

CITY OF BURNABY

ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS

RE: ENVIRONMENT WEEK IN BURNABY-PROPOSED PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council approve the proposed program of events for Environment Week as outlined in this report.
2. **THAT** Council proclaim Wednesday, 2000 June 07 as Clean Air Day in Burnaby.
3. **THAT** Council approve an expenditure of \$5,400 for advertising and event signage for Environment Week.
4. **THAT** a copy of this report be sent to the Parks and Recreation Commission and to the Burnaby Civic Employees Union.

REPORT

The Environment and Waste Management Committee, at its meeting held on 2000 May 09, received and adopted the *attached* report outlining proposed public events to celebrate Environment Week in Burnaby from 2000 June 05 to June 11.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Johnston
Chair

Councillor C. Redman
Member

: COPY - CITY MANAGER
- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING
- DIRECTOR FINANCE
- DIR. PLNG. & BLDG.
- DIR. PARKS, REC. & CULT. SERV

Councillor B. Der
Member

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS 2000 MAY 05
ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING OUR FILE: 11.802

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENT WEEK IN BURNABY - PROPOSED PROGRAM

PURPOSE: To request approval of the proposed program for Environment Week in Burnaby, June 05 to June 11.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council be requested to approve:
 - a) the proposed program of events for Environment Week as outlined in this report;
 - b) Wednesday, June 07 being proclaimed Clean Air Day in Burnaby; and
 - c) \$5,400 for advertising and event signage for Environment Week.
2. **THAT** a copy of this report be sent to the Parks and Recreation Commission and to the Burnaby Civic Employees Union.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

Environment Week is an annual national event held during the first week in June to raise environmental awareness and encourage environmental stewardship. The City of Burnaby strongly supports and encourages environmental stewardship and through its Environment and Waste Management Committee, has participated in Environment Week by coordinating a variety of public environmental events led by community groups, local businesses, agencies, educational institutions and the City. Staff from Planning, Parks and Recreation and Engineering, together with citizen representatives of the Environment and Waste Management Committee, have been working with community partners to develop a proposed program of events for this year's Environment Week celebration, scheduled from June 05 to June 11. CUPE Local 23 has also been consulted and supports the proposed program.

A variety of events have been proposed throughout the week that provide many different opportunities for community involvement. As it is the year 2000, a significant program of events has been coordinated to include as many community stewards and participants as possible. The following section presents a schedule of proposed events.

2.0 PROPOSED ENVIRONMENT WEEK PROGRAM

MONDAY, MAY 29

Announcement of the City of Burnaby 1999 Environment Award Winners & Environmental Stars at Council

The City of Burnaby 1999 Environment Award winners and the 1999 Environmental Stars will be announced at the regular meeting of Council. Award categories include Community Stewardship, Youth, Communications and Planning and Development. A visual presentation will be made at this time of the winners and their various works and activities.

TUESDAY, MAY 30

Council to Council Commuter Challenge

Burnaby City Council has accepted the Commuter Challenge from Vancouver City Council. Each Council is challenged to take alternative transportation on May 30. On June 5, a banner will be placed on the pedestrian walkway over Kingsway near Central Park declaring the "winning" Council. It is anticipated that this additional promotion will encourage residents to accept the Commuter Challenge themselves.

MONDAY, JUNE 05

Riparian Planting at Kensington Pitch & Putt Golf Course (10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.)

The Beecher Creek Streamkeepers, in conjunction with Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary students, parents and staff, are sponsoring a riparian planting along a portion of Beecher Creek at the Kensington Pitch and Putt Golf Course. The riparian planting is intended to provide shade to this exposed portion of Beecher Creek, as well as provide leaf and nutrient drop and enhance bank stability in order to mitigate erosion. The Beecher Creek Streamkeepers have provided the native plant material for the creek, and the students, parents and staff of Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary will be conducting the planting. Parks staff will oversee the event and provide assistance.

