

CITY OF BURNABY

ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS

Re: Relocation Of Environmental Education
Centre To Stoney Creek

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT Council, with the concurrence of the Burnaby School Board, approve the relocation of the Environmental Education Centre to the Stoney Creek Community School;
2. THAT Council approve the expenditure of \$10,000 to cover the cost of relocating the Education Centre;
3. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Burnaby School Board for its approval; and
4. THAT a copy of this report be sent to the Parks and Recreation Commission for its information.

REPORT

At its meeting of 1996 April 09 the Environment and Waste Management Committee requested that staff investigate and report on the possibility of relocating the Environmental Education Centre from its present location on Still Creek Avenue to an area in the vicinity of Stoney Creek Community School. The Environment and Waste Management Committee believes this new location will better reflect Burnaby's broadened range of environmental initiatives, especially its new Steamkeepers Program.

Staff submitted the attached report to the Environment and Waste Management Committee at its meeting on 1996 May 14 and the Committee adopted a resolution forwarding the report and the above-noted recommendations to Council.

: COPY - CITY MANAGER
- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING
- DIRECTOR FINANCE
- DIR. PLNG. & BLDG.
- DIR. REC. & CULT. SERV.
- CITY SOLICITOR

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D.P. Drummond
Chair

Councillor D. Johnston
Member

Councillor D.A. Lawson
Member

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
ENVIRONMENT & WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1996 MAY 14

FROM: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

OUR FILE: 11.802

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE TO STONEY CREEK

PURPOSE: To investigate and report on the possibility of moving the Environmental Education Centre to Stoney Creek

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the following report be received for information purposes.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

At the 1996 April 09 meeting of the Environment and Waste Management Committee staff was directed to prepare a report on the feasibility of moving the Environmental Education Centre to the Stoney Creek Community School. Currently the centre is located on Still Creek Avenue, adjacent to the City's recycling centre where, for the last few years, it has served as an environmental resource centre for the citizens of Burnaby and the School District. The centre has primarily provided a venue for community workshops and served as the environmental classroom for the School District.

As the City's environmental initiatives are broadening the Committee indicated that the use of the centre should now be redirected in support of the recently adopted Streamkeepers Program. Furthermore, the committee felt that relocating the centre to Stoney Creek Community School, where streamkeeping initiatives are currently underway, would provide an appropriate location and venue for the streamkeepers program. This report is in response to the Committee's request.

2.0 RELOCATION COSTS

A potential site for the Centre is between the new parking lot at the north end of the school and the existing community garden to the north. The youth centre proposed by Parks and Recreation could be located adjacent to but remain separate from the centre.

Staff has conducted a preliminary review of the cost of relocating the Environmental Education Centre to Stoney Creek Community School and estimate it will cost approximately \$10,000. This estimate covers moving the centre, site preparation, and site servicing. The estimate reflects a sharing of site servicing expenses resulting from coordinating the relocation of the environmental centre with the installation of the youth centre.

3.0 CONCLUSIONS

Relocating the Environmental Education Centre to Stoney Creek Community School redefines the role of the centre as a community resource. Staff believe that given its proposed location adjacent to Stoney Creek, and the stream stewardship initiatives that local citizens have been pursuing in the creek, the centre can become the hub for the City's new streamkeepers program. It can provide meeting space for streamkeeping activities, act as a repository of related information and equipment necessary to develop and conduct the streamkeepers program, and, due to its proximity to an active salmon bearing stream, provide the streamkeepers program with a living classroom immediately outside the doors of the centre.

The Stoney Creek Community School site also provides opportunities to support other environmental initiatives and activities. For example the Stoney Creek Environment Committee is emerging as an active community group focussing on environmental enhancement activities in the Stoney Creek watershed. The centre would provide them with an important resource for pursuing their initiatives. Similarly the centre's adjacency to the community school presents opportunities for partnerships between the activities of the centre and the school and its environmental curriculum.

It should be noted that relocating the centre does not preclude continuing the School District and the City's environmental initiatives currently associated with the centre. It is anticipated that the relocation will in fact result in a broadening of the resources available in the centre.

The School District is in support of the relocation.



AS D.G. Stenson, Director
PLANNING & BUILDING

KC/jp

copy: City Manager
Director Engineering
Director Recreation & Cultural Services
Chief Environmental Health Officer

