

CITY OF BURNABY

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS **1996 APRIL 10**
FROM: KUSHIRO CUP SELECTION COMMITTEE
SUBJECT: KUSHIRO CUP AWARD TO "1995 OUTSTANDING CITIZEN"

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Mr. Thomas Mark be selected to receive the "1995 OUTSTANDING CITIZEN" award for his outstanding volunteer service with the Burnaby Health Department Volunteer Services and his hours of work with the neighbourhood elementary schools and Edmonds Senior Centre.
2. THAT the following citizens, having been strongly recommended, receive awards for their outstanding activities in Burnaby, to be presented at the City Appreciation Dinner on 1996 April 19:

Runners-up: Mr. Dean Lamont
Ms. Nina Bernard

R E P O R T

Nominations for Burnaby's "1995 OUTSTANDING CITIZEN" were invited through advertisements in the Burnaby News and the Burnaby Now.

Four submissions were received and reviewed by the Selection Committee. The Committee, after due consideration, selected Mr. Thomas Mark as their recommended choice to receive the Kushiro Cup as the "1995 OUTSTANDING CITIZEN" of Burnaby.

Thomas Mark is a devoted volunteer with the Burnaby Health Department Volunteer Services. The many seniors he personally visits as a friendly volunteer visitor have come to regard him as a member of their family. On Tuesday mornings he can be found working as a team captain with the grocery Shop-by-Phone Program. He is available each week to problem solve and help the 20 volunteers who are shopping and filling the grocery orders that are sent to approximately 55 housebound seniors. He then liaises with the Health Department Volunteer Program Co-ordinator concerning the operation of the services.

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Tom also volunteers with the Burnaby Health Department Gadabouts Program. He volunteers to pick up and drive four frail seniors to a central location, where they then board a chartered bus for an afternoon outing. On some of the trips, Tom joins the group as a commentator and shares with the travellers his extensive knowledge of the countryside.

Tom volunteers weekly as a host at Edmonds Senior Centre, and is often asked to act as the M.C. at special events. In his spare moments, Tom can always be counted on to help. He often drives seniors to visit selected care facilities in the hopes that they will find a facility that is suitable for them. He will help a person who is without family, arrive at a hospital for day surgery, and when it has been completed will take them home safely.

Tom is known to his neighbours as "The Bird Man of 14th Avenue". Children often drop in to visit his backyard aviary which is home to 45 canaries, finches and budgies. Teachers at nearby schools have frequently brought their classes to visit the birds and to listen to Tom as he tells the children all about their new-found feathered friends.

Some of Tom's other lifetime volunteer activities include: Treasurer - Native Sons of B.C., Board of Trustees - Irving House, handyman at St. Thomas More School, Zone Captain for the Salvation Army and volunteering for the Garden Club at the New Vista Care Facility.

Respectfully submitted,

KUSHIRO CUP SELECTION COMMITTEE

Councillor Doug Evans
Councillor Doreen Lawson
Councillor Doug Drummond