

COMMUNITY ISSUES AND SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

Re: CHILD CARE PLANNING RESOURCE PACKAGE: USER SURVEY

RECOMMENDATION:

1. *THAT* Council authorize the preparation of the Child Care Planning Resource Package, and that the Child Care Resources Group be authorized to proceed with a survey of Burnaby parents, as described in the attached report.

REPORT

The Community Issues and Social Planning Committee, at its meeting held on 1998 March 25, received and adopted the attached report seeking authority to conduct a survey of Burnaby parents as part of the Child Care Planning Resource Package preparation.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor C. Redman
Chair

Councillor N. Volkow
Vice Chair

COPY - CITY MANAGER
- DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES
- DIRECTOR FINANCE
- DIR. PLNG. & BLDG.

TO: COMMUNITY ISSUES &
SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

1998 MARCH 17

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

OUR FILE: 17.315.1

SUBJECT: CHILD CARE PLANNING RESOURCE PACKAGE: USER SURVEY

PURPOSE: To seek authority to conduct a survey of Burnaby parents as part of the Child Care Planning Resource Package preparation.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT, in preparation of the Child Care Planning Resource Package, the Child Care Resources Group be authorized to proceed with a survey of Burnaby parents, as described in this report.

REPORT

Appearing elsewhere on this agenda is the 1997 Annual Report of the Child Care Resources Group (CCRG). The report indicates that a key activity of the CCRG during 1998 will be completion of the Child Care Planning Resource Package - a user-friendly package of information aimed at helping parents, care providers, funders and others in either planning for or obtaining child care services in the city.

The CCRG completed several elements of the Planning Resource Package during 1997. A current priority is completion of surveys of child care providers and users. The survey of providers will help with confirming details about the supply and availability of child care spaces in Burnaby. The survey of users will help with determining the needs and concerns of parents either using or seeking child care services.

Using a telephone interview technique, the CCRG is in the process of administering the provider survey. The group expects to have all interviews completed, and the results assembled, by the end of March.

With respect to the user survey, the CCRG has prepared a draft questionnaire for distribution to a random sample of Burnaby parents (see Appendix 1, *attached*). Details about the user survey are as follows:

- *Sample:* 400 families who have contacted the Burnaby/New Westminster Child Care Resource and Referral Service over the past year looking for child care. Efforts will be made to ensure that the sample will include parents looking for various types of care (i.e., infant/toddler, 3 - 5 years, and school age).

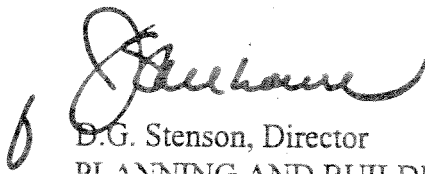
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- **Distribution:** The surveys will be mailed; parents will be asked to return the completed questionnaires in stamped self-addressed envelopes enclosed with the mailings. It is proposed that a covering letter, signed by the Chairperson of the CISPC, be included to explain the purpose and importance of the surveys.
- **Timing:** The surveys will be distributed in April, returned by early May, and analyzed by June.
- **Budget:** In its 1998 Annual Operating Budget, the Planning Department has included sufficient funds for the printing, distribution, and return postage for the surveys. All labor for the surveys is being provided by CCRG members and City staff; therefore, no additional funds are required for the work.

To conclude, information from the proposed user survey will form an important component of the Child Care Planning Resource Package. It is therefore recommended that the CCRG be authorized to proceed with administering the survey, as described above.

Given this endorsement, staff will prepare a covering letter for the CISPC Chairperson's signature to accompany the survey mailout. In conjunction with the CCRG, we will distribute the surveys in April and have them analyzed by June.

Staff will keep the CISPC apprised as work on the Planning Resource Package proceeds. As indicated in the 1997 CCRG Annual Report, we expect to be presenting a draft Resource Package to the CISPC in late 1998.


D.G. Stenson, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

JF/vsa
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Attachment

cc: City Manager
Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

CHILD CARE PLANNING RESOURCE PACKAGE

USER SURVEY

The Burnaby Child Care Resources Group is an advisory body to the City's Community Issues & Social Planning Committee on child care matters. The group is preparing a Resource Package to assist child care providers, parents, and others with future planning for child care. To help with this effort, we want to know something about the background and needs of people currently looking for or using child care services in the city.

Please lend your support by completing this brief questionnaire and returning it in the *attached* stamped envelope to the Burnaby/New Westminster Child Care Resource and Referral Program, #33- 250 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, BC V5C 5E9.

Please be assured that all information provided will be treated as confidential and will only be used in our work in developing the Resource Package. We will not attribute opinions to any individuals completing the survey.

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1. If you live in Burnaby, please tell us the first three digits of your postal code.

• V3H <input type="checkbox"/>	• V5B <input type="checkbox"/>	• V5H <input type="checkbox"/>
• V3J <input type="checkbox"/>	• V5C <input type="checkbox"/>	• V5J <input type="checkbox"/>
• V3N <input type="checkbox"/>	• V5E <input type="checkbox"/>	
• V5A <input type="checkbox"/>	• V5G <input type="checkbox"/>	

 - live outside Burnaby (*specify municipality*): _____

 2. Please tell us the number of all your children aged 12 and under.

• less than 3 years	_____	children
• 3 - 5 years	_____	children
• 6 - 12 years	_____	children

 3. What type of child care facility is your child or children currently enrolled in (*check all that apply*).

• Licensed Group Child Care		<input type="checkbox"/>
• infant/ toddler care		<input type="checkbox"/>
• 3 - 5 year care		<input type="checkbox"/>
• Licensed School Age (Out of School) Care		<input type="checkbox"/>
• Licensed Preschool		<input type="checkbox"/>
• Licensed Family Child Care		<input type="checkbox"/>
• License-Not-Required Family Child Care (i.e., provide care for 2 or fewer children)		<input type="checkbox"/>
• Licensed Child Minding		<input type="checkbox"/>
• Parks & Recreation Department Preschool Program		<input type="checkbox"/>
• Other (<i>please specify</i>) _____		<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Please rate the relative importance of the following factors when you are selecting child care:

	Not Very Important			Very Important	
• Child Care Provider	1	2	3	4	5
• Fees	1	2	3	4	5
• Location of Facility	1	2	3	4	5
• Hours of Operation	1	2	3	4	5

5. To what extent did the following factors act as barriers in your search for child care?

	No Barrier			Major Barrier	
• Cost of care	1	2	3	4	5
• Location of facilities	1	2	3	4	5
• Availability of spaces	1	2	3	4	5
• Hours of operation (e.g., no evening or part-time care)	1	2	3	4	5
• Availability of information	1	2	3	4	5
• Availability of appropriate care options (e.g., workplace child care)	1	2	3	4	5
• Other (please specify)	1	2	3	4	5

6. Do you have any other comments to share?

