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REPORT
1993 NOVEMBER 01

CITY OF BURNABY

COMMUNITY ISSUES AND SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

**HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS:**

Re: Proposed City Child Care Policy

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council be requested to adopt the proposed City Child Care Policy presented in Appendix 3, *attached*.
2. **THAT** Council be requested to authorize staff, in conjunction with the Child Care Resources Group and other appropriate parties, to develop an implementation strategy for the Child Care Policy, as described in Section 3 of this report.
3. **THAT** a copy of this report be sent to the Burnaby School Board, Parks & Recreation Commission, and Child Care Resources Group.

REPORT

The Community Issues and Social Planning Committee, at its meeting held on 1993 October 27, received and adopted the attached staff report detailing the Parks and Recreation Commission and Burnaby School Board comments regarding the Draft City Child Care Policy along with the proposed next steps for an implementation plan for the policy.

The Committee therefore submits the revised City Child Care policy for Council's endorsement along with seeking Council's authorization for development of a policy implementation strategy.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor E. Nikolai
Chair

Councillor J. Young,
Vice Chair

Councillor C. Redman
Member

TO: COMMUNITY ISSUES &
SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

1993 OCTOBER 21

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

OUR FILE: 17.315
X Ref: 17.811

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CITY CHILD CARE POLICY

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council be requested to adopt the proposed City Child Care Policy presented in Appendix 3, *attached*.
2. **THAT** Council be requested to authorize staff, in conjunction with the Child Care Resources Group and other appropriate parties, to develop an implementation strategy for the Child Care Policy, as described in Section 3 of this report.
3. **THAT** a copy of this report be sent to the Burnaby School Board, Parks & Recreation Commission, and Child Care Resources Group.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 1993 June 28, Council received a report from the Community Issues & Social Planning Committee entitled, "Draft City Child Care Policy" and adopted the following recommendation contained therein:

THAT Council authorize staff to forward the draft City Child Care Policy to the Parks and Recreation Commission and Burnaby School Board for review and comment prior to Council's final consideration of the Policy.

The Parks and Recreation Commission and Burnaby School Board have completed their review of the Policy and have provided comments accordingly. This report summarizes their comments, recommends Council adoption of a revised City Child Care Policy, and seeks authorization for development of a policy implementation strategy.

2.0 PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION **AND BURNABY SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS**

At its meeting of 1993 September 15, the Parks & Recreation Commission reviewed a Recreation staff report regarding the draft City Child Care Policy (Appendix 1, *attached*). The report identified two policies which would directly involve the Commission:

Policy 4(g) - considering the allocation of space within future recreation centres and park developments, as feasible and appropriate, for the establishment of non-profit child care centres and programs

Policy 4(l) - requesting the Parks and Recreation Department, in consultation with Burnaby youths and out-of-school child care providers, to explore development of recreation programs which are accessible to 5-12 year olds attending out-of-school care programs.

The report indicated that implementation of these policies would be feasible, subject to the availability of additional resources. It also proposed that Recreation staff conduct a study to more accurately determine the feasibility and cost implications of the policy implementation. After discussing the report, the Commission adopted the staff recommendation that the Draft City Child Care Policy be endorsed in principle.

The Burnaby School Board, at its meeting of 1993 September 28, endorsed the proposed Child Care Policy in principle, subject to minor wording changes. The proposed wording changes involved:

- indicating that the City will a) work with the School Board in identifying neighbourhoods which require child care facilities and b) support the Board's funding applications to the Ministry of Education for school based child care programs;
- expanding the policy statement regarding children with special needs to include children over 12 years of age; and
- clarifying the City's intention to make recommendations to senior governments and other bodies to provide funding to address Burnaby's child care needs.

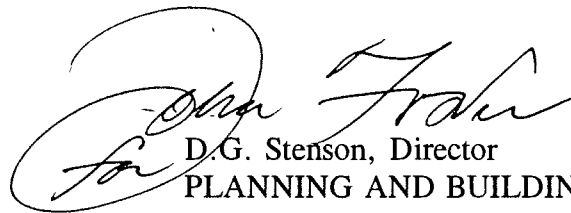
A letter outlining the Board's position is contained in Appendix 2, *attached*.

3.0 REVISED CHILD CARE POLICY AND PROPOSED NEXT STEPS

Upon hearing from the Parks & Recreation Commission and Burnaby School Board, staff prepared a revised draft City Child Care Policy (see Appendix 3, *attached*). The revisions are relatively minor, incorporating the proposals made by the School Board.