TUESDAY, JUNE 06

Burnaby Fraser Foreshore Park Events: Purple Loosestrife Removal, Riparian Planting and Interpretive Talk by DFO (Time & Date to be Confirmed)

Three events are planned for the Fraser Foreshore Park area, and are being done in conjunction

with the City, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Byrne Creek Streamkeepers, and Grade 6 students of Clinton Elementary School. Purple loosestrife will be removed, reflecting the Environment and Waste Management Committee and Council's approval of a program to control purple loosestrife, an invasive non-native weed which impacts wetlands in Burnaby. Reeds and rushes will be planted in the wetlands which link the estuaries in Fraser Foreshore Park, and a biologist from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans will conduct a tour of the salmonid enhancement project located at Fraser Foreshore Park. Parks staff will provide assistance during the event, and City crews would remove the cut and bagged purple loosestrife.

Bat Boxes in Kensington Park (Date & Time to be Confirmed)

The Douglas College Institute of Urban Ecology, in conjunction with students from Burnaby North Secondary School, are proposing to hang bat boxes that they have constructed in Kensington Park in an effort to enhance biodiversity in the Lower Mainland.

Habitat Demonstration Garden Tour (7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.)
Wildlife Rescue Association (5216 Glencarin Drive)

The Wildlife Rescue Association is sponsoring a tour for members of the public of its Habitat Demonstration Garden. This educational garden demonstrates habitat-friendly gardening options, while providing natural food for the injured and orphaned wildlife at the facility and attracting additional wildlife to the site. The garden includes habitat friendly edgings (i.e. firewood), berry rows, dry stone walls (retaining walls built without mortar, thereby providing cracks and crevices for plants and insects), a wildlife pond, a wild flower and grass field, blackberry thicket, a triple bin compost and a worm compost.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 07

Clean Air Day Commuter Challenge and Reception (7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.)

The Mayor and Council will be requested to proclaim June 07 as Clean Air Day in Burnaby. City employees will be challenged to travel to and from work using modes of transportation other than the single occupant vehicle. Points are awarded for bicycling, walking, car pooling and using transit to travel to work. A reception will be held in the City Hall courtyard in the morning, with coffee and muffins available for those who have taken alternative transportation that day. It is anticipated that a clean fuel vehicle will be on site for the morning reception. Prizes will be drawn amongst the employee participants.

Bike Maintenance Workshop (Noon - 1:30 p.m.)

A bike mechanic will be at City Hall to perform free bike tune-ups for those who have ridden their bicycles to work that day. The bike mechanic is being provided through Better Environmentally Sound Transportation (B.E.S.T.), the regional coordinator of Bike Week.

K.R.I.B. Youth Centre Neighbourhood Cleanup (4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.)

Members of K.R.I.B. (Kids Recreate In Burnaby) invite local youth to join together at the K.R.I.B. Youth Centre (7015 14th Avenue) to clean up the local neighbourhood and plant flowers around the centre. The event is being hosted by the K.R.I.B. Youth Centre Teen Committee, and all youth are welcome. City crews would provide a dumpster and remove the collected refuse.

Creekside Youth Centre Neighbourhood Cleanup & Barbeque (4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)

Youth Committee members of the Creekside Youth Centre invite community members to join them in a clean up of the neighbourhood followed by a barbeque at the Creekside Youth Centre (located on the grounds of the Stoney Creek Community School). City crews would provide a dumpster and remove the collected refuse.

Environment Awards Evening at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts (6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)

The City's 1999 Environment Award winners and Environmental Stars will be announced at the Council meeting of 2000 May 29. The awards will be presented at a special evening reception at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts, hosted by Council. All participants in Environment Week events will be invited to attend. The reception will provide an opportunity for participants to network and meet others involved in similar activities in their community. In addition, it is a means by which the City can say "thank you" for their work in the week's events. It is anticipated that a video highlighting community stewardship in Burnaby will be shown at this time. Corporate sponsorship is being sought for this event.

