

CITY OF BURNABY

ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS

RE: BCIT PROPOSAL "THE BURNABY LAKE SYSTEM" PROJECT

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT the City of Burnaby support, in principle, BCIT's "Burnaby Lake System Project" as outlined in their proposal dated January 1994.
2. THAT Council approve a \$10,000 grant to the BCIT Burnaby Lake System Fund to help undertake those projects proposed for 1994 and summarized in Section 2.0 of this report.
3. THAT the request for funding for 1995 and 1996 be considered by Council subject to an annual review of work accomplished in the previous year and work proposed for the grant year.
4. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Commission.
5. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to Mr. Mark Angelo, Program Head, BCIT, Fish, Wildlife and Recreation Program, 3700 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, B. C. V5G 3H2.

R E P O R T

The Environment and Waste Management Committee, at its meeting of 1994 March 08, received and adopted the attached staff report providing recommendations on BCIT's proposal for the protection, enhancement, rehabilitation and funding of fish and wildlife resources in the Burnaby Lake/Deer Lake/Brunette River system.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- CITY MANAGER- DIRECTOR ADMIN. & COMM. SERVICES- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING- DIRECTOR FINANCE- DIRECTOR RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES- MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER- CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER |
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For Council's information, a copy of the "Burnaby Lake System" proposal and brochure entitled "The Burnaby Lake system - you can make the gem sparkle again" has been distributed under separate cover.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Drummond
Chair

Councillor D. Johnston
Member

Councillor D. Lawson
Member

TO: ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1994 JANUARY 31

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING

SUBJECT: BCIT PROPOSAL "THE BURNABY LAKE SYSTEM" PROJECT

PURPOSE: To provide the Committee with recommendations on BCIT's proposal for the protection, enhancement, rehabilitation and funding of fish and wildlife resources in the Burnaby Lake/Deer Lake/Brunette River system.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT the Environment and Waste Management Committee recommend the following to City Council:

1. **THAT** the City of Burnaby support, in principle, BCIT's "Burnaby Lake System Project" as outlined in their proposal dated January 1994.
2. **THAT** Council approve a \$10,000 grant to the BCIT Burnaby Lake System Fund to help undertake those projects proposed for 1994 and summarized in Section 2.0 of this report.
3. **THAT** the request for funding for 1995 and 1996 be considered by Council subject to an annual review of work accomplished in the previous year and work proposed for the grant year.
4. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Commission.
5. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to Mr. Mark Angelo, Program Head, BCIT, Fish, Wildlife and Recreation Program, 3700 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, B. C. V5G 3H2

R E P O R T

1.0 BACKGROUND

Conservation of natural areas and protection of wildlife habitat, watercourses and lakes are important values to Burnaby. This has been reflected in many current and past Council initiatives. Approximately 19% of Burnaby's land area is park or conservation area. One of the goals of Burnaby's State of the Environment Report (SOER) is the protection of environmentally sensitive areas and the establishment of environmental linkages throughout the City. Environmental stewardship, including leadership by the City and partnerships with community groups and other agencies, is a key element of the SOER implementation strategy.

The City has worked cooperatively on a variety of environmental activities with British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT), Burnaby School Board, Burnaby Association for the Mentally Handicapped, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Sapperton Fish and Game Club, Vancouver Angling and Game Association, and Greater Vancouver Regional District. Burnaby has participated in the sponsorship of initiatives such as B. C. Rivers Day, Environment Week activities, and Ecofest '92 that involve the community in environmental stewardship. It is in this spirit of environmental cooperation and community involvement that BCIT has invited Burnaby to become a partner in its "Burnaby Lake System Project." The invitation and proposal are included in the Committee's agenda.

2.0 BURNABY LAKE SYSTEM PROJECT

BCIT has developed a proposal for a variety of community projects related to environmental conservation and protection of Burnaby's Central Valley watershed consisting of the Brunette River, Burnaby Lake, Deer Lake and all of the watercourses that drain into them. The proposal, the "Burnaby Lake System Project", builds on habitat enhancement work BCIT has done on the BCIT campus, environmental studies undertaken at Burnaby Lake and Deer Lake, a stream inventory of the Central Valley watershed, and community stream clean-up projects on Eagle Creek and Beecher Creek.

BCIT's proposal is a five year program of projects to protect, enhance and rehabilitate fish, wildlife and recreation resources in the Central Valley watershed. Specific priorities and work programs will be prepared on a year-by-year basis for each year of the program. Decisions about projects and priorities will be made by BCIT in consultation with their partners. Besides the City, potential partners that have been identified by BCIT to date include other government agencies, business and community organizations, and private individuals. Any projects proposed for Burnaby parks will be undertaken only if they are consistent with park management plans and with the approval of appropriate City departments.