Having received endorsement from the Board and Parks and Recreation Commission, it is recommended that Council be asked to adopt the revised Child Care Policy. It is further recommended that Council be asked to authorize staff, in conjunction with the Child Care Resources Group and other appropriate parties, to develop an implementation plan for the policy. In addition to proposing a course of action, the implementation plan should identify proposed timing and resource requirements.

Given the resources that would inevitably be required for the policy's implementation, it is unlikely that the City would be able to pursue all aspects of the Child Care Policy immediately. Nonetheless, with adoption of the policy and development of the implementation plan, it is hoped that the City will be able to pursue priority areas for improving the child care situation of Burnaby families.


D.G. Stenson, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

JF\db

Attachments

- cc: City Manager
Director Finance
Director Administrative & Community Services
Director Recreation & Cultural Services
Medical Health Officer
Chief Public Health Inspector
City Solicitor
Chairperson, Child Care Resources Group

APPENDIX 1

CITY OF BURNABY
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

1993 October 21

TO: Director Planning and Building
Attn.: John Foster

FROM: Administration Officer

SUBJECT: DRAFT CITY CHILD CARE POLICY

At its meeting of 1993 September 15, the Parks and Recreation Commission received a staff report on the above subject and adopted the recommendation contained there.

A copy of the report is attached for your information.



PEGI LYNDS

tc
Attachment
A/2201

SUBJECT: DRAFT CITY CHILD CARE POLICY

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the Draft City Child Care Policy be endorsed in principle, as outlined in this report.

REPORT

City Council at its meeting of 1993 June 28 received the draft City Child Care Policy and forwarded it to the Parks and Recreation Commission for comment. It appeared on the Commission's Agenda of 1993 August 04 under Correspondence. Council adopted the recommendation that through the Community Issues and Social Planning Committee they receive the Commission's comment on the policy before they give its final consideration of the Policy.

The Commission had previously advised the Community Issues and Social Planning Committee that it supported the Commission's mandate including "child care" and that a City Child Care Policy be pursued.

The draft Child Care Policy proposes that the City commit to improving accessibility and affordability of child care. It is proposed that the Commission will participate in this program by:

- (1) "Considering the allocation of space within future recreation centres and park developments, as feasible and appropriate, for the establishment of non-profit child care centres and programs."
- (2) "Requesting the Parks & Recreation Department, in consultation with Burnaby youths and out of school child care providers, to explore development of recreation programs which are accessible to 5-12 year olds attending out-of-school care programs."

The feasibility of this proposal needs further work. The provision of the recommended recreation services for day care cannot be achieved within existing department resources. Recreation facility space is used to capacity. Community program budgets have been reduced significantly over the past three years. Therefore, at present only a basic children's program is available to the community.

If the provision of facility and a recreation program service for day care or after school day care were to be subsidized by the City, it would require the addition of funds for staffing, program, facility and supplies.

The incorporation of day care facilities within a recreation complex is feasible. The provision of after school recreation programs designed for after school day care is possible with the recognition that such a program would be provided when suitable school space is available and that the hours of operation would be possibly limited by the hours which the school is staffed. After school day care programs would typically be from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The normal after school recreation program is 1 to 2 hours in length; therefore the duration and resultant cost of a day care program is approximately double that of a recreation program.

The recommendation to involve youth and child care agencies in the design of the activities to be offered as an after school day care service, can be readily achieved. The critical resource needed for this process is staff time.

To accurately identify the true opportunity for day care services within Parks and Recreation, and the probable cost of managing and delivering this service will require further study.

Factors to be evaluated would include:

- 1) The availability of school facility, schedules, costs, and use agreements.
- 2) Program design for after school day care management and delivery cost.
- 3) Day care regulations and requirements, facility requirements, licencing, etc.
- 4) Promotion and marketing of services.
- 5) Risk management analysis.
- 6) Recreation facility design requirements, space requirements and design considerations for day care facilities.
- 7) Assessment of park land and recreation facility availability and potential opportunities.
- 8) Implementation time line and projected costs.

The addition of day care facility and after school day care services to the mandate of the Parks & Recreation Department is feasible if given the necessary resources. Child care services could be complementary to the recreation environment and a valuable recreation opportunity could be provided to the young children, youth and their parents through an integrated recreation/day care program.

It is recommended that the Commission endorse the draft policy in principle and offer to work with City Council or its designate in advancing these proposals if the City decides to make it a funding priority. It is recommended that the Commission's position on this matter be communicated to the Community Issues and Social Planning Committee for incorporation into that committee's response to Council.

