

CITY OF BURNABY

ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS

Re: City of Burnaby Environment Awards

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** 1996 Environment Award in Communications be presented to Mark Angelo for his work to promote and increase awareness of watershed stewardship.
2. **THAT** 1996 Environment Award in Planning and Development be presented to the British Columbia Building Corporation for the development of the stormwater management system for the Oaklands development.
3. **THAT** 1996 Environment Award in Community Stewardship be presented to Elmer Rudolph for his long term and ongoing stewardship on the Brunette River and work with the Burnaby Streamkeepers.
4. **THAT** 1996 Environment Award in Youth be presented to Burnaby North Secondary School and its students for the establishment of a meditation garden.
5. **THAT** 1996 Environment Awards be presented to the recipients on 1997 June 2 at the regular meeting of Council, during Environment Week in Burnaby.

REPORT

The Environment and Waste Management Committee, at its meeting held on 1997 May 13, received the attached report providing nominations for the 1996 Environment Awards Program.

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| <p>: COPY - CITY MANAGER - DIRECTOR ENGINEERING - DIR. PLNG. & BLDG. - A/DIR. REC. & CULT. SERV. - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER</p> |
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The Committee approved the abovenoted recommendations and submits this report to Council for endorsement.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor L. Rankin
Chair

Councillor D. Johnston
Member

Councillor D. Lawson
Member

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
ENVIRONMENT & WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1996 MAY 21

FROM: CITIZEN MEMBERS, ENVIRONMENT & WASTE
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
BOB ANDERSON
AL GRASS
BOB GUNN
CAMERON LIPP

OUR FILE: 11.800

SUBJECT: CITY OF BURNABY ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

PURPOSE: To provide recommendations to the Environment and Waste Management Committee for the 1996 Environment Awards Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the Environment and Waste Management Committee recommend to Council:
 - a) The 1996 Environment Award in Communications be presented to Mark Angelo for his work to promote and increase awareness of watershed stewardship.
 - b) The 1996 Environment Award in Planning and Development be presented to the British Columbia Building Corporation for the development of the stormwater management system for the Oaklands development.
 - c) The 1996 Environment Award in Community Stewardship be presented to Elmer Rudolph for his long term and ongoing stewardship on the Brunette River and work with the Burnaby Streamkeepers.
 - d) The 1996 Environment Award in Youth be presented to Burnaby North Secondary School and its students for the establishment of a meditation garden.
 - e) The 1996 Environment Awards be presented to the recipients on 1997 June 2 at the regular meeting of Council, during Environment Week in Burnaby.

R E P O R T

1.0 BACKGROUND

Within the State of the Environment Report (SOER), adopted in 1993, there is a provision for Shared Stewardship, an idea that seeks opportunities for community stewardship, environmental awareness and public information. One of the specific ideas discussed in the report is the need "to establish an environmental awards program to recognize environmental achievements."

At its meeting of 1996 May 14, the Environment and Waste Management Committee adopted terms of reference for an environmental awards program to recognize achievements in important environmental areas. The first Environment Awards were presented at the Streamkeepers Evening on 1996 June 4, during Environment Week 1996.

In addition to the terms of reference for the City of Burnaby Environment Award Program, the recommendations for the 1996 Environment Awards are outlined in this report, as advanced by the citizen representatives on the Environment and Waste Management Committee for the consideration of the Committee.

2.0 AWARD CATEGORIES

The City of Burnaby Environment Awards recognize important contributions made by individuals, organizations or companies to improve Burnaby's environment and our understanding of it. The program increases awareness of opportunities available to the public and the City to become more environmentally responsible. While the specific categories of awards are described below, the Committee does reserve the right to recommend awards to candidates that do not fall into any of the categories as outlined.

Communication

This category includes newspaper articles, publications, and video, audio or multi-media presentations that help to increase the understanding of environmental issues in Burnaby. The nominated work should demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of an environmental issue and its relationship to the citizens of Burnaby. Newspaper articles may be in the form of regular constructive reporting on environmental issues or may be serial in format, thoroughly researched and referenced, and prominently featured within the newspaper. Other publications such as magazine articles or books should offer in depth profiles or insight into specific environmental characteristics and issues found in Burnaby and be readily available in Burnaby bookstores. Awards in the video, audio and multimedia category should be granted to those works that exploit their media format to provide

insightful, and possible interactive, educational opportunities that may be useful within Burnaby schools and libraries to increase awareness of environmental issues in the City.

