

SUBJECT: YOUTH SERVICES UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION:

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

REPORT

The following report outlines highlights of the youth services provided through Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services. These highlights incorporate the objectives of the Youth Services Model that was adopted by City Council in 1995.

The mandate of the Youth Services Model is to include all youth 13-18 years of age in Burnaby. It includes in the delivery service, direct provision of service as well as an emphasis on partnership and collaboration both at a neighbourhood, regional and district wide services for youth.

Highlighted below are examples of activities and initiatives that have either occurred in the past year or are occurring presently at each location followed by Departmental projects scheduled for implementation in the near future.

NEIGHBOURHOOD BASED SERVICES:

Facility Programs and Services::

a. **Burnaby South Secondary School**

- The "T.A.G." (Teen Action Generation) Youth Committee has been very active this past year involving 25-50 young people. They have been skiing, hiking, jogged around Stanley Park, indoor rock climbing and organized a 3 on 3 basketball tournament.
- A variety of registered and non-registered youth programs took place this past year including funk dance, fitness training, cartooning, activities, and an exciting summer youth program (fishing, camping, theatre sports, etc.). This latter program was run in partnership with the Lower Mainland Purpose Society.
- The T.A.G. committee organized a beach volleyball tournament for 1998 Youth Week and is looking forward to organizing more events for the program in 1999.

- A Recreation Leadership program is being developed in partnership with Burnaby School. This pilot program will provide students with an opportunity to gain leadership skills and experience in a variety of recreation facilities. There will also be a component of the course taught by Access Service staff focusing on accessibility and working with people with disabilities. First component of this program to be implemented in November and carried through the school year into 1999. The objective is to develop similar models at the other secondary schools in Burnaby.

b. Cameron Recreation Centre

- In part, with the success of the nearby Creekside Youth Centre, Cameron has looked at its neighbour as a strong resource for attending to many of the needs of young people in the area. However, Cameron remains committed to services for youth and therefore has several examples of its involvement with this age group.
- It is working cooperatively with Creekside Youth Centre by offering its facility as an option to the restricted space at the youth centre to run programs. This is particularly helpful for larger events such as dances and gym programs.
- Programs that Cameron has ran in the past year include; Late Night Recreation Program, Battle of the Bands competition, preteen dances and open gym activities.
- During Youth Week 1998, Cameron hosted a preteen dance and a Battle of the Bands competition that were very successful. They are looking forward to participating again in next year's Youth Week program.
- Staff have been busy creating partnerships especially related to the Late Night Recreation program where local businesses, for example, are being asked to support this program by donating prizes for organized tournaments. The response has been very good.

c. Bill Copeland Arena

- A very successful day long event was held as part of the Youth Week celebration last spring. "Youth Culture", a mini-trade show, took over the entire arena which contained activities and displays of interest to youth and their families. Some of these included: mountain bike demonstrations, fashion show, mini makeovers, basketball with SFU varsity athletes, pizza eating contest and interactive booths by ICBC, RCMP and Simon Fraser Health Region.

Bill Copeland Arena does not presently have an active teen committee. Staff will be organizing a new committee beginning in the new year.

- Other programs youth participate in include drop-in skate lesson and drop-in hockey. Staff have also offered activities for youth when ice is out, for example, basketball and floor hockey.

d. Eastburn Community Centre

- A youth Committee of 8 young people meet every 3rd Wednesday to both plan their upcoming events which have included car washes and activities for preteen members (e.g., dances) and to discuss other ideas with their leaders about what activities are desired by youth in the area.
- Youth programs which have been offered by the centre have included rollerhockey, indoor soccer, movie madness, games room tournaments, activities, dances and outtrips. There has even been a very successful billiard challenge between the teens at Eastburn and the seniors at Edmonds Senior Centre.
- Eastburn ran a Graffiti Art and gym program during Youth Week. The teen committee has already begun to think about ideas for 1999 Youth week.
- Eastburn staff continue to closely with Edmonds Youth Services staff to assist in the provision of program opportunities for the Edmonds Youth Resource Centre.

e. Northwest Community

- There are a number of youth committees functioning in the northwest area mainly through the schools.
- This past year two youth drop-in programs were offered, one out of Lochdale School and the other out of Gilmore School.
- Northwest area staff assisted various Parent Advisory Committees and school staff to organize their own Youth Week activities.
- A strong network of support has been developing in the northwest amongst several groups: North Burnaby Boys and Girls Club, RCMP, Chevron Canada, Gilmore School, Heights Neighbourhood Association, Greystone Association and Lochdale School. STAFF continue to work closely with these organizations.

f. Bonsor Recreation Complex

- The attendance at Bonsor's open gym program for youth has remained strong with the most popular activities being badminton and basketball.

