

ITEM	25
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	49
COUNCIL MEETING	93/08/26

TO: CITY MANAGER 1993 AUGUST 10
FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING OUR FILE:
SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE AND EDUCATION CENTRE
PURPOSE: To update Council on plans for establishing an Environmental Resource and Education Centre during fall 1993.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council approve the allocation of \$42,000.00 from the capital contingency account to fund the Environmental Resource and Education Centre project.
2. **THAT** staff be authorized to proceed with the implementation of the project and work with the Burnaby School Board to develop an operating agreement.

R E P O R T

1.0 BACKGROUND

At the regular Council meeting of 1993 July 26, Council adopted a report on the feasibility of establishing an Environmental Resource and Education Centre on city-owned property in the 4800 block of Still Creek Avenue in partnership with the Burnaby School Board. The centre would provide a classroom setting for school classes and other groups visiting the Burnaby Recycling Depot and GVRD Compost Demonstration Garden.

The proposed centre would consist of a portable building (approximately 20 ft. x 52 ft.) configured as a classroom with wheelchair accessible washrooms and a storage room. Services could be readily extended to the centre, and adequate space for bus and automobile parking is available on the site. A security fence and landscaping would be installed. An implementation schedule for making the centre operational in the fall of 1993 was proposed.

This report provides Council with an update on the planning and implementation schedule for the Environmental Resource and Education Centre.

ITEM	25
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	49
COUNCIL MEETING	93/08/26

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE AND EDUCATION CENTRE

2.1 Building

The report adopted by Council at its regular meeting of 1993 July 26 identified BCIT as the potential donor of a portable building suitable for relocation to Still Creek Avenue and reconfiguration as a classroom that would function as the Environmental Resource and Education Centre. BCIT has recently indicated that a suitable portable building will not be available until 1994 January, at the earliest. This is several months later than anticipated when an implementation schedule in support of an October, 1993 opening was proposed.

A new portable building could be acquired for the centre in time to make it operational this fall. If a suitably configured portable building is purchased, reconfiguration and structural modifications of the BCIT portable will not be required. A new building will also provide a longer service life and require less maintenance during the first few years. Tendering of the new portable at this time would permit competitive price quotation as the industry and school demand for portables is generally lower in the late summer. Proceeding with the acquisition of a new portable building at this time will also ensure that site preparation, building placement and site servicing can take place under favourable weather conditions.

2.2 Operating Arrangements

The Environmental Resource and Education Centre will provide classroom and meeting space that can be booked by teachers, community groups, city departments, etc. No additional staffing will be required. Groups that have booked the centre will pick up the key at the Burnaby Recycling Depot and return it when they are finished.

Staff will meet with staff from the Burnaby School Board in early September to finalize the terms of agreement between the City and the Board for establishing and operating the centre. The final agreement will be presented to Council for their approval.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

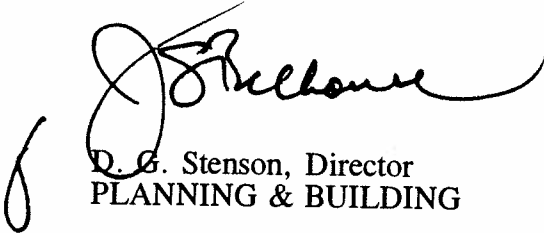
As explained in the report Council adopted in July, 1993, the estimated costs of establishing the Environmental Resource and Education Centre are in the range of \$35,000 to \$42,000 depending whether a used or new building is acquired. Acquiring a new building, as described in this report, will have an estimated cost of \$42,000.00. Subject to Council approval, staff will obtain a firm quotation for the supply and installation of the portable. The total capital cost of \$42,000.00 would require allocation of City funds from the capital contingency account. The Burnaby School Board has indicated that they would provide appropriate school furniture and audio/visual equipment for specific displays and projects for the centre. Operating costs are expected to be nominal for either a used or new building, but overall maintenance costs should be less for a new structure.

Planning and Building
Re: Environmental Resource
and Education Centre
1993 August 11 Page 3

ITEM	25
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	49
COUNCIL MEETING	93/08/26

4.0 SUMMARY

A suitable portable building for the Environmental Resource and Education Centre will not be available from BCIT until 1994, January at the earliest. A new purpose-built portable building could be acquired, moved to the site, serviced, and made fully operational for an estimated \$42,000.00 in time for a 1993 fall opening. It is recommended that Council approve the allocation of \$42,000.00 from the capital contingency account to fund the Environmental Resource and Education Centre project and that staff be authorized to proceed with the implementation of the project and work with the Burnaby School Board to develop an operating agreement.


D. G. Stenson, Director
PLANNING & BUILDING


SG/cb

cc: Director Engineering
Director Finance

