

ITEM	1
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	47
COUNCIL MEETING	94/08/22

TO : CITY MANAGER  
DATE: 1994 AUGUST 08

FROM : DIRECTOR RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES

RE : TREE PLAN CANADA

PURPOSE : To provide information to Council on Tree Plan Canada.

---

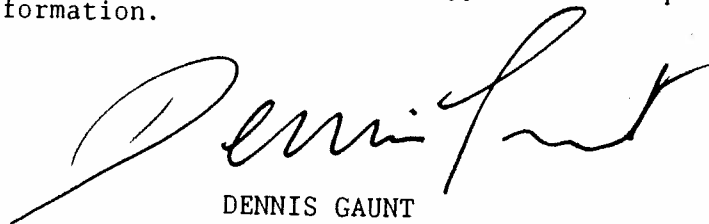
RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for information purposes.

REPORT

At its meeting of 1994 August 03, the Parks and Recreation Commission received the attached staff report on the above subject and adopted the two recommendations contained therein. Based on the experience of this initial grant application, staff will consider future applications for more ambitious projects.

Arising out of discussion, the Commission asked that a copy of this report be forwarded to Council for information.



DENNIS GAUNT  
DIRECTOR RECREATION &  
CULTURAL SERVICES

PAL:tc  
Attachment  
A/2912

cc: Director Engineering  
Director Human Resources  
Director Planning & Building

~~ITEM 15  
DIRECTOR'S REPORT NO. 13  
COMMISSION MEETING 94/08/03~~

**SUBJECT: TREE PLAN CANADA**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. THAT the Commission approve the preparation of a PARTNERS program proposal to Tree Plan Canada for implementation in 1995.

ITEM 1  
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 47  
COUNCIL MEETING 94/08/22

**REPORT**

**BACKGROUND**

Tree Plan Canada is a cornerstone component of the 1990 federal Green Plan initiative which recognizes the fundamental importance of urban and rural forests. Tree Plan Canada is administered by Forestry Canada through a non-profit, non-governmental, charitable organization known as the National Community Tree Foundation (NCTF). The goal of the NCTF is to raise public appreciation of the importance of trees and forests through active involvement in tree planting and care. It is an opportunity for Canadians to make a contribution toward offsetting global warming.

Currently, there exist two planting programs within the scope of Tree Plan Canada; the PARTNERS program, and the more recent GREEN STREETS CANADA program.

**A. Tree Plan Canada PARTNERS Program**

This is a six-year program dedicated to plant 325 million trees across Canada through 1998. In 1992/93 more than \$1.8m was contributed by the federal government to the planting of over three million trees nationwide. More than one half of these trees were planted in the Pacific/Yukon Region in landfill rehabilitation, shelterbelt development and neighbourhood enhancement projects, amongst others. More than 2500 school children participated in tree planting projects in the Greater Vancouver Area.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTNERS**

Tree Plan Canada will provide:

- technical advice
- financial assistance for tree purchase and
- financial assistance for certain planting costs

ITEM 1  
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 47  
COUNCIL MEETING 04/100/199

Partners - (cities, municipalities , corporations, private organizations ) - will provide:

- labour
- materials
- services
- a portion of the funding ( generally equal cost-shared with TPC ) &
- all post planting tree maintenance

Successful proposals will maximize environmental awareness and community involvement. Generally, Tree Plan Canada will evaluate proposals on the basis of the following criteria:

- Environmental Benefits
- Potential for Success
- Partners Commitment
- Cost Effectiveness
- Community Involvement

**B. Tree Plan Canada GREEN STREETS CANADA Program**

This is a four year program initiated in 1994 and continuing through 1997. Currently, minimum funding of \$6m is committed by the federal government to enhance current municipal street tree planting programs. In 1994 thirty- seven communities received awards totalling \$1.5m under this program.

The following project proposal submission dates apply : ( each year )

GREEN STREETS CANADA : OCTOBER 15  
PARTNERS PROGRAM : DECEMBER 03

**OPPORTUNITIES TO UTILIZE NATIONAL COMMUNITY TREE FOUNDATION (NCTF) INITIATIVES IN BURNABY**

There is opportunity in the City of Burnaby to present valid proposals within each program. Tree planting opportunities exist within Burnaby's woodlands and forests, developed parksites and adjacent to rights-of-way. In addition, the Burnaby Parks Department has the required technical expertise to successfully implement and maintain tree planting programs. Furthermore, it is an opportunity to develop stronger community relations which enhance co-operation and responsiveness between Burnaby civic staff and the community they serve as well as with outside agencies currently active within the community or capable of assisting the city toward enhancing the urban forest.



