

REPORT
1994 JULY 11

COMMUNITY ISSUES AND SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS

RE: RESOURCES FOR BURNABY CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council receive the attached report for information.

REPORT

The Community Issues and Social Planning Committee, at its meeting held on 1994 June 29 received the attached report outlining a sample of the resources available to Burnaby children and youth and their families.

The Committee adopted the recommendation contained in the report and now places the report before Council for information.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor C. Redman
Chair

Councillor D. Johnston
Vice Chair

COPY - CITY MANAGER

- DIR. ADMIN. & COMM. SERV.
- DIR. PLNG. AND BLDG.
- DIR. REC. & CULT. SERV.
- OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, R.C.M.P.
- MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER

TO: COMMUNITY ISSUES & SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE 1994 JUNE 15

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING FILE: 17.315

SUBJECT: RESOURCES FOR BURNABY CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES

PURPOSE: To outline a sample of the resources available to Burnaby children and youth and their families.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for information purposes.

R E P O R T

1.0 BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 1993 November 24, the Community Issues & Social Planning Committee received for information a set of "Child and Youth Policy Overview Papers". The Papers were prepared for the British Columbia municipal elections by the Child and Youth Planning and Advocacy Network. The Papers focus on 11 issues pertinent to children and youth and their families in British Columbia, and identify "what is needed" at the Municipal level to improve the well-being of children and youth.

The Community Issues & Social Planning Committee passed the following motion:

THAT staff prepare a report to incorporate an assessment of each section of the overview papers to outline what is needed, and answer, does Burnaby have this or not and recommend where Burnaby should be going.

This report responds to that request.


2.0 RESOURCES FOR BURNABY CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES

Appendix 1, *attached*, provides a cursory overview of some of the resources available to Burnaby children and youth and their families. The overview makes no pretence to be comprehensive. To obtain the information, staff consulted the major resources for services - "The Burnaby-New Westminister Directory of Services", key City staff, and a variety of reports on services. Without doubt, there are other resources which have not been identified. Moreover, the fact of resource's existence does not guarantee its adequacy for Burnaby's needs.

With those provisos, the overview suggests that Burnaby children, youth and their families have access to a wide variety of supportive resources. The overview may also assist the recently struck ad hoc committee on youth recreation services/programs. That committee, a joint Parks & Recreation Commission and Community Issues & Social Planning Committee body, will consider youth recreational services and programs over the next 6 months.

3.0 CONCLUSION

The Policy Papers were prepared as a catalyst to encourage people to discuss child, youth and family policy issues. Based on a cursory examination of resources, it would seem that Burnaby children and youth and their families have available to them a wide range of services and resources which address most of the major issues identified in the Policy Papers.


D. G. Stenson, Director
PLANNING & BUILDING

JS/gl

Attachment

cc: City Manager
Director Administrative & Community Services
Director Recreation & Cultural Services
Medical Health Officer
RCMP, OiC Crime Prevention

APPENDIX 1

RESOURCES FOR BURNABY CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES

The following is an overview of some of the resources available to Burnaby children and youth and their families. The overview was prepared in response to a set of "Child and Youth Policy Overview Papers" prepared by the Child and Youth Planning and Advocacy Network. The overview is structured according to the 11 issues raised in the Policy Papers. For each issue, statements of what is needed, as identified in the Papers, are reiterated, followed by examples of resources available to Burnaby residents.

ISSUE #1 CHILD, YOUTH AND FAMILY HEALTH

What is needed and Burnaby resources:

a. inclusive concept of health

- Burnaby Council adopted a Healthy Community Policy in 1991 which promotes the Healthy Community principles of interdepartmental co-operation, consultation with the community, and social justice and equity for often "voiceless" groups such as children, youth, disabled persons, cultural minorities, low income people, etc. Staff training in implementing the Policy is based on an inclusive concept of health - that is that an individual's health is influenced by human behaviour, the environment and the social system as well as by human biology and the health care system.

b. priorities and policies to support families

- Burnaby City Council has approved a municipal Child Care Policy (1993), a Burnaby State of the Environment Report (1993), a municipal Multicultural Policy (1986).

c. services which support children, youth and families

- numerous agencies including Burnaby Family Life, Lower Mainland Purpose Society for Youth and Families, St. Leonard's Youth and Family Services Society, Burnaby Health Department's Children's Services Resource Team.
- Burnaby Information and Referral Services's "Youth Pages", a pocket-sized resource for youth offering information on topics such as alcohol and drugs, eating disorders, suicide prevention, legal issues, etc. along with contact phone numbers.
- various church programs eg. Willingdon Church

d. decision-making guided by principles of health promotion and healthy communities

- see a. above.

e. mechanisms to address critical health risks for children, youth and families: (i.e. teen pregnancy, alcohol and drug use in pregnancy, injuries, mental health and teen suicide, smoking and other drugs).

