

CITY OF BURNABY

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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEEHIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS**RE: ENVIRONMENT WEEK 2005 – PROPOSED PROGRAM****RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **THAT** Council approve the proposed event program, as outlined in Appendix A of this report, for Environment Week 2005, scheduled from 2005 June 05 to June 12.
2. **THAT** Council proclaim 2005 June 8 Clean Air Day in Burnaby.
3. **THAT** Council approve an allocation of \$6,000 for advertising and event signage for Environment Week.

REPORT

The Environment Committee, at its Open meeting held on 2005 May 10, received and adopted the *attached* report outlining the proposed Environment Week program. The Committee noted that a variety of events have been proposed that provide many different opportunities for community involvement. This year's Environment Week theme is Nature in your Neighbourhood, which aims to increase awareness of environmental issues such as urban wildlife, recycling, alternative transportation and chemical free lawn and garden care.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Johnston
ChairCouncillor P. Calendino
Vice ChairCouncillor C. Redman
Member

:COPY – CITY MANAGER DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING DIRECTOR ENGINEERING DIR. PARKS, REC. & CULTURAL SERV.

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

2005 May 05

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

OUR FILE: PL 33000-01

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENT WEEK 2005 – PROPOSED PROGRAM

PURPOSE: To request approval of the proposed program for Environment Week in Burnaby, 2005 June 05 to June 12.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** the Committee recommend that Council approve the proposed event program, as outlined in Appendix A of this report, for Environment Week 2005, scheduled from 2005 June 05 to June 12.
2. **THAT** Council proclaim 2005 June 8 Clean Air Day in Burnaby.
3. **THAT** \$6,000 be allocated for advertising and event signage for Environment Week.

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 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, Recreation and Cultural Services and Engineering, together with citizen representatives of the Environment 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 12. 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. A significant program of events has been coordinated to include as many community stewards and participants as possible. A detailed schedule of events has been included in Appendix A, attached.

2.0 PROPOSED ENVIRONMENT WEEK PROGRAM

This year's Environment Week theme is Nature in your Neighbourhood, which aims to increase awareness of environmental issues such as urban wildlife, recycling, alternative transportation and chemical free lawn and garden care. The following list outlines the proposed events for Environment Week 2005 (a detailed schedule of events is included in Appendix A, attached)

- Announcement of the 2005 Environment Award & Environmental Star Recipients at Council
- City of Burnaby Recycling Facility Open House
- Burnaby Public Library Displays
- Environmental Art Contest Display – Metropolis at Metrotown Burnaby Information Booth
- Environmental Lecture Series – Bob Prittie Metrotown Library
 1. Eco-Gardening
 2. Urban Wildlife
 3. Eco-Tourism (Presented in Mandarin)
 4. Green Buildings
- Opening of the Southeast Bikeway
- City Hall Bike Maintenance Workshop
- Clean Air Day – Commuter Challenge and BBQ
- Free public tours of the GVRD Incinerator
- Free public tour of the Wildlife Rescue Association Habitat Demonstration Garden
- Beecher Creek Invasive Species Removal
- Byrne Creek Cleanup and Invasive Species Removal
- Still Creek Cleanup and Invasive Species Removal
- Eco-Fair and Trunk Swap at Central Park
- Environment Awards Reception – Burnaby Fraser Foreshore Park

3.0 ADVERTISING

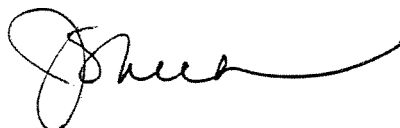
As in previous years, advertisements will be placed in the local newspapers, including a detailed schedule of events and an invitation to the community to participate. Given the scale of the events, it is proposed that two advertisements run in each community newspaper prior to Environment Week, as well as a single ad in the *Georgia Straight*. In addition, information about Environment Week will be available on the City's web page, at local libraries and recreation centres and at the City's information booth at Metropolis at Metrotown.