THURSDAY, JUNE 08

"Landscape Escapes" at Shadbolt Centre for the Arts (Noon to 1:00 p.m., and 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.)

This event has become a favourite of Environment Week participants, and due to public demand is returning again this year. The public is invited to attend a session of landscape painting at the South Plaza of the Shadbolt Centre. Easels will be set up and artist Judith M. Atkinson will give an introduction to the use of pastels and watercolours. This event fills up quickly, and pre-registration is required.

Willingdon (HOV) Urban Trail Sod Turning Ceremony (2:00 p.m.)

The Willingdon HOV Project is a major north-south element of the HOV network as outlined in the Burnaby Transportation Plan. It represents the "missing link" in the north-south direction for those trying to make transit connections using the existing high frequency east-west bus services or SkyTrain line. The project includes 2.5 km of new bus/vanpool lanes on Willingdon Avenue; transit priority signals for buses approaching key intersections; new bus shelters; an improved bicycle/pedestrian connection across the Trans Canada Highway; and a 0.8 extension of the urban trail on the east side of Willingdon Avenue from Sanderson Way to Canada Way. Representatives of BCIT, BCTFA and Translink will join the City in a ceremonial sod turning to mark the commencement of the project.

Summit Youth Centre Neighbourhood Cleanup (4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.)

Youth are invited to join in a cleanup of Hastings Street from Gamma Avenue to Boundary Road. Meet at the Summit Youth Centre (200 Alpha Avenue). City crews would provide a dumpster and remove the collected refuse.

Burnaby Lake Interpretive Walk (7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)

Members of the public will meet members of the Burnaby Lake Park Association at the Burnaby Lake Nature House to begin a 1½ hour walk of the Lake. Refreshments will be provided at the Nature House following the walk.

FRIDAY, JUNE 09

North/South Bicycle Route Opening (11:00 a.m.)

The North/South Bicycle Route will be officially opened at the corner of Deer Lake Parkway and Wayburne Drive. The North/South Bicycle Route is a 2.9 kilometre on and off-street bike route that was completed in 1999. The route starts at the intersection of Canada Way and Wayburne Drive, and heads south on a combination of Wayburne Drive and Sussex Avenue until it intersects with the Metrotown Bicycle Loop at Hazel Street. The North/South Bicycle Route connects the BCIT area, the Deer Lake Urban Trail, the Metrotown Bicycle Loop, the BC Parkway and the Metrotown commercial area, and provides an alternative route to Willingdon Avenue for cyclists. The total project cost was \$157,000 of which \$78,000 cost share funding was received from the British Columbia Transportation Financing Authority's Cycle Network Program. The City of Burnaby contributed \$79,000 to this successful project.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

Deer Lake Park Day: 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

A number of events are planned at Deer Lake Park that will provide interesting activities for the whole family, and illustrate the various facilities and natural features that the Park has to offer.

Fish Release in Beaver Creek (10:00 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.) - Working in conjunction, the City, the Department of Oceans and Fisheries, BCIT and members of the public will be releasing 5,000 coho fry into Beaver Creek.

Purple Loosestrife Removal (10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.) - This event reflects the Environment and Waste Management Committee and Council's approval of a program to control purple loosestrife, an invasive non-native weed which impacts wetlands in Burnaby. Working in partnership, the City, BCIT - Burnaby Lake Systems Project and members of the public will cut localized patches of purple loosestrife in Deer Lake Park at the south end of the boardwalk before carefully bagging and sealing the loosestrife for removal and incineration. Cutting in this manner helps reduce the spread of purple loosestrife by removing the future seed source of the plants (the plants are not

in seed at this time). The cut and bagged purple loosestrife would be removed by City crews.