- **teen pregnancy:** teen parent programs (St. Leonard's Society and others); Burnaby Family Life's Pregnancy Outreach Program (pre-natal classes, home visits, nutritional support for "at-risk" pregnant women); Burnaby Family Life's "Nobody's Perfect Program" (childrearing program); B.C. Parents in Crisis; Birthright; Mom's Place; St. Leonard's Society's SMILE program (prenatal classes and post-natal support for "high-risk" pregnant women); Burnaby Health Department's "at-risk" prenatal classes, 1993 condom distribution program, breastfeeding clinics, parent and infant drop-in centres, and baby clinics; Planned Parenthood; Burnaby School District's "Learning for Living" curriculum (focus on life issues including sex and pregnancy).
- **injuries:** 2nd Step Program - designed to reduce impulsive and aggressive behaviours in students from kindergarten through secondary school - implemented or set up in 35 Burnaby Schools in 1994; RCMP'S Burnaby Victims Assistance Program (rape and assault); Red Cross's Child Abuse Prevention Program; Burnaby Family Life's family violence/abuse services; Cameray Centre - sexual abuse; B.C. Parents in Crisis; Vancouver and Lower Mainland Multicultural Support Services Society (culturally sensitive services to multicultural women and families facing domestic violence); Attorney-General's "Anger Management Workshops"; Lifeline Society's Transition House.
- **alcohol and other drugs:** Burnaby Clinic; North Burnaby Alcohol and Drug Counselling; Odyssey 1 (Boys' and Girls' Club); Y Smoke (YMCA); Fetal Alcohol Syndrome notices in drinking establishments supported by City bylaw re: posting notices.
- **physical and mental health:** Burnaby Mental Health; Odyssey; Care-line Burnaby (suicide); Burnaby Health Department; Burnaby Association of Mentally Handicapped; Burnaby Camping Bureau; Lower Mainland Purpose Society for Youth and Families; Maples Adolescent Treatment Centre; St. Leonard's Youth and Family Services Society; Burnaby Family Life's "Native Indian Friendship Circle".
- **community-based initiatives** eg. Little Angels - prevention and awareness program for sexual abuse of children below the age of 5; Cariboo Family Place; Burnaby Family Place Society.

ISSUE # 2 STREET YOUTH

What is needed and Burnaby resources:

a. street youth needs assessment

- Reconnect Program of Lower Mainland Purpose Society for Youth and Families

b. co-ordinated services for street youth eg. early intervention, police and probation, aboriginal liaison, alcohol and drug programs targeted to street youth

- Reconnect Program
- Stride Youth Worker Project - counselling for "at-risk" youth
- proposed youth drop-in in Stride-Edmonds area for street involved youth, including a community-oriented, multi-dimensional approach to servicing street youth.
- ETCETERA - joint program of YMCA, School District and Parks & Recreation Department for youth who are "unconnected" and who may be "at risk".
- APEX program, a joint program of Parks & Recreation, Purpose Society, School District and Ministry of Social Services, to provide recreation programs to street youth.

- c. **pre-employment training and job creation**
 - YES Canada
 - Burnaby Family Life Institute's Work Orientation Workshop (WOW)
 - YMCA Job Generation Program
- d. **housing for street youth**
- e. **non-traditional health services for street youth**
- f. **safe, 24 hour shelter for youth**

ISSUE #3 CHILD, YOUTH AND FAMILY POVERTY

What is needed and Burnaby resources:

- a. **higher rates of income assistance**
- b. **family social housing and special needs housing**
 - City land leases for non-profit family, co-operative and group home housing projects
- c. **hot lunch programs**
 - Burnaby School District's hot lunch program
- d. **standards of maintenance bylaws for rental housing**
 - recent amendments to the Municipal Act (Bill 57) give municipalities the ability to request from Cabinet powers to enforce standards of maintenance in rental housing. Bill 25, currently before the legislature, would enshrine those powers in the Municipal Act.
- e. **affordable, non-stigmatizing access to civic recreation facilities and programs**
 - Parks & Recreation Department's "Recreation Credit Program" for recipients of social assistance. Upon application, eligible individuals receive an \$80 credit to use towards participation in recreation programs and services.
 - Burnaby Camping Bureau
 - APEX program, a joint program of Parks & Recreation, Purpose Society, School District and Ministry of Social Services, to provide recreation programs to street youth.
 - upon initiative from local community, Parks & Recreation will attempt to assist in the provision of summer recreation services for low-income children.
- f. **support for poverty advocacy groups**
 - Burnaby Food Bank

