

We are pleased to advise that the Eileen Dailly Leisure Pool at Confederation Park will open in 1993 as well the first nine holes of our Riverway Golf Course. The railway train has been relocated to Confederation Park and 1993 should be a good year for them.

The Burnaby Arts Centre Capital Campaign Committee chaired by Merrill Gordon and with support from Lynn Patterson, Vice President of B.C. Telephone and Michael Harding have worked very hard to raise one million dollars towards the construction of a new Burnaby arts centre. Recently at the sod-turning ceremony Premier Mike Harcourt pledged one million dollars to help towards construction of the centre. This cheque was very much appreciated and will benefit our whole community.

Longtime Burnaby resident Mark Stockdale suggested a Centennial Rose Garden. This fine addition to Burnaby opened on July 18th, 1992.

An area of increasing concern for our citizens has been the amount of violent crime in the Lower Mainland especially here in Burnaby. This year has been a very active one for the Burnaby Detachment of the RCMP.

The Burnaby RCMP has maintained its control over crime and related activities. We are pleased to report that the new command vehicle is in full operation. This should enable us to better coordinate our emergency services.

A new initiative for Burnaby is the Bike Squad which is proving very successful especially in the Metrotown area by providing quick response to situations requiring control.

We are privileged in Burnaby to have citizens who join the Auxiliary Police and who participate in Blockwatch. Citizens helping citizens makes our community a better and a safer place.

The Burnaby Fire Department have had a very busy year in fighting fires and in responding to other emergencies. It is especially worrying that arson has become so common.

To provide Burnaby with effective protection, it was necessary to study the needs of the community. As a result of the study, new response vehicles were ordered.

To protect our waterfront we joined with other communities in the Greater Vancouver area to make recommendations on protecting our shores. Consequently a new Burnaby-Port Moody fire boat was to have been delivered in November.

All of our firehalls have been or are being strengthened to withstand a seismic shock and the Number 3 Hall at Metrotown will be replaced next year with a brand new three bay, up-to-date station.

I would like now to turn to the provision of engineering services. As we have mentioned before our infrastructure of roads, sewers, watermains is now in need of major upgrading. This will be a heavy cost to Burnaby, but it is essential and we will have to find the money to carry it out.

This year, also has seen a continuation of the 3 r's of the 90's - reduce, reuse, and recycle. Our program is quite successful. The City of Burnaby was presented with the coveted 1992 Provincial Minister's Environmental Award.

In other areas of the Engineering Department, the conversion to high pressure sodium lights has saved energy that qualifies the City for a rebate under the B.C. Hydro Power Smart Program.

In 1992, water sprinkling restrictions were introduced in Burnaby for the first time. This is quite possibly a sign of the times -- that we must conserve water. The initiative to conserve was initiated by the Greater Vancouver Regional District but was fully supported by our Burnaby Council.

Council and Committee activities have kept the Clerk's office busy during the past year. Council has taken a number of initiatives to review and formulate policies relating to: Freedom of Information; recycling, composting and battery collection, heritage projects that include the restoration of the Jubilee Arch in Central Park, the development of a Comprehensive Heritage Management Plan; and the creation of a Social Planning Program for the Metrotown area.

Last year, we announced a plan to make our City services more accessible and more user-friendly. To this end we have improved our delivery of services to the public by extending the hours of operation at City Hall, including opening every Thursday until 8 pm.

We expect that for the new year we will be encouraging staff to come forward with suggestions for how we can make our city services more open and friendly.

Burnaby is rapidly growing and changing from a basically residential community to a finely-balanced industrial/commercial/residential city. To succeed we need and get the support of our citizens. We owe a great deal to those people who serve on Committees, assist our police, appear at Council as delegations, or write to the Mayor expressing views. All of these activities contribute to our quality of life in Burnaby.

Our Burnaby School Board continues to provide leadership in education in our community, and as a consequence we have an excellent school system. During our Centennial events and celebrations this year, we have had outstanding support not only from staff but from the hundreds of citizens who helped plan, and present the 100 or so activities that made our 100th birthday the success that it is.

By all standards Burnaby is an excellent community in which to live and to work. To keep it this way it is necessary to have good and orderly planning. This includes not just the activities of our Planning and Building Department but the willingness of our citizens to provide Council with their views on our development activities that benefits all of us. This process makes our city what it is today and what it will be tomorrow.

In looking forward to 1993 there are two major matters which we intend to initiate action upon in the early part of the year.

The first will be to establish an Edmonds Area Advisory Committee which will have similar Terms of Reference to that of our former Hastings Street Advisory Committee. Following its appointment in the spring of 1989, the Hastings Street group, through the balance of 1989 and most of 1990, worked together and were very successful in developing a long range plan for the Hastings Street community. We are confident that the same results can be achieved by a group of Edmonds Area residents and merchants. It is especially important since the Edmonds/Stride Area has undergone tremendous change already with much more to come.

Therefore, we are pleased to announce that early in 1993, we will invite all residents and business people in the Edmonds/Stride area to participate in a community forum to discuss issues that are important to them. From this forum, a Neighbourhood Advisory Planning Committee will be created consisting of residents, business people, a representative of council and other community representatives.

The purpose of this Committee will be to work with our Planning Department and the Edmonds/Stride community in coming up with a strategy to make a more liveable neighbourhood for existing and future citizens. We will provide fuller details of this neighbourhood planning initiative in a report in the new year.

Secondly, citizen involvement in the decision making process has become a successful component of the operations of several North American cities and we see no reason why we can't develop a workable program for Burnaby.

We hope to be able to arrange for Mr. Jim Diers, Director of the Department of Neighbourhoods for the City of Seattle, to visit our city to speak to a number of groups at public meetings which we would hold in several of our established neighbourhoods.