As in previous years, a request for funding for advertising and appropriate promotional materials is being made for the 2005 event program, to a maximum of \$6,000. In the past,

funds for advertising for Environment Week have been drawn from the Council Committee budget. Should Council approve this recommendation, funds would be drawn from the same account.

4.0 CONCLUSION

This report presents a summary of public events planned to celebrate Environment Week in Burnaby from 2005 June 05 to June 12. Environment Week is a national event to raise public environmental awareness and encourage stewardship. As in previous years, for 2005 it is proposed that the City 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 has been proposed throughout the week. CUPE Local 23 has reviewed the proposed events and supports the Environment Week 2005 program. A final listing of Environment Week events will be advertised in the local newspapers, at local libraries, on the City's web page and at the City's information booth at Metropolis at Metrotown.



J.S. Belhouse, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

JBS/KSF:sla

- cc: City Manager
Deputy City Manager
Director Engineering
Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
Director Finance
City Clerk
President CUPE Local 23

APPENDIX A – PROPOSED ENVIRONMENT WEEK PROGRAM

MONDAY, MAY 30

Announcement of the 2005 Environment Award & Environmental Star Recipients at Council
The City of Burnaby 2005 Environment Award and Environmental Star recipients will be announced at the regular meeting of Council on 2005 May 30. Award categories include Community Stewardship, Youth, Communications, Planning and Development and Chemical Free Lawns and Gardens (herbicide and pesticide free). A reception for the recipients will be held on June 12 with the unveiling of the latest Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services eco-sculpture at Burnaby Fraser Foreshore Park (see below).

SATURDAY, JUNE 04

City of Burnaby Recycling Facility Open House

The City of Burnaby Recycling Facility holds an annual open house to showcase the City's efforts to reduce the amount of recyclable material and organic yard waste that enters landfills. The tour aims to encourage citizens to minimize their environmental impacts through promoting the City's recycling and organic yard waste collection programs. The Recycling Facility also provides residents with information on backyard composting and rain barrels. Refreshments will be provided.

SUNDAY, JUNE 05

Opening of the Southeast Bikeway (11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.)

Cyclists will start at Cariboo Hill Secondary School at 11:30 a.m. and ride the length of the route to Stride Avenue Community School where Councillor Volkow will be present to officially open the bikeway at 12:00 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

TUESDAY, JUNE 07

Bike Maintenance Workshop (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

In preparation for the Commuter Challenge a bike mechanic will be at City Hall to perform bike tune-ups to assist those planning on riding their bikes to work on Wednesday, June 08 for the commuter challenge. As last year, bike tune ups will be conducted from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Burnaby City Hall Plaza by Life Cycle.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 08

Clean Air Day – Commuter Challenge

The Mayor and Council will be requested to proclaim 2005 June 08 as Clean Air Day in Burnaby. City employees will be challenged to travel to and from work using alternative modes of transportation. Points are awarded for cycling, walking, car pooling and using transit. Recognition of commuter challenge participants will be made during a lunch time event in the City Hall Plaza with sponsorship from Honeywell.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

Public Tour of the GVRD Incinerator

The GVRD Waste to Energy facility in the Big Bend takes 20% of the region's solid waste and produces approximately 15 megawatts of energy (enough to power 15,000 homes). Free tours of this state of the art facility will be held on Friday, June 10 throughout the day. Refreshments will be provided by the GVRD.

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

The Wildlife Rescue Association will be hosting a tour of its Habitat Demonstration Garden for members of the public. 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.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

Beecher Creek Invasive Species Removal (10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

The Beecher Creek Streamkeepers will be conducting an invasive species removal event, focusing on removing blackberry from the banks of Beecher Creek east of Springer Avenue. Jim Atwater and the Northview Scouts have been working for years to clean up the creek area, remove invasive species such as blackberry and plant native species to improve the quality of the creek and its spawning areas. Their continuing efforts have resulted in the successful spawning of Coho salmon and the hatching of fry this spring.

