REPORT 2005 FEBRUARY 14

CITY OF BURNABY

TO:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM:

MAYOR DEREK R. CORRIGAN

SUBJECT:

NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT) REVIEW

CONFERENCE - 2005 MAY 01 TO 07 - NEW YORK CITY

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Mayor Derek Corrigan, in his capacity as a member of Mayors for Peace, be authorized to attend the Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference in New York City from May 1st to 7th, 2005.

REPORT

Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference

The Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference will be held in New York City from May 1st to 7th, 2005. A large and growing number of City Mayors, Heads of Government, Diplomats and private citizens will cooperate in lobbying activities and develop a global grassroots peace movement to seek inclusion of a clear, time-limited promise to abolish nuclear weapons in the final document of the NPT Review Conference. As the list continues to expand, Canadian City Mayors registered to participate in the 7-day Conference include Vancouver, Kamloops, Grand Forks, Terrace, Montreal, Ottawa, Lethbridge, Edmonton, Winnipeg and Toronto.

Mayors for Peace

Mayors for Peace was founded in 1982 by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to promote the solidarity of cities around the world toward the goal of total abolition of nuclear weapons, as well as to solve vital problems for the human race such as starvation and poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation. Mayors for Peace is composed of mayors in some 619 cities in 109 countries around the world that have formally expressed their commitment to work towards a nuclear weapon-free world.

Page 2 Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference

In 1989, I had the privilege of representing the Mayor of Burnaby at the World Mayors for Peace Conference in the City of Hiroshima, Japan. I had the opportunity to meet peace activists from all over the world, but more importantly I had the opportunity to understand, from the survivors of the atomic holocaust, why Hiroshima and Nagasaki are so active in working to prevent any kind of war between nations

In 2003, Mayors for Peace launched an emergency campaign to ban nuclear weapons. The goal of this unprecedented campaign is to garner support from mayors around the world, to educate citizens and pressure the nuclear weapons states to begin in 2005 and conclude by 2010 negotiations for a verifiable ban on the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2020.

City of Burnaby - Nuclear Weapons Free Zone

During the 1983 local government election, the citizens of Burnaby voted 75 percent in favour of a referendum promoting a program of balanced world disarmament. Following the successful outcome of the referendum, numerous delegations of Burnaby citizens came forward to Council requesting that Burnaby be made a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone. On 1985 October 15, the Council of the day declared The Corporation of the District of Burnaby to be a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone.

Conclusion

Nuclear weapons remain the most dangerous of all weapons, the only ones that can destroy civilization in a day. There is a need to redefine security in human and ecological terms, rather than military ones: food, shelter, clean air and water, jobs, healthcare and education. This kind of security is universal. Attendance at the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference will afford me the opportunity to reinforce the City of Burnaby's commitment as a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone and to continue working with Mayors from around the world towards non-proliferation and total nuclear disarmament.

Respectfully submitted,

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Derek R. Corrigan

MAYOR

Copy: Director Finance City Clerk