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REPORT
1993 June 07

CITY OF BURNABY

HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS

RE: FUNDING ASSISTANCE FOR PRIVATELY-
OWNED HERITAGE BUILDINGS

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council petition the Minister of Municipal Affairs to authorize Council, in accordance with Section 288 of the Municipal Act, to provide direct grants to owners of heritage buildings to assist them in the maintenance of their properties.
2. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Mr. and Mrs. S. Smith, 5180 Boundary Road, Burnaby, B. C.

REPORT

The Heritage Advisory Committee, at its meeting of 1993 May 26, received a report from the Acting Director Planning and Building, prepared in response to Council's referral of a request from the owners of the Coburn House (Mrs. and Mrs. S. Smith) for financial assistance toward maintenance of their designated heritage home.

The Committee considered three options available to Council for providing funds for this purpose: creation of an arms-length Heritage Foundation, a request to the Province to convey to Council the power to give grants directly to the owners of designated heritage buildings under section 288 of the Municipal Act, or wait for the enactment of the new Heritage Conservation Act which will allow Municipalities to directly fund the restoration and maintenance of privately-owned designated municipal heritage sites.

Of these options, it is the City Solicitor's opinion that a heritage foundation, as proposed, would be a cumbersome vehicle with which to administer a grants program. Staff have been advised that approval of the new Heritage Conservation Act could be delayed until Spring 1994, or later.

Therefore, the Heritage Advisory Committee have resolved to request Council submit a request to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Culture for authority under Section 288 of the Municipal Act to give grants directly to the owners of designated heritage sites.

Section 288 reads: "In addition to the powers of a Municipal Council under this Act, the Minister may from time to time confer on the Council further powers for the management and disposal of municipal assets considered by the Minister necessary of advisable." Council would then be in a position to establish appropriate guidelines for heritage grants.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Lawson,
Chair

Councillor D. Drummond
Member

Members: Mrs. M. Canessa
Mr. A. Diamond
Mr. D. Johnston
Mrs. P. McGeachie
Mr. H. Pride
Ms. R. Richards
Mr. J. Ross