

CITY OF BURNABY

ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS

1996 SEPTEMBER 09

RE: B.C. RIVERS DAY, 1996

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT his Worship, W.J. Copeland, proclaim Sunday, September 29th B.C. Rivers Day in Burnaby.
2. THAT Council approve the proposed Rivers Day community events outlined in this report.
3. THAT Council approve funding of approximately \$1,500.00 for advertising the proposed Rivers Day community events outlined in this report.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

B.C. Rivers Day is an annual event sponsored by the Outdoor Recreation Council of British Columbia that celebrates British Columbia's spectacular natural heritage of rivers and their role in the province's culture and history. Throughout the province, citizens, community groups, recreation clubs, environmental organizations, government agencies and others organize river-associated events and invite members of the public to participate in appreciating British Columbia's rivers.

As Council is aware the City of Burnaby, in 1993, became the first municipality in the province to participate in Rivers Day events. Two years later, in 1995, over 70 cities proclaimed BC Rivers Day in their communities. In the previous three years local organizations, the community, BCIT and the City have collectively organized a variety of educational and clean-up events throughout Burnaby. These events have proven very successful and been well received within the community.

For B.C. Rivers Day 1996, on September 29th, the Environment and Waste Management Committee, with the cooperation of C.U.P.E. Local 23, wishes to coordinate the environmental stewardship projects and events outlined in this report. As in previous years, various groups and organizations will be involved in these events.

<p>: COPY - CITY MANAGER - DIRECTOR ENGINEERING - DIRECTOR FINANCE - DIR. PLNG. & BLDG. - DIR. REC. & CULT. SERV. - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER</p>
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2.0 OUTLINE OF ACTIVITIES FOR B.C. RIVERS DAY 1996

2.1 Proclamation

It is recommended that the Mayor proclaim Sunday 1996 September 29 as B.C. Rivers Day in Burnaby. This will focus attention on the event and indicate the City's commitment to celebrate and respect the natural and heritage features of its streams and rivers.

2.2 Events

A series of events focussing on stream stewardship and enhancement in Burnaby are proposed. They are as follows:

a.) Still Creek Habitat Enhancement Plantings

The main focus of Rivers Day 96 will be a habitat enhancement planting workshop on GVS&DD land along Still Creek in the 3700 block of Still Creek Avenue. The event will involve public participation in re-vegetating this section of Still Creek with native plants under the supervision of BCIT and the City. The event will likely begin around 9:00 am and continue through to approximately 4:00 pm and will provide an opportunity to promote the City's recently adopted Streamkeepers program.

b.) Stoney Creek Habitat Enhancement Plantings

The Stoney Creek Environment Committee, with the approval and assistance of the GVS&DD, wish to revegetate sections along the banks of Stoney Creek that is under GVS&DD jurisdiction where they have been repairing the shoulder of the service road. Native plants supplied by the GVS&DD are to be used. The event will likely commence around 12:00 pm and continue to 3:00-4:00 pm. Supervision will be provided by GVS&DD and City staff.

c.) Beecher Creek Habitat Enhancement Plantings

The Streamkeepers group for Beecher Creek, 8th Northview Scouts, wish to revegetate areas in Beecher Creek that have been disturbed by recent Engineering Department upgrades of the sewer lines that cross through the creek. Native plants, supplied by Engineering, are to be used. The event will likely commence around 12:00 pm and continue to 3:00-4:00 pm. Supervision will be provided by BCIT and City planning staff.

d.) Stoney Creek Clean-up

The Baxter Corporation is proposing to collect litter from within Stoney Creek Park as well as roads adjacent to their office on Baxter Place. It is expected the event will take approximately 3 hours. As in previous years the City will provide the dumpsters for the event that will be collected by City crews.

e.) Still Creek Brochure and Poster

BCIT has been working with staff to produce a brochure describing Still Creek's environmental problems and opportunities for improving the environmental health of the creek. As the City is partially funding the production of the brochure through the Burnaby System project BCIT will make a presentation to Council in September of the contents of the brochure.

f.) Still Creek Information Kiosk

An information kiosk with information on Still Creek is being developed by BCIT through the Burnaby Lake System Project with the support of the GVRD. The proposed location for the kiosk will be on the north side of the pedestrian bridge over Still Creek at the west side of Burnaby Lake Regional Nature Park. The kiosk will be similar in design to the Deer Lake kiosk that BCIT designed.

g.) Interpretive Walks

Interpretive walks and their sponsors are tentatively scheduled to include;

Stoney Creek - Stoney Creek Environment Committee

Brunette River - Sapperton Fish and Game Club

Byrne Creek - Vancouver Angling and Game Club

2.3 Publicity

Newspaper advertising including a schedule of events and an invitation to the community to participate will be the main form of publicity for B.C. Rivers Day. It is proposed that one advertisement be run in each community newspaper the week before the event. Display advertisements approximately 6" by 12" are proposed for each newspaper. The cost is estimated at approximately \$1,500.

3.0 CONCLUSIONS

The Rivers Day events that have taken place in the City of Burnaby have been a great success. The proposed events for 1996 will continue to enhance Burnaby's waterways while increasing public awareness, appreciation and stewardship of them. This report recommends that Sunday, 1996 September 29 be proclaimed Rivers Day in Burnaby, proposes a series of events, and funding for advertising the proposed community events be authorized.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D.P. Drummond (Chair)

Councillor D. Lawson, Member

Councillor D. Johnston, Member

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