Native Plantings (10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.) - Native plantings are being planned for the park, and will be done in conjunction with members of the public. Parks staff would prepare the planting plans and provide technical assistance during the event.

Nest Box and Suet Feeder Construction (11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) - Don Thompson, an experienced nest box builder, will assist members of the public in the construction of bird houses and suet feeders from preassembled kits. The kits are made from recycled materials by Don Thompson himself. Nest box kits will be available with all the tools needed to complete construction. The completed nest boxes and suet feeders can be taken home and used, and if the individual desires, the nest box can be tagged and added to the inventory maintained by the BCIT Fish, Wildlife and Recreation program. It is proposed that the City provide the kits free of charge as a gesture for the citizens in Burnaby who are interested in providing bird habitat in their own backyards.

Interpretive Walk (2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.) - Burnaby naturalists Al and Jude Grass will be leading an interpretive walk through Deer Lake Park, beginning at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts.

“Visions of Our Vanishing Heritage” Exhibition at Ceperly House (Art Rental Gallery)(10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.)

Visual Arts Burnaby is pleased to collaborate with the Wildlife Rescue Association (WRA) in presenting “Visions of Our Vanishing Heritage.” This portfolio of prints is one of the most ambitious art projects in the province and supports the WRA (all works are available for sale or rent, with partial proceeds to the WRA). This special exhibition at Ceperly House contains work by eighteen talented artists - some world-renowned and others just beginning to make their mark. WRA Executive Director Maureen Roger will be present from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. to answer any questions.

Songbird Singers (To Be Confirmed)

The Songbird Project is a community environmental arts project aimed at raising public awareness of declining songbird populations and providing positive solutions through specific programs in urban centres. The Songbird Project is produced by Savage Media, with assistance from the Douglas College Institute of Urban Ecology and in 1998/99, the Roundhouse Community Centre in Vancouver. The Songbird Singers are one of the project’s means of communicating the importance of supporting the songbird population in urban areas.

Viewing Scope Stations

Two viewing scopes will be in place with BCIT Fish, Wildlife and Recreation student interpreters. One scope will be on the observation platform and will focus on raptors

and animal life, while the other will be positioned on the boardwalk and focus on the waterfowl population.

Insect Pools

BCIT - Burnaby Lake System Project will provide insect pools at the site of the fish release. Designed for exploration by children, interpreters will be on hand to answer questions and discuss the importance of insects to salmonids and their ecosystem.

Watershed Pledge Program Display

The Watershed Pledge Program is a BCIT initiative supported by the City of Burnaby. It is intended to improve water quality through greater public awareness of the impacts which homes and businesses have on a watershed's lakes and streams. Homes, businesses and schools are asked to "Take The Pledge" by adopting one or more practical "actions" to improve water quality. BCIT staff will be present to answer questions.

Burnaby Environment Week Passport

Children are invited to complete the Burnaby Environment Week Passport. "Passports" are proposed which will have a square for each event/station in Deer Lake Park. By participating in an event or attending a station, children will receive a sticker for their Passport. Each completed passport would be redeemable for a prize (a Waterways of Burnaby poster).

Creekside Youth Centre Barbeque

The Creekside Youth Centre will provide a barbeque and refreshments for members of the public. For convenience, two refreshment stations will be provided in the Park. Proceeds go to the Creekside Youth Centre.

Still Creek Recycling Depot Open House (4800 block Still Creek Avenue) (10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)

The public will be invited to an open house at the Still Creek Recycling Depot. In addition to seeing the depot in operation, recycling displays will be set up to provide information on what happens to recyclables after they are picked up. Plastics, glass bottles and jars, newspapers, mixed paper, cardboard, tin/aluminum, large metal items, white metal goods and used motor oil, as described in the City's Depot Recycling Program brochure, may be brought to the Recycling Depot.

The BC Telephone Corporation, School District 41 and the City of Burnaby will also launch the 7th Annual Telephone Directory Collection Program at this event. This annual program, based on recycling, is an important fundraiser for Burnaby schools.

