

REPORT
1997 September 22

CITY OF BURNABY

COMMUNITY POLICING COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

Re: Provincial New Gaming Initiatives

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council forward a copy of the attached report to the Community Issues and Social Planning Committee.

REPORT

The Community Policing Committee, at its meeting held on 1997 September 11, received the attached report providing information on the future policing resources needs that may be required as a result of the expansion of provincial gaming initiatives.

The Community Policing Committee wishes to advise Council that it does not support further expansion of gaming in Burnaby, over currently approved establishments.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Evans
Chair

<p>: COPY - CITY MANAGER - DEP. MGR.-CORP. LAB. REL. - DIR. PLNG. & BLDG. - OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, R.C.M.P.</p>

Councillor J. Young
Vice Chair

TO: COMMUNITY POLICING COMMITTEE

1997 AUGUST 26
BP 10-8, X-Ref. BP 600

FROM: OFFICER IN CHARGE
BURNABY DETACHMENT RCMP

SUBJECT: PROVINCIAL NEW GAMING INITIATIVES

PURPOSE: TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE FUTURE POLICING RESOURCES
NEEDS THAT MAY BE REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF THE EXPANSION
OF PROVINCIAL GAMING INITIATIVES.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Council and the Community Issues & Social Planning Committee.

REPORT

Firstly, the British Columbia Chiefs of Police Association, of which I am the President, from a law enforcement prospective are on record as not supporting expanded gaming in the Province. Notwithstanding our position, the decision has been made to the effect that we are going to see a number of gaming initiatives implemented this Fall. We are working with the Ministry of Employment and Investment and Lotteries Advisory Committee on how best to approach dealing with illegal and legal gaming. Our next discussions on this issue with Mr. Peter Clark, Chair of the Lotteries Advisory Committee, and Steve Letts, Director, Gaming Audit and Investigations, will take place at our meeting in Port Alberni on September 16/17.

For your information, the enforcement of gaming regulations in BC is the responsibility of the BC Gaming Commission (BCGC) which regulates charity casinos and all other forms of charitable gaming. The BC Gaming Audit and Investigation Office, a division of the Ministry of Attorney General, conducts audits, reviews compliance procedures, carries out background investigations, and investigates consumer complaints.

Gaming - of all forms except pari-mutuel horse racing - is a provincial responsibility. Thus, it is my position and hopefully one which will be supported by Council, that any resources required to enforce gaming regulations, should be funded by the Province. Indeed, the Attorney General, during the most recent sitting of the Legislature, confirmed Government's commitment to providing police and prosecution resources to address illegal gaming. Municipal policing resources should be strictly focussed on violent street crimes and other enforcement matters such as traffic enforcement which give rise from illegal and legal gaming.

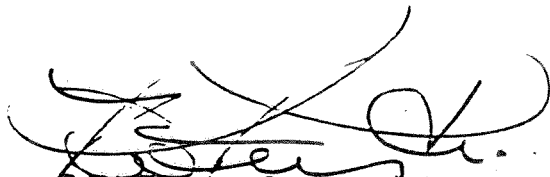
COMMUNITY POLICING COMMITTEE
PROVINCIAL NEW GAMING INITIATIVES
1997 AUGUST 26 PAGE 2

The BC Coordinated Law Enforcement Unit (CLEU) has one police position dedicated to gaming. Burnaby Detachment has one position seconded to CLEU assigned to general enforcement duties but we do not have any police resources dedicated to the enforcement of gaming laws at this time.

Clearly, without knowing the full expanse gaming may be expanded in BC, and more specifically in the City of Burnaby, it is difficult to predict what kind of impact these initiatives will have on our policing resource needs overall. The influence gaming will have on us will depend greatly on the geographical location, size and location of any future gaming facilities in Burnaby, along with the expectations and demands placed on us by the community most greatly affected by the gaming facility. We can anticipate obvious problems with the control of traffic and the movement of people, again depending on the size and location of the gaming facility, and will require police resources. To what extent and whether or not new police resources will be needed to meet these new demands is anyone's guess.

I can say unequivocally, however, that should street crimes and criminal activity such as theft of vehicles, theft from vehicles, strong armings and common assaults, along with the expected traffic control issues requiring a police response, increase significantly, this additional workload **could not** be addressed within my current resources.

From my standpoint, any future municipal policing resources needs required to meet expanded traffic control, the prevention and enforcement of potential increased criminal activity and the gathering of intelligence on organized crime and illegal gaming, must be built into the approval mechanisms for any future gaming facilities. Furthermore, the cost to fully fund these police resources should come from gaming and casino revenues.



R.W. Fenske, Superintendent
Officer in Charge
Burnaby Detachment RCMP

cc: City Manager
Director Planning and Building
Deputy City Manager, Labour Relations
Acting Director Recreation and Cultural Services
Medical Health Officer