Planning and Development

This category highlights exemplary developments that demonstrate innovative environmental features that may include environmentally sensitive site planning, solar energy, water conservation, storm water or wastewater management, conservation of resources through the reuse of materials, the protection and enhancement of urban streams or the enhancement of wildlife habitat in the City. Developments may range in scale from large commercial, industrial, institutional or residential projects to individual new or renovated buildings.

Community Stewardship

This category identifies citizens of Burnaby who have been actively involved in promoting environmental stewardship for several years and who, through their efforts, have increased public awareness of an environmental issue or notably enhanced or rehabilitated the City's environment.

Youth

This category recognizes the contributions that children or teenagers have made, either through their own initiatives or through school programs that have resulted in enhanced public awareness of environmental issues or notably enhanced or rehabilitated the City's environment.

3.0 AWARD PROCESS

The awards are given annually as candidates are identified and determined to be worthy of such recognition by Council, through recommendations of the Environment and Waste Management Committee. The Committee is not compelled to recommend award winners to Council in any or all categories if they feel there are no appropriate candidates in a given year.

The list of recommended award winners is forwarded by the Environment and Waste Management Committee to Council for review and approval. The awards are then presented during Environment Week accompanied by a press release to publicize the awards. It is suggested that the awards be presented at the regular Council meeting of 1997 June 02.

4.0 1996 AWARDS

4.1 Communications Award

The recommended recipient of the City of Burnaby Environment Award in Communications is:

Mark Angelo
for promotion and increasing awareness of
watershed stewardship

Mark Angelo has a long history of promoting awareness of waterways and stewardship in Burnaby and throughout the province. Mr. Angelo is the chair of the B.C. Heritage Rivers Board, the vice-chair (and past chair) of the Outdoor Recreation Council of B.C., and chairs the Council's committee on the Top Ten Endangered Rivers, which has worked to raise awareness of waterways throughout the province with special emphasis on urban streams and rivers. In a similar vein, Mr. Angelo founded B.C. Rivers Day, which promotes the environmental, cultural, historical and recreational value of rivers, and played a key role in having the City of Burnaby become one of the first municipalities to proclaim B.C. Rivers Day (last year 76 communities proclaimed B.C. Rivers Day). 1996 marked the 16th Annual Rivers Day celebration, in which 46 communities throughout the province sponsored over 120 events which directly aided 31 rivers, 32 streams, and 5 marshlands/lakes.

As the Program Head of the BCIT Fish, Wildlife and Recreation Program, he has fostered the Burnaby Lake System Project, coordinating a joint initiative between the Province, BCIT, the GVRD, the City of Burnaby, community groups and local businesses to improve and enhance the ecological health of this system of waterways. Mr. Angelo ensures that the projects associated with this are well publicized, thereby increasing awareness and *involvement* in local communities. Through colourful posters, murals, educational brochures, videos, hands-on environmental enhancement projects and other events, as well as his many publications and lectures, Mr. Angelo has fostered not only awareness of our waterways, but meaningful involvement by government, the business community, and residents. He is also a past member of the City's Environment and Waste Management Committee and contributed in the development of the State of the Environment Report which is valuable in communicating the City's approach to addressing environmental issues.

4.2 Planning and Development Award

The recommended recipient of the City of Burnaby Environment Award in Planning and Development is:

British Columbia Building Corporation
for the development of the stormwater management system
of the Oaklands Development

Responding to the strong community environmental consciousness associated with Deer Lake and Deer Lake Park, this ecologically based stormwater management system is integrated into the natural park landscape and has resulted in the creation of additional wildlife habitat in its environs. The stormwater management system consists of a biofiltration pond/engineered wetland into which the runoff of the 73 acre catchment area of the Oaklands development is channelled and is treated by removing pollutants and nutrients (through the uptake of aquatic plants) and allowing suspended solids to settle. A meadowland infiltration channel enhances infiltration in the meadow area and provides some additional stormwater treatment, and a flood bypass system is in place for extreme rainfall events when pond capacity is exceeded and stormwater is directed in the meadowland channel for infiltration and treatment.

