

CITY OF BURNABY
ENVIRONMENT & WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS

RE: CITY OF BURNABY ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT the 1997 Environment Award in Communications be presented to Dr. Ken Hall for his communications works associated with the Brunette Basin.
2. THAT the 1997 Environment Award in Planning and Development be presented to Mrs. Sharon Capadouca for naturalization and wildlife enhancement works in her residential landscape.
3. THAT the 1997 Environment Award in Community Stewardship be presented to Mr. George Clulow for his exemplary contributions as a naturalist in Burnaby.
4. THAT the 1997 Environment Award in Youth be presented to the 8th Northview Scouts for stream stewardship efforts along Beecher Creek.
5. THAT the 1997 Environment Awards be presented to the recipients on 1997 June 01 at the regular meeting of Council during Environment Week preceded by an informal reception for award recipients, Environment Week participants, members of Council and the Environment and Waste Management Committee.

REPORT

The Environment & Waste Management Committee, at its meeting held on 1998 May 12, received the attached report providing nominations for the 1997 Environment Awards Program.

The Committee approved the above noted recommendations and submits this report to Council for endorsement.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor L. Rankin
Chair

Councillor D. Johnston
Member

Councillor D. Lawson
Member

<p>CC: - CITY MANAGER - DIR. ENGINEERING - DIR. FINANCE - DIR. PLNG & BLDG - ENVIR. SERV. SUP.</p>
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TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
ENVIRONMENT & WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1998 MAY19

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

OUR FILE: 11.800

SUBJECT: CITY OF BURNABY ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

PURPOSE: To recommend award recipients to the Environment and Waste Management Committee for the 1997 City of Burnaby Environment Awards Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the Environment and Waste Management Committee recommend to Council:
 - a) The 1997 Environment Award in Communications be presented to Dr. Ken Hall for his communication works associated with the Brunette Basin.
 - b) The 1997 Environment Award in Planning and Development be presented to Mrs. Sharon Capadouca for naturalization and wildlife enhancement works in her residential landscape.
 - c) The 1997 Environment Award in Community Stewardship be presented to Mr. George Clulow for his exemplary contributions as a naturalist in Burnaby.
 - d) The 1997 Environment Award in Youth be presented to the 8th Northview Scouts for stream stewardship efforts along Beecher Creek.
 - e) The 1997 Environment Awards be presented to the recipients on 1998 June 01 at the regular meeting of Council during Environment Week preceded by an informal reception for award recipients, Environment Week participants, MLAs, MPs members of Council and the Environment and Waste Management Committee.

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 important environmental achievements in a variety of areas. The first City Environment Awards were presented at a 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 1997 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, video, audio, multi-media or visual/graphic presentations that help to increase the awareness and 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 or groups in 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 or other 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 1998 June 01.

4.0 1997 AWARDS

4.1 Communications Award

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

1.1 *Dr. Ken Hall for effective environmental communications on the Brunette Basin.*

Dr. Hall received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin in Environmental Chemistry. He is currently a professor in the Department of Civil Engineering, University of British Columbia, and part of Westwater Research Centre. Dr. Hall has conducted many experiments and research reports on organic contaminants in the aquatic environments, and supervised many post graduate theses related to urban runoff in the Brunette Basin. He currently sits on the Brunette Basin Task Group, the Steering Committee for the Stoney Creek Stormwater Management Plan and the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Committee for the GVRD Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP).