Copies of the two previous documents have been included in each Commissioner's package as backup information.

ND:ps:seo
COMMISSION/0001



1993.10.15

Mr. John Foster
Senior Social Planner
Planning Department
City of Burnaby
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, B.C.
V5G 1M2

Dear John:

I am writing in regard to the Burnaby City Childcare Policy.

At the regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of 1993.09.28, the Board approved in principle the proposed City of Burnaby Childcare Policy with the following changes in wording:

9. Recommending to other Public Agencies
- (e) The City will, on an ongoing basis,
- i) make recommendations to other levels of government and public agencies to improve childcare services and programs by seeking funding approvals for childcare resources.
 - ii) work with the School Board to identify neighbourhoods in Burnaby which require childcare facilities and support the Board in making application for school based childcare program funding from the Ministry of Education.

In discussion of the Burnaby City Childcare Policy, the Board also requested that the policy address the issue of out-of-school care for special needs children over the age of 12.

On behalf of the Pupil Services Committee of the Board, I would like to thank you personally for your attendance at the recent meeting to present the historical development and draft of the Childcare Policy.

Mr. John Foster
City of Burnaby

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1993.10.15

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any further clarification on the Board's response to the Burnaby Childcare Policy.

Yours truly,

Candace

Candace Soler
Assistant Superintendent

CS/dm

cc: Bob Ingram
Elliott Grieve

PROPOSED CHILD CARE POLICY FOR BURNABY

DEFINITION

"...child care is a comprehensive service to children and their families that supplements the care that children receive from their families. As a supplement to family care, professional child care is in no way a substitute for such care nor a competitor for the role of parents in the upbringing of their children. To some extent, professional child care represents a version of the extended family, one which is compatible with and adapted to the social realities of the modern world. Virtually all children are reared primarily in their own homes by their own families, and virtually all children receive some degree of supplemental care from people other than their parents".¹

CHILD CARE VISION

The City of Burnaby is committed to

- assisting with the creation, by the year 2000, of a comprehensive child care system in Burnaby which provides for and supports a range of child care options, including the option of parents staying home to care for their children;
- supporting families and children in their search for child care options which best suit their personal circumstances; and
- working with the School Board, Provincial ministries, child care providers, and others in pursuing the City's child care objectives.

POLICY ELEMENTS

1. Support Role

The City supports individuals and organizations involved with the provision of child care programs by

- a) offering information and other appropriate support to existing and prospective Burnaby child care providers; and
- b) helping the Burnaby/New Westminster Child Care Support Program to enhance its ability to provide information, resource, and referral services to Burnaby child care providers and community members.

¹ Caldwell and Hilliard, "What is Quality Child Care." Quoted in "Showing We Care", Report of the Provincial Task Force on Child Care, 1991, P. 1.

2. Community Input

The City is committed to developing mechanisms to obtain the views of Burnaby parents and child care providers concerning the development of child care services by

- a) confirming the Child Care Resources Group's mandate to serve as an advisory body to the Community Issues & Social Planning Committee on child care matters;
- b) ensuring that the Child Care Resources Group contains a diverse membership, including a Community Issues & Social Planning Committee appointee, child care providers, City and Provincial staff, child care advocates, early childhood educators, School Board staff, business and union representatives, parents, and other appropriate parties;
- c) requesting the Child Care Resources Group to monitor implementation of the City Child Care Policy;
- d) requesting the Child Care Resources Group to set annual targets for the numbers of new child care spaces needed in Burnaby; and
- e) requesting the Child Care Resources Group to prepare an annual report on its activities.

3. Progressive Employer

The City is committed to acting as a progressive employer regarding child care by

- a) examining its personnel practices and, where possible, making adjustments to help employees balance their responsibilities to work and family;
- b) examining the feasibility of establishing child care facilities for City employees in and near City buildings; and
- c) exploring other options for assisting City staff in meeting their child care needs.

4. Improving Accessibility and Affordability

The City will work to improve the accessibility and affordability of child care by

- a) providing appropriate and sufficient opportunities for the establishment of child care facilities within the context of the Burnaby Zoning Bylaw and other City regulations;
- b) requesting that a 'child care plan' be provided in conjunction with major development proposals;
- c) requesting developers to establish child care facilities in proposed large scale multi-family residential projects and other large developments, as deemed appropriate;
- d) encouraging developers and employers to establish workplace child care facilities, especially in developments having employees with atypical work hours;
- e) permitting sponsors of workplace child care centres to accommodate the general public, in addition to employees, in the centres;