

TO: CITY MANAGER 2000 April 12

FROM: CHIEF LIBRARIAN

SUBJECT: PUBLIC INTERNET WORKSTATIONS AND COMPUTER TRAINING LAB

PURPOSE: To obtain funding approval for public Internet workstations and a computer training lab.

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **THAT** Council approve the expenditure of \$377,550 from Equipment Replacement Reserves to finance public Internet workstations at all library branches and a computer lab at the Kingsway Branch Library.

**REPORT**

Burnaby Public Library currently provides a total of seven public Internet workstations which can be booked by individuals for a maximum of one half hour per day. The workstations are in use all hours that the library branches are open.

The Library has secured grant revenue to expand public Internet access as follows:

. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation	\$173,303
. Industry Canada Urban Cap Programme	\$ 68,000
. Provincial Community Spirit Grant	\$ 23,825
. Kingston College	\$ 3,122

With the City contribution of \$109,300, the funds will provide 61 thin client workstations, software, servers, cabling and furniture for public Internet access, building modifications and 11 PC's for a computer lab in an unused portion of the lower floor of the Kingsway Branch Library. The existing Internet PC's, installed in 1996, will be replaced as part of this upgrade.

The largest number of Internet workstations will be located at the Kingsway Branch (24) which serves the lowest income population. The placement of workstations in the other BPL branches is dictated in large part by space availability: Metrotown - 16 workstations, McGill - 17 workstations, Cameron - 4 workstations. The McGill workstations will be installed in the new building. The workstations are all funded by the Gates Foundation grant.

Information Services

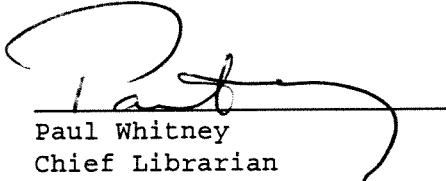
Re: Public Internet/Computer Training Lab

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The Kingsway Computer Lab will provide public access to PC's with application software and a training facility for use by the Library and community groups. In partnership with the Burnaby School District, the Library has applied for a Community Learning Network grant from the Federal Government to assist with the development of computer skills training initiatives through the Kingsway computer lab and the Adult and Continuing Education division of School District 41. Two preliminary grants tied to the CLN proposal have been approved.

Sufficient Equipment Replacement Reserves are available to finance this project which is included under the 2000 Information Services component of the 2000-2004 Annual Capital Program. Funds in the amount of \$173,303 have been received from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Equipment Replacement Reserves will be reimbursed upon receipt of the remaining grants.

The Chief Information Officer concurs with this request.



Paul Whitney  
Chief Librarian

PW/cg

cc: Director Finance