Dr. Hall has been involved in developing a number of communications which have been highly effective in reaching a broad spectrum of professionals and members of the public to raise environmental awareness particularly on the ecological conditions in the Brunette watershed. Some of these works include:

- ▶ *Current Trends*, a summary graphic publication on a number of case study watersheds, including the Brunette Basin published by DFO as part of the Fraser River Action Plan (FRAP);
- ▶ *Integrated Watershed Management*, a distance learning certificate course which includes case study information on the Brunette watershed offered through UBC Extended Education and available on CD ROM;
- ▶ *Water Quality and Stormwater Contamination in the Brunette Watershed, BC*, 1994/95 by Ken Hall, Ron Macdonald and Hans Schreier, June, 1997, a report which compares the Brunette to other watersheds;
- ▶ Workshop on the summary findings of the *UBC EcoResearch Project* (including case studies on the Brunette Basin), January 1996;
- ▶ Workshop on *Cumulative Effects* (including case studies on the Brunette Basin), February, 1998.
- ▶ *Brentwood Town Centre Design Charrette*, presentation on the ecological conditions in the Brunette Basin, August, 1997

Dr. Hall is currently President of the BC Waterfowl Society and an avid birder and naturalist. As part of the Waterfowl Society, he has been instrumental in developing a series of tapes on nature sounds and bird calls which are widely used by naturalists and members of the public. He formerly served as a director for the Federation of BC Naturalists and continues to be involved by leading field trips and presenting slide shows, on occasion.

In summary, the Committee feels the variety of publications, workshops, presentations and other contributions by Dr. Hall regarding the Brunette Basin and broader natural history have been highly successful in distilling important, technical scientific information into a format that is accessible and meaningful to a wide variety of representatives from different disciplines and general members of the public. This work has been very helpful in raising the City's, other jurisdictions' and the community's understanding of the Brunette Basin watershed in Burnaby, which has led to initiatives to enhance the environmental quality of the Basin. Extending over 20 years, this work also reflects Dr. Hall's long term commitment and tireless efforts on the Brunette watershed.

4.2 Planning and Development Award

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

Mrs. Sharon Capadouca for Wildlife Enhancements in her Private Residential Landscape

The Capadouca family have resided in their home on Curr Place, with an approximate 0.3 acre property backing onto Forest Glen Park, for 24 years. The native landscape of the park has been maintained and enhanced with native plantings and the clearing of a series of natural pathways on a large portion to the rear of the property. A large, mature cedar has been retained in the back portion of the yard providing wildlife habitat including homes for two families of racoons. A smaller portion of the yard has been planted and is now well established, with a mix of ornamental and native species including rhododendrons, azaleas, Japanese maple, dogwood, Oregon grape, Cascara, ferns and cotoneaster. A pond and swale have been created along a former watercourse of which the City required culverting when the property was initially developed. A footbridge, pathways, small deck and solarium have been constructed to access and view the garden and variety of wildlife using the yard. Overall, the landscape is low maintenance and contains no lawn areas with native and non-native species planted in appropriate microclimates. The wild, native area of the yard containing fruiting species, such as salmonberry and Indian plum, as well as the provision of water on-site, is attractive to many wildlife species which find refuge in the Capadouca's yard.

Mrs. Capadouca has developed a strong awareness and appreciation of the local wildlife in the area utilizing her yard through her enhancement activities and appropriate feeding of wildlife. Wildlife protection and caring for injured or stressed wildlife has become the focus of Mrs. Capadouca's garden. She is actively involved with Critter Care Wildlife Association and liaises regularly with Wildlife Rescue

Association and the SPCA. Mrs. Capadouca's efforts and her landscape have been very effective in raising awareness of local wildlife and the need to protect them and their habitat.

The Committee feels that Mrs. Capadouca's yard and efforts are an excellent example of what can be done to create an environmentally sensitive landscape, which is low maintenance, pesticide and chemical free and attractive to wildlife, while being aesthetically pleasing and accessible for the use and enjoyment of her family. This example is seen as significant in light of the approximate 31,000 single and two family residential landscapes in Burnaby and their relationship to broader ecological functions. Mrs. Capadouca's efforts to protect urban wildlife reflect how connections can be made between one's own backyard and ecological systems in Burnaby.

4.3 Community Stewardship Award

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

George Clulow for his exemplary contributions as a naturalist in Burnaby.

