KUSHIRO CUP SELECTION COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

RE: KUSHIRO CUP AWARD FOR "1998 OUTSTANDING CITIZEN"

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Mr. Ray Abernathy receive the "1998 Outstanding Citizen" award.

REPORT

Nominations for Burnaby's "1998 Outstanding Citizen" were invited through advertisements in the Burnaby News Leader and the Burnaby Now.

Six submissions were received and reviewed by the Selection Committee. All of the nominees were worthy of the Committee's serious consideration as they represent an extensive array of valuable contributions toward the betterment of our community. However, the Committee, after due consideration, selected Ray Abernathy as their recommended choice to receive the Kushiro Cup as the "1998 Outstanding Citizen" of Burnaby.

Mr. Abernathy has been a resident of Burnaby for over 25 years. He owns and operates his own business in Burnaby, yet still finds the time to spend an average of 30 hours per week in the service of various volunteer programs benefitting those less fortunate. He is currently volunteering with such organizations as Act II Safe Choice, Cameray Counselling Centres, Burnaby Family Life, Burnaby Information, Maywood School, Lower Mainland Multicultural Family Support Services, Stride Avenue Community School, Marguerite Dixon House and is a member of the Burnaby Optimists Club.

Much of Mr. Abernathy's volunteering involves picking up donated goods, sorting, repairing and cleaning as needed, storing the goods in three neighbourhood garages and then helping families and individuals pick out needed items. In 1998 alone he made over 350 pickups of donated items throughout the Lower Mainland, from Horseshoe Bay to Tsawwassen to Abbotsford.

In view of Mr. Abernathy's strong commitment to improving the quality of life for those who most need assistance, the Committee is pleased to recommend his selection as the "1998 Outstanding Citizen" of Burnaby.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor C. Redman

Councillor D. Lawson

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