- g. municipalities and family-friendly employers eg. fair and equal pay, family supportive leave and employment policies, employee assistance programs**
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

ISSUE #4 CHILD CARE

What is needed and Burnaby resources:

- a. municipal child care policy**
- Child Care Policy, adopted by Burnaby City Council in 1993 November. Staff are currently working on an implementation strategy.
- b. municipal staff involvement in community child care planning**
- Social Planner involved with Child Care Resources Group and with facilitating community child care proposals.
- c. municipal provision of child care**
- City currently developing municipal child care centre in Edmonds area.
- d. municipal land, space or portables for child care facilities.**
- proposed St. Matthews child care centre in Edmonds North Wing.
 - some municipal facilities have child-minding services eg. Bonsor.
- e. development cost charges for social amenities or agreements in major rezonings to include child care facilities**
- in many major rezonings, Burnaby requires the provision of child care facilities eg. Metrotown Centre, Eaton Centre, Station Square, B.C. Hydro Headquarters, Glen Lyon
- f. advocacy with senior levels of government for comprehensive child care programs**

ISSUE #5 YOUTH AND FAMILIES AND THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

What is needed and Burnaby resources:

- a. supports for families**
- Burnaby Youth Services
 - Burnaby Family Life's family violence/abuse services
 - St. Leonard's Youth and Family Services Society's "Project Adventure"

- b. preventative pre-teen and teen services which children, youth and families have a role in planning and developing**
 - 2nd Step Program: designed to reduce impulsive and aggressive behaviours in students from kindergarten through secondary school. Implemented or set up in 35 Burnaby schools in 1994.
 - gang/youth contact line
- c. capital expenditures which support children and youth eg. recreation centres**
 - recent civic expenditures: Eilleen Dailly Pool, Bonsor Recreation Complex, Club Metro, planned new ice rink.
- d. Family Court Committees**
 - Burnaby's Family Court and Youth Justice Committee
- e. "Stay in School" initiatives targeted to "at risk", immigrant, "drop-out" or "thrown out" and learning disabled youth**
 - Youth Service Workers in Burnaby secondary schools
 - Burnaby School District's pilot project for immigrant youth at Burnaby North
 - Burnaby School District's adjustment workshops for immigrant youth
 - Burnaby School District's Burnaby Success Summer Youth Project
 - Burnaby School District's multicultural home-school co-ordinators, multicultural clubs and peer tutoring.
- f. municipal partnerships with Corrections**
 - RCMP Youth Detail officers - gangs, youth
 - Burnaby Youth Services - first offenders

ISSUE #6 THE MULTICULTURAL REALITY FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

What is needed and Burnaby resources:

- a. visible minorities as equal partners in services to children, youth and families**
- b. municipal adaptation to multicultural realities of their communities**
 - Burnaby Council passed its Multicultural Policy in 1986. The interdepartment Multicultural Staff Working Group was established to implement the Policy.
 - See 5.e. above.
- c. services working together to co-ordinate services to children, youth and families**

Burnaby Interagency Council and local interagency councils
Burnaby Child and Youth Committee.
- d. grant criteria re: reflecting demographic changes in organization's services**

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- e. **mainstream priority for ESL programs**
 - Burnaby School District ESL programs.
- f. **first and second language development in areas of child care and child and youth services**
- g. **reach out to minorities eg. translation of written materials, culturally sensitive services, anti-racism and cultural awareness training for staff, hiring of staff from minority backgrounds.**
 - City's current Service Equity Project which is looking at delivery of city services to various cultural groups in Burnaby and how services can be improved and made more culturally sensitive.
 - recent Diversity Training sessions for senior staff which raises awareness of and sensitivity to diversity issues.
 - proposed Employment Equity Policy
 - some City departments make information available in languages other than English eg. Health, Engineering
- h. **research on visible minority drop-outs**
- g. **attention to needs of refugee children, youth and families**
 - Burnaby Multicultural Society offers education, advocacy. It has plans for settlement services and ESL classes.
 - SUCCESS offers family and youth counselling, other community/social services and research in the Chinese community.
 - Burnaby School District offers adult ESL classes, which include child-minding.
 - OASI offers assistance and services to Italians.