Mr. Clulow is a well known member of the local and regional naturalist community, particularly as an expert birder. He recently stepped down as Chair of the Birding Section of the Vancouver Natural History Society (VNHS) after holding this post for several years. He is presently coordinating a revision of the very popular Vancouver Natural History Society's *Bird Finding Guide Book*, having written several chapters including those on Burnaby and Deer Lakes, himself. He has also contributed numerous natural history articles to the *Burnaby Now* and is co-author of the Wildlife Watch publication, *A Checklist of the Birds of Burnaby Lake Regional Park*. George is a tireless worker for the environment participating on several advisory committees, including serving as a director for the Wild Bird Trust, co-chair of the Burnaby Lake Steering Committee and involvement in the development of the Deer Lake Park Management Plan. He has also been significantly involved in regular VNHS Christmas bird counts and the Burrard Inlet Environmental Action Program's (BIEAP) Burrard Inlet count. George has led numerous interpretive bird/ habitat walks in Burnaby, particularly in Deer Lake Park for City staff, politicians and members of the public at events including Environment Week and BC Rivers Day.

The Committee feels that Mr. Clulow's long term contributions as a naturalist have been very successful in inspiring many people in Burnaby to take a keen interest in our city's natural green spaces. His detailed knowledge of natural history, specifically bird inventory and habitat information, has been highly useful in informing City decision-

making in environmental planning and management.

4.4 Youth Award

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

The 8th Northview Scouts/Beecher Creek Streamkeepers for stream stewardship along Beecher Creek.

The 8th Northview Scouts, led by Mr. Jim Atwater and Mr. Ken March, have coordinated and implemented extensive stream stewardship efforts on Beecher Creek. Since 1995, this work has included regular stream monitoring and reporting, riparian plantings and major stream enhancement works involving stream complexing through the creation of a number of small weirs and bank stabilization works completed as part of City Engineering works to upgrade sanitary sewer crossings across Beecher Creek. For 1997 Rivers Day, the 8th Northview Scouts/Streamkeepers implemented a major riparian planting project with the City, BCIT and the public at a private industrial site owned by Dowco on lower Beecher Creek near the BNR. They also coordinated a public meeting in 1997 to increase local awareness of the environmental significance and encourage stewardship of the creek. Recently, the Scouts installed nesting boxes along Beecher Creek to enhance habitat for a variety of bird species. These will be monitored and maintained by the Scouts in the future. The leadership of Mr. Atwater and Mr. March has provided Scouts with an understanding of creek ecology and the processes and partnerships necessary to be effective stewards of the creek. Scouts have consulted with staff on riparian planting proposals, learned how to monitor flows and water quality on the creek and participated in Burnaby Streamkeepers activities. The group has been successful in acquiring significant funding for the environmental stewardship works of his group under the Urban Salmon Habitat Program (USHP) and through Canada Trust.

The Committee feels the efforts of the 8th Northview Scouts represent very positive contributions by youth which are visibly enhancing Burnaby's natural environment, while raising community awareness of the significance and enhancement potentials associated with Beecher Creek.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Environment and Waste Management Committee recommends that the recipients identified in this report receive the 1997 City Environment Awards as outlined. The Committee believes these individuals and groups have demonstrated exemplary works which enhance the City's natural environment while encouraging stewardship. As recommended

in the City's State of the Environment Report (SOER), the City's Environment Awards are seen as a means of recognizing significant environmental achievements, while encouraging stewardship. This will be the third year for the City Environment Awards program.

As part of their review process this year, citizen representatives identified the need to increase awareness of the City's Environment Awards in the community to identify future award nominees and track projects or initiatives in-process. It is suggested that an article in Information Burnaby and other means be used to improve awareness of the awards for subsequent years. Staff will follow-up on this request.

It is recommended that the 1997 City Environment Awards be presented during Environment Week on 1998, June 1 at the regular meeting of Council preceded by an informal reception for award recipients, Environment Week participants, MLAs, MPs, members of Council and the Environment and Waste Management Committee.

AL GRASS, Citizen Member
Environment and Waste Management Committee

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