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- Bonsor was actively involved in the 1998 Youth Week program. Twenty-two teams participated in the Gym Rat 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament. A very successful preteen dance was incorporated into Youth Week, Bonsor hosted the closing events for Youth Week.
 - The Late Night Recreation Service which runs on both Friday and Saturday evenings 11:50pm until 1:15am has been very popular. Frequently the program operates at capacity.
 - This fall, a new teen volleyball program is being implemented to compliment the strong gym programming that is currently taking place at Bonsor.
 - Bonsor does not have an active teen committee currently but will be developing one before the end of the year.
- g. Eileen Dailly Pool
- There are a number of programs offered for youth including babysitter training, teen weight training and volunteer placements aquatics. The most popular programs that teens participate in are karate, fitness, aquafit and general weightroom activities.
 - Staff have also been working with local high schools to provide physical education alternatives for their students (swimming and weightroom).
- h. Shadbolt Centre for the Arts
- The Shadbolt's Youth in Motion Dance Company had a busy year. They performed in Seattle in July of this year. They also presented a show entitled "New Expressions" at the James Cowan Theatre in May which featured original choreography by some of the teen participants. Youth in Motion toured Burnaby schools with performances and talk back sessions with students this past spring.
 - This past year, Shadbolt Centre's newest resident dance company for youth was formed. "Continuum" is composed of 16-21 year olds and will be performing a Christmas Dance Concert with Youth in Motion at the Shadbolt Centre on December 11.
 - The Teen Theatre Performance Company toured high schools with 4 performances of an original piece called "Riding Out the Storm" and also performed in May as part of the Rhododendron Festival.
 - The Junior Theatre Company (10-13 year olds) toured their production of a "Midsummer Nights' Dream" through 4 elementary schools and performed at the James Cowan Theatre in May.

- The Teen Arts Advisory Council (a group of teens from all arts disciplines that meet regularly to assist with program planning ideas) held a “Hot Chocolate House” during Youth Week which featured an evening of Burnaby teens performing everything from rock and roll to poetry with all proceeds going to the SPCA. The Teen Arts Advisory Council also organized a mural painting during the Rhododendron Festival.

i. Southeast Community Programs

- Youth Services and Eastburn Recreation staff are working closely with the Edmonds Youth Resource Centre located adjacent to Eastburn Recreation Centre. There is a youth committee at Edmonds Youth Resource Centre that consists of 15-18 young people ages 14-20 that advises on the service, which is a partnership of several organizations including Parks and Recreation, on needs of youth in the area. They plan, organize and facilitate events, workshops and activities related to youth issues (e.g., resume writing, public speaking, outtrips and guest speakers).
- Youth programs offered in this area include BOLD (Burnaby Opportunities for Leadership Development), a well attended program with over 60 participants involved this past summer. The program is offered by the Community Program Staff. There are several active partnerships in this area including the On The Move Program for girls, Nights Alive Program (Attorney General funded program) and an Aboriginal Working Group involving a youth committee.

j. Northwest Community Programs

- Staff have been actively involved with the North East Burnaby Youth Action Association (NEBYAA) in addressing youth services in this area.
- There are 11 elementary schools in the area which staff have some youth programs running out of, mainly for those ages 10-13. The Community Programmer and Creekside Youth Centre Coordinator work closely together to coordinate the services for youth to better meet the needs of youth in this community.

REGIONAL BASED SERVICES

In the Youth Service Model, this level of service focuses on designated space for youth. The model identifies five regions in the city, Northwest, Northeast, Southeast, Southwest and Central. Although the existing new Youth Centres may more appropriately be defined as neighbourhood based services due to the limitation in space, the intent with the opening of these youth centres is to have designated space situated in the regions of the city as outlined in the Model. What has not been addressed as outlined in the Model is the additional social services for youth that were initially proposed to be housed at these Youth Centres. Staff will be reviewing alternatives to address the issue of how some of the social service agencies can more effectively provide services/information from these sites.