Municipalities are encouraged to be creative in their submission of program proposals in order to facilitate the main purpose behind the federal GREEN PLAN - that is to plant trees to help the environment, to educate Canadians about the importance of trees and thus how to care for them and finally to get as many Canadians as possible involved in the planting of trees through the development of partnerships.

Community involvement and volunteer labour are therefore important aspects of any proposal. However, no planting need occur without on site assistance from civic staff. In fact working with the community volunteers, whether they be school children, young adults, or corporate citizens within the community will enhance the educational commitment of the experience, thus meeting one of the primary mandates of the Tree Plan Canada initiative. Community involvement may also occur in initiatives outside the normal experience of civic staff including promotional visits to schools, public education initiatives and fund raising.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend that a small-scale PARTNERS proposal be submitted to Tree Plan Canada by December of 1994 for implementation in 1995. The experience gained in the preparation and successful implementation of this proposal will permit increased opportunity for acceptance of future PARTNERS proposals and a GREEN STREETS CANADA proposal between 1995 and 1998.

Outline of Small - Scale Partners Program Proposal

Central Park Forest Assistance Program

- Partners : - Tree Plant Canada
- City of Burnaby
- British Columbia Forestry Association
- Grade 5 Class from local Elementary School
- Van City Credit Union

A 5 - year program is currently proposed to continue the Central Park resource enhancement program initiated in 1983. This program covers the technical aspects of managing the forest, but does not provide opportunities for public education and involvement. The primary benefit to the City of Burnaby of a successful Tree Plan Canada proposal within Central Park is to raise public awareness to the need to reduce forest abuse, and increase enhancement and stewardship. There can be few better long term investments in that goal than teaching the young within the context of community service.

Funding sources may be Tree Plan Canada, the City of Burnaby and a local community lending institution such as Van City Credit Union - a leader in local environmental initiatives who are

interested in contributing to this project through their "Corporate Sponsorships Program". (eg. 'Buy-A-Block' in the City of Vancouver). Public relations and promotions will develop from the City of Burnaby, Tree Plan Canada, Van City and the British Columbia Forestry Association. The BCFA already provides an innovative teaching unit for grades 3 - 7 called " Kids For Trees" that was developed in the spring of 1993 on behalf of Tree Plan Canada. Classroom visits and tree planting field trips are co-ordinated by BCFA staff - all volunteers. The BCFA works with the community at large to promote an understanding of forestry and is pleased to work with Burnaby in this endeavour. Grade 5 students at a nearby elementary school will be the focal point of the event and ostensibly perform the 'planting', although in reality the work will generally be performed and supervised by civic arboriculture staff with additional assistance from Van City and the BCFA.

INVOLVEMENT & RESPONSIBILITIES OF BURNABY STAFF

An area of perhaps one hectare (IHA) will be selected within Central Park Forest for enhancement planting. City arboriculture staff will undertake site preparation involving brushing competing vegetation, preparation of planting pits, layout of conifer seedling stock, assistance and supervision of the planting of each seedling, (including watering-in ), and post planting site clean-up. Staff will be responsible for the on-going maintenance of the trees.

This proposal meets all program criteria as required by Tree Plan Canada including community and volunteer involvement and will assist the City of Burnaby in providing public information and involvement in urban forest stewardship. Discussion will occur with Local 23 of the Canadian Union of Public Employees prior to proceeding.

The Commission is requested to approve the preparation of a Tree Plan Canada PARTNERS program proposal in 1994 for 1995 implementation. Commission will need to provide Capital Funding of \$2,500 from the \$50,000 currently included as Capital Funding for Central Park in 1995.

Based on our experience with the PARTNERS program, Staff will review the possibility of applying for a GREEN STREETS CANADA grant in 1995 for implementation in 1996. The submission will be prepared as a component of a more comprehensive Urban Forest Planting Concept Plan. In this manner the proposal may receive more favourable review in light of its connection with a more comprehensive 'GREEN' commitment while acting to support the preparation and acceptance of a comprehensive urban forest plan for the City of Burnaby.

BR/JK:kb:dl

c:\kirbyson\treecan.rep

cc: Director Engineering  
Director Human Resources

