

REPORT
1996 SEPTEMBER 23

CITY OF BURNABY
FAMILY COURT AND YOUTH JUSTICE COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS

RE: ANNUAL REPORT - 1995

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be sent to the Office of the Attorney General, Room 232, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4.

REPORT

The Revised Statutes of British Columbia 1979, Chapter 341, "Provincial Court Act" - Section 4(4) (c) provides as follows:

4. (4) The Family Court Committee shall
(c) report annually to the municipalities and to the Attorney General respecting their activities during the past year.

In compliance with this statutory requirement, contained hereunder is a summary of activities of the Family Court and Youth Justice Committee during 1995.

PUBLIC FORUM: "YOUTH VIOLENCE - A NEW PERSPECTIVE"

The City of Burnaby Family Court and Youth Justice Committee, Burnaby School District 41 and Burnaby Family Life Institute hosted a public forum regarding youth violence and crime on 1995 April 26 at Burnaby Central High School.

The public forum focused on social and behavioral causes of youth violence and early intervention services designed to reduce such violence.

The public forum was a very successful event attended by approximately 200 people.

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1995 CONFERENCE OF B.C. FAMILY COURT AND YOUTH JUSTICE COMMITTEES

Three members of the Family Court and Youth Justice Committee attended the 1995 Conference of B.C. Family Court and Youth Justice Committees held in Vancouver from 1995 November 17 - 19. The theme for the Conference was "*Standing Up for Kids; Helping Kids Stand Up for Themselves.*" Conference highlights included Dr. Frithjof Bergmann speaking on work as a tool to motivate; panels on the new Child, Family and Community Service Act, Restorative Justice, and Standing Up for Kids; and an 841-KOZ Workshop and street theatre presented by young people.

GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION

The Committee forwarded a letter to the Canadian Senate supporting gun control legislation (Bill C-68). The Committee stated that passage of this legislation would create an environment in Canada which would lead to a safer, less violent society.

GUEST SPEAKER

Ms. Bonnie Mason, Supervisor, Burnaby Youth Services, appeared before the Family Court & Youth Justice Committee outlining the Burnaby Youth Services Program, a juvenile crime prevention program affiliated with the R.C.M.P. The goal of the program is to provide early intervention services to Burnaby youth and their families. The target population is youth 14 years of age and under who are:

1. displaying behaviours and attitudes which cause concern to their parents or school counsellors/ teachers. Behaviours that might be of concern, or possibly bring the youth into conflict with the law, include: running away, truancy, vandalism, alcohol and/or drug abuse, fire setting and theft;
2. displaying behaviours and attitudes which place them "at risk" for delinquent behaviour;
3. involved in an offence and police discretion not to proceed with charges is being applied. Most often this offence involves theft under \$1,000.00, shoplifting and wilful damage.

Professional Counsellors meet with the youth and family to provide assessment interviews and various counselling services.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen Hutton,
Chairperson

Alison Joe,
Vice Chairperson