The projects proposed for 1994 are:

- **Burnaby Lake System Project Brochure** - A brochure that provides information on the watershed and gives the public an opportunity to become involved.
- **Central Valley Watershed Video** - To provide information on environmental problems facing the community and efforts underway to manage and enhance the watershed.
- **Eagle Creek Fishway** - To help coho salmon to migrate further upstream through the installation of a small fishway and baffles inside the culvert at the Lougheed Highway.
- **Deer Lake Creek Spawning Gravel** - To provide for additional spawning habitat for coho salmon.
- **Deer Lake Creek Coarse Fish Barrier** - Remove or replace the existing coarse fish barrier.
- **Assessment and Monitoring Work** - To undertake ongoing assessment and monitoring to identify and assess changes and trends within the watershed.

Total costs for these projects, excluding salaries and administrative costs is estimated by BCIT to be in the range of \$35,000 - \$40,000. BCIT has advised that if fundraising for 1994 exceeds the 1994 target, additional projects will be brought forward or the funds will be utilized in the following year. This decision will be made in consultation with the partners of the project.

3.0 PROJECT REVIEW

The City has had a long and continuous history of recognizing the environmental importance of the Central Valley. To this end, the City has undertaken a number of initiatives that include: park dedications through public referendum; park acquisitions; an open creeks and watercourses policy; designation of the Burnaby Lake area as a nature park and the preparation of a contemporary management plan; initiation of a cross-connection control program; a watercourse bylaw that focuses on reducing contamination of storm water and local receiving waters; regular monitoring and bacteriological analysis of major creeks and lakes; construction of a pilot nutrient sink pond; requirements for sediment control ponds, catch basins and oil interceptors; cooperative environmental programs with community groups, BCIT, GVRD; education programs; and many other initiatives and policies that address the ecology and environmental quality of the watershed.

The Burnaby Lake System Project is a valuable initiative that is complementary with many of the City's initiatives described above and the SOER goals related to environmental stewardship and protection and enhancement of environmentally sensitive areas. The emphasis on partnership is also consistent with directions outlined in Burnaby's SOER. The project builds on a relationship between Burnaby and BCIT which was established in 1991 when BCIT undertook the first of several years of environmental studies at Burnaby Lake. The brochure and video should provide greater community awareness of the sensitivity of the watershed and opportunities for community involvement. The BCIT proposal will broaden the partnership base which staff feel will be extremely beneficial.

The 1994 projects proposed for Eagle Creek and Deer Lake Creek are projects which the Department of Fisheries and Oceans has previously identified to the Committee as important fisheries enhancement projects. Staff involvement in regular project reviews and annual program planning and review meetings will help ensure that the Burnaby Lake System Project addresses specific needs in Burnaby and that any projects proposed in Burnaby parks are consistent with park management plans.

The Burnaby Lake System Project will therefore complement many of the City's efforts in the Central Valley watershed. Both Burnaby Lake and Deer Lake are the subjects of management planning efforts that emphasize environmental conservation and protection. In addition City sponsored activities such as storm drain marking, publication of the watercourse map, and distribution of a brochure on lakes and watercourses have also promoted awareness of environmental values in the Central Valley.

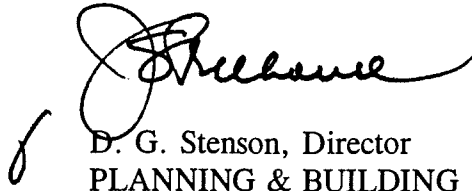
It should be noted that the City had not planned to undertake any of the projects proposed by BCIT. As such, the BCIT program will reinforce the other initiatives being undertaken by City staff in the watershed.

4.0 FUNDING

The Municipal Act authorizes municipalities to make grants in support of community oriented projects which benefit the community.

Planning and Building
Re: BCIT Proposal for Work in
"Burnaby Lake System Project"
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Staff believe that the Burnaby Lake System Project will benefit the watercourses, fish and wildlife of the Central Valley and make an important and ongoing contribution to community stewardship of our natural heritage in a cost effective manner. It is recommended that Council be requested to approve a project grant of \$10,000 for 1994, with similar grants in 1995 and 1996 only to be approved subject to an annual review of work accomplished in the previous year and work proposed for the grant year. Staff will report on the annual review through the Environment and Waste Management Committee.


D. G. Stenson, Director
PLANNING & BUILDING

SG:BL/db:jp

cc: City Manager
Director Engineering
Director Finance
Director Recreation & Cultural Services
Chief Environmental Health Officer
Director Administrative & Community Services