Recent monitoring has indicated that the system is very effective in treating and managing stormwaters entering Deer Lake, thereby improving water quality, and that the wildlife habitat created in the biofiltration pond is well used by a variety of bird species. The wildlife viewing platform associated with the ponds facilitates nature appreciation at this location.

The project has proven to be a pilot project for other developments and is being used as a model by other agencies, organizations, post secondary institutions and the City for the future development of ecologically-based stormwater systems.

4.3 **Community Stewardship Award**

The recommended recipient of the City of Burnaby Environment Award in Community Stewardship is:

Elmer Rudolph
for his long term and ongoing stewardship on the Brunette River
and work with the Burnaby Streamkeepers

Elmer Rudolph has been actively involved in the restoration and enhancement of the Brunette River for some 25 years. As a past president of the Sapperton Fish and Game Club, he has played a major role in the ongoing environmental rehabilitation,

management and public education efforts that have successfully restored ecological health to the Brunette River, a significant urban salmonid waterway through Burnaby and New Westminster.

As part of the Sapperton Fish and Game Club, Mr. Rudolph was instrumental in lobbying government agencies to assist in the rehabilitation of the Brunette River and establish policies and bylaws for the protection of urban waterways, a visionary position at that time. Mr. Rudolph and club members have traced pollutant sources which led to the curtailment of illegal discharges, and in the 1980s, after thousands of volunteer hours, began to see results with the presence of trout and the return of salmon to the Brunette River. The club continues to enhance native fish stocks in the river, and in 1989, helped to initiate the Great Salmon Send-Off with Stoney Creek Community School to celebrate the return of salmon to the "once-dead" Brunette River. This continues to be a highly successful annual event. Mr. Rudolph also assisted in the installation of a new fishway over the Cariboo Dam to facilitate fish access to tributaries of Burnaby and Deer Lakes. Recently he has managed the development of the Sapperton Fish and Game Club's fish holding facility on City land to better enhance the fish populations in the entire Brunette System.

In addition to his work on the Brunette River, Mr. Rudolph was instrumental in the campaign to prevent the GVRD from switching from chlorine to chloramine for the secondary treatment of drinking water in the Lower Mainland because of the potential adverse impact on fish in all streams. Mr. Rudolph also served as a citizen representative on the City's Environment and Waste Management Committee for five years, and continues to have input on local environmental plans and processes. In 1995, he volunteered to help organize the Burnaby Streamkeepers Program, a citizen-based program to aid individuals and community groups with urban waterway enhancement projects. This program is now well underway.

4.4 Youth Award

The recommended recipient of the City of Burnaby Environment Award in Youth is:

Burnaby North Secondary School and its students
for the transformation of its south courtyard
into a meditation garden

What was once an underused courtyard with concrete walls and asphalt has been transformed into a tranquil meditation garden by the students and faculty of Burnaby North Secondary School. With the volunteered assistance of professionals, the students removed the asphalt and created a meandering path through several beds of

flowers, shrubs and hanging baskets. A pond and fountain provide a focal point, while a number of benches and arbors provide places to enjoy the surroundings and quiet time.

In keeping with the City's Integrated Pest Management Program (IPM), the garden is an example of an ecologically friendly landscape: the plants were selected for the microenvironment of the enclosed, full sun area, and plants are closely spaced to reduce weeds and maintenance.

The transformation of the courtyard has provided a green and naturalized space at Burnaby North, and in doing so has given students and staff a tangible demonstration of how their own actions can have a profound affect on the urban environment. In addition to the students' garden club, students from career planning courses and those who are just interested participate in the maintenance of the garden. They are now planning a similar transformation of the north courtyard.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Environment and Waste Management Committee believes these environmental awards recognize commendable contributions to our community and our awareness of local environmental issues.

BOB ANDERSON, Citizen Member
Environment and Waste Management Committee

AL GRASS, Citizen Member
Environment and Waste Management Committee

BOB GUNN, Citizen Member
Environment and Waste Management Committee

CAMERON LIPP, Citizen Member
Environment and Waste Management Committee