Eco-Fair and Trunk Swap at Central Park (10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)

An eco-fair will be held in the baseball diamond parking lot in Central Park on Saturday, June 11, including displays from local environmental groups and companies including Small Potatoes Urban Delivery, Better Environmentally Sound Transportation, the Fraser Basin Council and Burnaby Environmental Services. Mercedes Benz Canada will also be on hand with their new SMART Car. In addition to the Eco-fair, a trunk swap will be held in the opposite side of the parking lot, to encourage the reuse of household items through a free exchange and the recycling of unwanted items.

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

Still Creek Cleanup (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

BCIT and Golder and Associates have organized a cleanup, installation of new signage and invasive species removal in the Still Creek corridor at the 3800 block of Still Creek Avenue. This event is part of a long term stewardship and streamside enhancement program by the BCIT - Burnaby Lake Systems Project.

Byrne Creek Cleanup (10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

The Byrne Creek Streamkeepers have organized an invasive plant species removal in the lower ravine parkland area. The Byrne Creek Streamkeepers are specifically targeting “Policeman’s Helmet”, a rapidly spreading non-native species which quickly crowds out native species, and impacts bank stability and spawning areas within the creek.

Environment Awards Reception – Burnaby Fraser Foreshore Park (1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

The City’s 2005 Environment Award and Environmental Star recipients will be announced at the Council meeting of 2005 May 30. The awards will be presented at the Environment Awards Reception at Burnaby Fraser Foreshore Park on Sunday, June 12 between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Community Stewards and 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 and throughout the year. This event is organized in conjunction with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services which will be unveiling their latest eco-sculpture in the park. Corporate sponsorship for the reception has been generously provided by Honewell, the City’s partner in the EnergyFit program, and sponsorship of the eco-sculpture has been provided by the Canada Lands Corporation and VanCity.

SUNDAY JUNE 05 – SATURDAY JUNE 11

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.

Environmental Art Contest Display – Metropolis at Metrotown Burnaby Information Booth

In 2005 March staff initiated the 2005 Environment Week Art Contest by publicising the event in InfoBurnaby and sending letters to schools throughout Burnaby. Submissions will be displayed at the Burnaby information booth at Metropolis at Metrotown between June 05 and June 11. Visitors to the information booth will judge the artwork and the winner will be declared at the Environment Awards Reception on June 12.

MONDAY, JUNE 06 – THURSDAY JUNE 09

Environmental Lecture Series

This year, an environmental lecture series by academics, local environmental groups and staff has been organized in the Bob Prittie, Burnaby Metrotown Library conference room. The lectures will run between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. from Monday to Thursday. Bob Prittie Metrotown library provides easy access by way of SkyTrain and transit. Lectures both in English and Mandarin aim to increase the awareness of environmental issues and encourage discussion amongst Burnaby residents. The following is a list of scheduled lectures:

Monday June 06 (Eco-Gardening)

Tracy Vleeming (Institute of Urban Ecology, Douglas College) - Backyard Wildlife
Joanna Clark (Evergreen) - Natural Yard Care/"Garden Smart Program"
Catherine Dale (Burnaby School Board instructor, certified horticulturalist) - European
chafer beetle

Tuesday June 07 - Chinese Canadians and Eco-Tourism

Joseph Lin (President, Green Club) - Eco Tourism in the Lower Mainland (in Mandarin)

Wednesday June 08 - Urban Wildlife

Val Schaefer (Institute of Urban Ecology, Douglas College) - Urban Wildlife
Robert Boelens (Stanley Park Ecology Society) Coyote Habitat

Thursday June 09 - Green Buildings in Burnaby

Helen Goodland, Architect, Buildsmart Initiative, GVRD. Instructor, BCIT
Robert Brown, Principal, Resource Rethinking
Maureen Connelly, Architect, Program Director, BCIT Green Roof Research Facility
Rick Earle, City of Burnaby Director Finance (EnergyFit Program)
Bernie Desabrais, Honeywell (EnergyFit Program)