Burnaby has opened three new designated spaces for youth in the past year. The sites are South

South Central, (re-location of the old Club Metro in the Southwest region) K.R.I.B. (Kids Recreating in Burnaby) located adjacent to Stride Community School in the Southeast region, Creekside adjacent to Stoney Creek Community School is the Northeast region. A fourth site is planned for 1999 in the Northwest region that will be located at Confederation Park adjacent to the Civil Defence Building. Highlights of the initiatives at these Youth Centres are listed below.

South Central Youth Centre

- The centre opened one year ago and is as popular as the former Club Metro site was for participants. Average daily attendance is 40 with many nights seeing attendance as high as 60. The centre operates 6 days a week.
- The centre's youth committee has 8 young people involved with the planning, organizing and implementing of a variety of activities such as fundraising and outtrips.
- The Centre Coordinator has developed and led an outreach program (Ty's Club) out of Maywood Community School which involves grade 6 and 7 students in recreational activities chosen by the participants.
- This past summer the centre in partnership with K.R.I.B., ran a successful summer program involving a total of 116 youth. They participated in a variety of activities such as camping, kayaking, canoeing, horseback riding. This is an addition of the in-centre activities that took place.

K.R.I.B. Youth Centre

- The centre has quickly become a popular place for young people since opening a year ago. Average daily attendance is 29 but there are many days where the centre is oversubscribed in attendance. The centre operates 5 days a week.
- There are 6 young people on K.R.I.B.'s youth committee participating in numerous activities including fundraising and Youth Week. A variety of programs have been developed and implemented in conjunction with the Youth Committee.
- K.R.I.B. has developed many supporting partners including Stride Community School, Edmonds Community School and Mulberry Place. Mulberry Place is a recent outreach program that has been developed out of Mulberry Housing Development. Youth Programs are run from the Multipurpose room for youth in the area. Mulberry Housing Development is located in the Cariboo Heights community.

Creekside Youth Centre

- Creekside up until October 1997 was operated by the Northeast Burnaby Youth Action Association (NEBYAA). After this, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services assumed responsibility of the day to day operations.
- This centre has remained popular with the youth in the Stoney Creek Forest Grove area of Burnaby. Average daily attendance is 36. The centre operates 3 days a week.
- The Creekside youth committee consisting of 9 members meets every second week planning a variety of programs and conducting fundraising activities and special events. They are currently planning a Christmas Party for the participants involved in the Young Parent Recreation Program and plan to distribute food hampers for needy families in the area.
- Many partnerships have been developed with other community groups and agencies in the area to assist with the delivery of services for youth: NEBYAA, Odyssey (alcohol and drug counselling service) Career Connections (employment counselling for youth) and Cariboo High School. The centre offered a successful summer outtrip program in partnership with NEBYAA in addition to a summer employment program.

OTHER REGIONAL BASED SERVICES

The introduction of a Late Night Recreation Service under the guidance of several organizations including the RCMP, Burnaby School District, Attorney General's Department and the Ministry For Children and Families has proven to be a worthwhile addition to services offered for young people in the community, particularly youth deemed at risk. The program is currently offered at Bonsor and Cameron Centres during the school year and is well attended.

Youth Services has also spearheaded in the Stoney Creek Community, a new Young Parents Recreation Program which is now involving several partners: SMILE Program, Burnaby South High School, Burnaby Family Life, Northeast Burnaby Youth Action Association, Burnaby Family Place, and Burnaby Multicultural Society. This program is designed by young parents to help meet their family needs for recreation opportunities. The program also recognizes the "at risk" component of this group.

DISTRICT WIDE SERVICES

District wide services are defined in the model to provide a coordination function regarding the delivery of services to youth. The departments role is to develop a teamwork approach in the coordination of youth services throughout Burnaby. This approach would involve Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services staff, citizens, community agencies, organizations and businesses. The departments role is also to support city wide initiatives for youth particularly involving recreation.

District wide recreation service examples include the Confederation skateboard plaza, Late Night Recreation Services (Bonsor and Cameron Recreation Centres) Young Parents Recreation Program (a coalition of groups involved including Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services), Youth Week, Nights Alive Program (funded by the Province and also involving a coalition of agencies), staff training opportunities (e.g., Vulnerable Persons Training led by the Coordinator of Youth services for Burnaby staff), and youth involvement on special projects (e.g. Task Force on the Sexual Exploitation and Prostitution of Young People Royal Oak Town Centre planning).

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