

REPORT
June 24, 2002

CITY OF BURNABY
COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

His Worship, The Mayor
And Councillors:

Subject: “Land of Promise: Robert Burnaby’s Letters From
Colonial British Columbia” - Book Launch Event

Recommendations:

1. THAT Council authorize an official book launch event for “Land of Promise: Robert Burnaby’s Letters From Colonial British Columbia” to be held on Sunday, September 22, 2002 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts and at a cost not to exceed \$3,250.00.

REPORT

The Community Heritage Commission is pleased to announce the completion of the publication entitled “Land of Promise: Robert Burnaby’s Letters From Colonial British Columbia” which will be available for sale to the public in September 2002.

“Land of Promise” is a book that celebrates the life and adventures of the City of Burnaby’s namesake, Robert Burnaby 1828 - 1878 who traveled to the new colony of British Columbia in 1858 to seek fortune and adventure.

Copy: City Manager Director Planning and Building Director Finance Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
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In this “Land of Promise”, Robert Burnaby found a home among government administrators, gold seekers, settlers and aboriginal peoples. As the private secretary to Colonel Richard Clement Moody, Burnaby led exciting exploration expeditions into the wilds of modern-day Vancouver and Burnaby, the City which was to bear his name. Robert Burnaby became a prominent member of Victoria’s society and a successful merchant and legislator. Now, through never before published letters, Robert Burnaby comes to life as a dynamic personality of colonial British Columbia.

In announcing completion of the book, the Community Heritage Commission wishes to advise that it was Robert Burnaby’s great great niece, Anne Burnaby McLeod who inherited 50 letters written by Robert Burnaby between 1858 and 1863 and sent home to England from Colonial British Columbia. Anne McLeod has transcribed and annotated the collection to form an exciting narrative. Local historian, Pixie McGeachie has prepared a biography of Robert Burnaby which forms an introduction for the collection of letters and provides a complete reference work of his life on the West Coast.

The Community Heritage Commission respectfully requests Council’s authority to arrange an official book launch event to be held on Sunday, September 22, 2002 (the City of Burnaby’s birthday) from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts at a cost not to exceed \$3,250.00. Funds are available in the Boards, Committees and Commissions budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Celest Redman
Chair

Councillor Dan Johnston
Vice Chair