Burnaby Mountain Interpretive Walk (Noon - 2:00 p.m. Time and Date to be Confirmed)
Members of the Burnaby Mountain Preservation Society will meet members of the public at Horizon's Restaurant for a hike along the Trans Canada Trail. The walk is expected to last an hour and a half, and people are encouraged to bring binoculars.

Station Creek and Woods Cleanup (10:00 a.m. to Noon)
Local residents are invited to participate in a cleanup of Station Creek and its neighbouring woods. Signage for this small creek will be unveiled, and refreshments will be served.

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

Birding on the Brunette (6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.)
Join local naturalist John Appler and the Wild Bird Centre in an early morning walk of the Brunette River. Getting up this early will be rewarded with herons, warblers and wood ducks, among others. Meet at Cariboo Road under the Gaglardi overpass.

Burnaby Mountain High School Tour (Site and Building) (11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)
Join representatives of School District #41, the Stoney Creek Environment Committee and project consultants for a tour of the school building and site. Many innovative environmental features are highlighted on both the site and in the building, including biofiltration swales and ponds, and a ground source heat pump system (below the playing fields) which will heat and cool the school building.

Eagle Creek Clean-Up (10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.)
The Eagle Creek Streamkeepers, in conjunction with members of the public, will participate in a clean up of Eagle Creek south of Broadway. Several large items will be removed from the creek in this area, including discarded appliances, and strong backs are needed. City crews would provide a dumpster, assistance with the removal of the large appliances, and the removal of the collected refuse.

WEEK LONG EVENTS, JUNE 05 TO JUNE 11

Composter Raffle at Bonsor Recreation Centre
Anyone travelling to Bonsor Recreation Centre using alternative forms of transportation, such as bicycles, transit, or walking, will be given a free ticket in a composter raffle. The composter will be put on display at Bonsor on Monday, June 05. Tickets will be given throughout the week, and the draw will occur on June 12.

City Hall Displays - Main Floor Lobby
Displays highlighting Watershed Management and Waste Reduction, Sister Cities and Environment Week activities in Burnaby are planned for the main floor lobby at City Hall. The displays will be up for the duration of Environment Week. In addition, a colouring contest has been proposed for children. The colouring page would be included in the four page local paper

insert outlined below (see Section 3.0). Corporate sponsorship is being sought for prizes for various age categories.

Library Displays


The Burnaby Public Library branches will feature displays about Environment Week and include posters of activities as well as environmental materials available at the library. In addition, the Stoney Creek Environment Committee will have a display throughout the week in the Cameron Recreation Centre.

3.0 ADVERTISING

A four page insert in a local paper is proposed the week prior to Environment Week. This insert will include a listing of Environment Week events, as well as a colouring contest for children. Site signage for various events is also proposed. The approximate cost of advertising and publicity is estimated at \$5,400 (this includes the banner for the Council to Council Commuter Challenge on May 30). The press will be contacted to promote Environment Week in Burnaby and cover these important community environmental efforts. In addition, the events will be posted on the City of Burnaby's web page.

4.0 CONCLUSION

This report presents a summary of public events planned to celebrate Environment Week in Burnaby from June 05 to June 11. Environment Week is a national event to raise public environmental awareness and encourage stewardship. As in previous years, it is proposed that the City will coordinate a variety of events involving community groups, educational institutions, local businesses and other organizations. This year a broad spectrum of environmental projects and activities have been proposed throughout the week. CUPE Local 23 supports the proposed events. A final listing of Environment Week events will be advertised in the local newspapers, at local libraries, on the City's web page and as part of the display in the lobby of City Hall.


D.G. Stenson, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

- KSF
- cc. City Manager
- Director Engineering
- Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
- Director Finance
- Deputy City Manager, Corporate Services
- Deputy City Manager, Corporate Labour Relations
- City Clerk