The City of Seattle is recognized as a leader in the area of citizen participation and neighbourhood involvement and we feel Mr. Diers' enthusiasm and experience will help our citizens better understand the role they can play in shaping our future.

Since the Burnaby Council is very supportive of neighbourhood planning we do look forward to the success of this venture.

There are a number of noteworthy economic activities that we would like now to bring to your attention.

1992 building construction values continue at a high level in Burnaby. In the first 10 months of this year permit values are in the order of 335 million dollars.

Burnaby continues to be attractive to those companies looking for a good location for their head office. Recently completed head office buildings include: Dominion Directory, Reid Crowther, B.C.A.A., The United Way and B.C. Hydro. We must congratulate these and other companies for their outstanding building designs.

Metrotown continues to develop and mature as Burnaby's prime centre. Our Metrotown skyline is quite impressive.

Close to Metrotown is the Oakalla land that finally saw the removal of the prison facilities. That alone was a major benefit to Burnaby. However, after an extensive public review the development of the Oakalla lands is now underway. We will be doing everything we can to ensure that the park portion of the project is developed for the benefit of all of our citizens and the housing developed is appropriate to our community needs.

The urban trail development is also for the benefit of our citizens. The first phase from Hastings Street to the Burnaby Mountain Golf Course is nearing completion. The route from there to Cameron Centre has now been approved in principle after a lengthy public discussion.

Affordable housing is a high priority with Council. This fall two projects on city-owned land were started.

Over the past several years Council has had a considerable amount of concern over the policies related to how we manage residential growth. Many issues such as very large homes on residential lots have aroused public concern. We have now embarked on a review of our current policies with the objective of providing a revised Community Plan.

Another area of concern for Burnaby is the whole area of transportation. We have continued to develop the Burnaby Transportation Plan under the direction of our Transportation Committee. We are expecting to complete the study in 1993. In the meantime we have met with the Minister of Transportation and Highways to express our concern and to indicate a sense of urgency in the provision of transportation routes through Burnaby.

Social planning is another priority activity for Burnaby. Some of our initiatives include: child care policy study; city child care centre for the Edmonds area; group home review; access for persons with disabilities; social planning activities for Metrotown and the United Way campaign.

We are continuing our initiatives in the environmental area, these include: the defining of Burnaby's green zones; preparing a contemporary management plan for the Burnaby Lake Regional Nature Park; presenting community workshops, and a pilot project to start the cleaning of Deer Lake.

In 1993 we will participate in the development and implementation of an Integrated Pest Management Program and the development of a Tree Preservation/Management Bylaw.

We think that it is important to say that the health of our citizens is of primary importance to our Council.

After the recommendation of the B.C. Royal Commission on Health Care the Ministry of Health began to increase funding for the new "Closer to Home" Policy. This of course affects the programs of the Burnaby Health Department. The areas of increased support include: community care; environmental control and food safety programs.

Along with the Ministry of Health and the Burnaby Hospital our Health Department plays an increasing role in the Community Quick Response Program that assists people in receiving care at home rather than in the hospital. This is an area of vital concern to all Canadians. We need to balance the provision of good health care with the funding required to support it. We will be looking carefully at what methods of health care are proposed.

To sum up, our Health Department is involved with community care projects, group homes for the physically disabled, the environment, rehabilitation services for children, preventative and volunteer services. Healthwise we believe that our citizens are in good hands.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to our hard-working Council: Councillors Corrigan, Drummond, Evans, Lawson, Nikolai, Rankin, Redman and Young, not only for their work on Council activities, but for all of their time spent on committees. This part of the job can be rewarding, frustrating, and of course, demanding. I am sure that all of our citizens understand this.

1992 has been a demanding year not just for the Council and committee work but for a unique and a once-in-a-lifetime activity "our 100th birthday party" and all of the events and celebrations it brought to all of us. One of the most valuable assets of the Centennial was that it brought our community together in a way that seldom happens.

I would also like to thank our staff members for their work in the day-to-day activities that are vital to any city."

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CORRIGAN:
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DRUMMOND:

"THAT the Inaugural Address be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APPOINTMENTS TO REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

MOVED BY COUNCILLORS EVANS:
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR LAWSON:

"THAT the following Council members be appointed to the following Regional Organizations for a term of one year:

GREATER VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Directors | - Councillor D.R. Corrigan |
| | - Councillor D.P. Drummond |
| Alternate Directors | - Councillor L.A. Rankin for
Councillor Drummond |
| | - Councillor J. Young for
Councillor Corrigan |

GREATER VANCOUVER REGIONAL LABOUR
RELATIONS BUREAU

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Director | - Councillor D.R. Corrigan |
| Alternate Director | - Councillor D.G. Evans |

GREATER VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
PARKS COMMITTEE

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Representative | - Councillor J. Young |
| Alternate | - Councillor D. Evans" |

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. The City Manager presented Report No. 75, 1992 December 07 on the matter listed following as Item 1 either providing the information shown or recommending the courses of action indicated for the reasons given:

1. 1993 Provisional Operating Budget

The City Manager submitted a report requesting Council approve the 1993 Provisional Operating Budget.

The City Manager recommended:

1. THAT the 1993 Provisional Operating Budget be adopted.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DRUMMOND:
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR NIKOLAI:

"THAT the recommendation of the City Manager be adopted."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B Y L A W S

FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READING:

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NIKOLAI:
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR RANKIN:

"THAT

Burnaby Animal Control Bylaw 1991, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 1992 #9826

be now introduced read three times."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR REDMAN:
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR YOUNG:


"THAT this Inaugural Council Meeting do now adjourn."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Inaugural Council Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Confirmed:

Certified Correct:


MAYOR


CITY CLERK