

CITY OF BURNABY

ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS

RE: RESOLUTIONS ON RECYCLED CONTENT AND EXCESSIVE PACKAGING
FOR SUBMISSION TO THE UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council endorse the resolutions on recycled content in manufactured goods and excessive packaging in Section 2.0 of this report.
2. THAT Council endorse the report for submission to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities.
3. THAT copies of this report be forwarded to the GVRD and the Project Manager of the Solid Waste Management Plan Review for information in support of waste reduction strategies.
4. THAT copies of this report be forwarded to the Hon. John Cashore, Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks; Dr. Barb Copping, Member of Legislative Assembly; Mr. Barry Jones, Member of Legislative Assembly; Mr. Fred Randall, Member of Legislative Assembly; and the Hon. Joan Sawicki, Member of Legislative Assembly.
5. THAT copies of this report be forwarded to Mr. Svend Robinson, Member of Parliament, and Ms. Dawn Black, Member of Parliament.

R E P O R T

The Environment and Waste Management Committee, at its meeting of 1993 May 11, received and adopted the attached staff report to present resolutions and rationale on recycled content and excessive packaging for submission to the 1993 Conference of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Respectfully submitted,

: COPY - CITY MANAGER
- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING
- DIRECTOR FINANCE
- DIR. PLNG. & BLDG.

Councillor L. Rankin,
Chair

Councillor D. Lawson
Member

Councillor C. Redman
Member

**TO: ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

1993 MAY 03

**FROM: ACTING DIRECTOR
PLANNING & BUILDING**

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTIONS ON RECYCLED CONTENT AND EXCESSIVE
PACKAGING FOR SUBMISSION TO THE UNION OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES**

PURPOSE: To present resolutions and rationale for them on recycled content and excessive packaging for submission to the 1993 conference of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT the Environment and Waste Management Committee endorse the resolutions on recycled content in manufactured goods and excessive packaging in Section 2.0 of this report.
2. THAT this report be forwarded to the City Council for approval and submission to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities.
3. THAT copies of this report be forwarded to the GVRD and the Project Manager of the Solid Waste Management Plan Review for information in support of waste reduction strategies.
4. THAT copies of this report be forwarded to the Hon. John Cashore, Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks; Dr. Barb Copping, Member of Legislative Assembly; Mr. Barry Jones, Member of Legislative Assembly; Mr. Fred Randall, Member of Legislative Assembly; and the Hon. Joan Sawicki, Member of Legislative Assembly.
5. THAT copies of this report be forwarded to Mr. Svend Robinson, Member of Parliament, and Ms. Dawn Black, Member of Parliament.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

In 1990, the City of Burnaby submitted a resolution on recyclable materials to the annual conference of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Municipal multi-material curbside recycling programs across Canada encounter many difficulties in locating, developing and maintaining reliable markets for recyclable materials they collect. The resolution requested the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to urge the federal government and territorial/provincial governments to enact legislation requiring suitable percentages of recyclable materials in new products manufactured of paper, glass, plastic, metals and other recyclable materials reclaimed from the waste stream. The resolution was adopted by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in 1990.

At the 1993 March 09 meeting of the Environment and Waste Management Committee, the draft State of the Environment Report for Burnaby was reviewed and discussed. The Committee noted in its discussion of solid waste management that, in spite of the 1990 resolution adopted by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, little progress has been made in mandating minimum percentages of a range of recycled materials in manufactured goods. The Committee also noted the significant contribution that excessive packaging material makes to the waste stream. Thus, the Committee adopted a motion to revise the 1990 resolution to reflect Burnaby's State of the Environment Report and to resubmit the resolution to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities along with a resolution on excessive packaging. This was accomplished in a report from the Committee to Council at its regular meeting of 1993 March 22. The Committee also moved to prepare and submit similar resolutions to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities.

2.0 RESOLUTIONS FOR SUBMISSION TO UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES

The following resolutions on recyclable materials and excessive packaging have been prepared for submission to the 1993 annual conference of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities.

**RESOLUTIONS ON RECYCLED CONTENT AND
EXCESSIVE PACKAGING FOR SUBMISSION TO
THE UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES
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2.1 Recyclable Materials

WHEREAS curbside and depot-based multi-material recycling programs are becoming integral parts of municipal waste management programs in all parts of Canada;

WHEREAS the viability of municipal recycling programs is dependent on reliable markets for materials collected through these programs;

WHEREAS demand for recyclable materials is highly susceptible to fluctuations in markets for these materials;

WHEREAS the City of Burnaby, British Columbia intends to adopt a State of the Environment Report for the City which includes the goal, "To mandate through legislation standards for minimum recycled content in manufactured goods, standards for packaging materials, and restrictions on the use of materials that cannot be recycled";

BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Province of British Columbia to enact appropriate legislation to require manufacturers of products composed of paper (including newsprint), glass, plastic, metals and such other materials that may be reclaimed from the waste stream to include a suitable percentage of recyclable materials in these products; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Province of British Columbia to adopt policies and/or legislation requiring all provincial agencies (including but not limited to provincial ministries, Crown corporations, regional districts, municipalities and school districts) to give preference to suppliers of goods and materials that include a suitable component of recycled content in their products.

2.2 Excessive Packaging

WHEREAS municipalities are taking steps to provide recycling and waste reduction programs for residents;

WHEREAS unnecessary and wasteful packaging is a significant contributor to the waste stream;

WHEREAS the established hierarchy of the 3R's of waste management is REDUCE, before REUSE, before RECYCLE;

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WHEREAS municipalities cannot recycle all of the components of an ever growing wastestream;

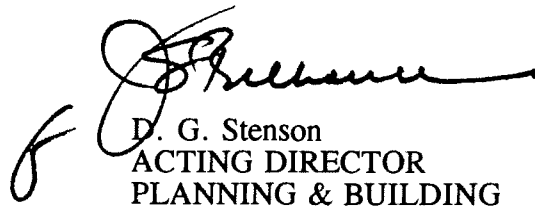
WHEREAS the City of Burnaby, British Columbia intends to adopt a State of the Environment Report for the City which includes the goal, "To mandate through legislation standards for minimum recycled content in manufactured goods, standards for packaging materials, and restrictions on the use of materials that cannot be recycled";

BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request the Province of British Columbia to enact suitable legislation and/or policies to require manufacturers and distributors of goods and materials to reduce the amount of packaging used for their products; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request the Province of British Columbia to enact policies and or legislation whereby all provincial agencies (including but not necessarily limited to provincial ministries, Crown corporations, regional districts, municipalities, and school districts) give preference to suppliers of goods and materials the employ reduced methods of packaging.

3.0 SUMMARY

Municipal efforts to reduce the waste stream through multi-material recycling programs are being hampered by the lack of reliable markets for recyclable materials. Excessive packaging material also contributes significantly to the volume of solid waste produced. Two resolutions prepared for submission to the 1993 annual conference of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities seek to address this problem by legislating minimum contents of recyclable materials in a range of manufactured products and by legislating reductions in the amount of packaging material used by the manufacturers and distributors of goods and materials. Purchasing policies that give preference to manufactured products containing recyclable materials and to products with reduced packaging are also addressed in the resolutions. The Environment and Waste Management Committee submitted similar resolutions on recyclable materials and excessive packaging to the 1993 annual conference of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.


D. G. Stenson
ACTING DIRECTOR
PLANNING & BUILDING

SG/jp
cc: Director Engineering
Director Finance