ISSUE #7 CHILD, YOUTH, AND FAMILY SERVICES

What is needed and Burnaby resources:

- a. **partnership between parents and services**
 - community-based initiatives focused on children, youth and families: Northeast Burnaby Youth Action Association (NEBYAA) teen drop-in at Stoney Creek Community School; teen drop-in at Lochdale Community School; Northeast Burnaby Community Association which is committed to enhancing the educational, recreational and environmental wellbeing of children in the community eg. summer camp; Cariboo Road Family Place, an informal place for parents and caregivers to meet and share concerns and information; Burnaby Family Place Society's family drop-in centre; Concerned Citizens for Child Safety, group of citizens concerned about speed of traffic on Rumble Street which fronts on five schools; Wee Watch, child care organization which helps people set up home daycare centres; Burnaby Parents of Special Needs Children; APEX; Stoney Creek Parent Support Group.

- b. recognition of individual uniqueness of children and youth as well as diverse needs and interests**
- c. participation of children and youth in process of decision-making**
- Parks & Recreation has implemented Youth Advisory Committees at Eastburn and Cameron Recreation Centres and Club Metro to ensure youth participation in program planning and operations.
 - Parks & Recreation's Youth Recreation Services Committee researched leisure activities available to youth and made recommendations to Parks & Recreation Commission.
 - recent public consultation on proposed regulation of pool halls and amusement arcades specifically targeted youth as one group to consult with - the views of youth were accessed through teen councils at recreation centres, Club Metro and the School District.
- d. outreach to alienated and disadvantaged children, youth and families**
- Reconnect Program
- e. meeting place for children and youth eg. youth centre, coffee house**
- Club Metro
 - proposed youth drop-in centres in North Burnaby and Edmonds area
- f. integrated and affordable services**
- Club Metro integrates health, alcohol and drug and other services.
 - two City facilities, Burnaby Heights and Edmonds North Wing, offer service agencies office space at affordable rates and an opportunity to offer more integrated service from central locations.
 - City grants to Burnaby-based non-profit groups leasing City space.
 - City grants to community groups and service agencies.
- g. sensitivity to multicultural needs**
- City's Multicultural Policy
- h. municipal support for services to children, youth and families**
- City grants to community groups and agencies.

ISSUE #8 CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

What is needed and Burnaby resources:

- a. long-range planning, flexible programs, reduced class size and increased support for "at risk", First Nations, and other special needs students**
- alternative curricula available in each Burnaby secondary school.
 - alternative education available at Windsor Education Centre and Canada Way Education Centre.

- behaviour management programs available at the elementary level.
 - Youth Service Workers in each Burnaby high school.
 - ESL classes
 - Burnaby School District liaises with agencies service cultural groups eg. SUCCESS, MOSAIC.
- b. increased parent, teacher, student and community involvement in school policy making, curriculum development and course planning.**
- five community schools allow for more parent and community input into program development.
 - Burnaby District Student Advisory Committee - advises on operations.
 - student government at each school.
- c. increased community use of school facilities**
- five community schools allow for increased community use of school facilities.
- d. core curriculum needs to reflect current issues: environment, racism, sexism, First Nations culture, ethnic diversity, women's studies.**
- educational alternatives: Opening Learning Agency; Purpose Society's Young Adult Learning Centre.
 - Work Orientation Workshop.
 - "Learning for Living" curriculum covers wide range of topics including human rights and environment.

ISSUE #9 A VOICE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

What is needed and Burnaby resources:

- a. structures for participation of children and youth in decision-making**
- Youth Recreation Services Committee and teen councils at some recreation centres.
 - youth representative on "New Directions" Steering Committee
 - consultation with youth on proposed regulations for pool halls and amusement arcades.
- b. youth leadership and development programs**
- BOLD
 - YMCA Youth Leadership Program
 - Stride Youth Worker Project
 - North Burnaby Boys' and Girls' Club
- c. buddy system for new Canadian children and youth**
- d. child and youth advocate position**

ISSUE #10 COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCILS

What is needed and Burnaby resources:

- a. **direct representation and advocates for children, youth and families on Community Health Council or Regional Health Board**
 - Child and Youth Committee has a representative on Steering Committee for "New Directions" process.
 - youth have a representative on Steering Committee for "New Directions" process.
- b. **resources to enable such representation**

ISSUE #11 COMMUNITY SOCIAL PLANNING

What is needed and Burnaby resources:

- a. **SPARC recommendations: amendments to Municipal Act to legitimize municipal involvement in social planning and community Social Planning Guide, Social Planning Assistance Program and Community Grants Program to assist municipalities to get involved in Social Planning**
 - Burnaby City Council expressed its support for the SPARC recommendations on in 1993. In April 1994, the Province passed enabling legislation for municipal social planning.
- b. **Social Planning strategy for B.C.**
 - Burnaby has three full-time social planning positions.
 - Council's Community Issues & Social Planning Committee deals with variety of social planning and service issues.

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