

SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: 2005 LOCAL HERO NOMINEES

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council approve the nominations of the following individuals for receipt of Burnaby Local Hero Awards in 2005:

Marilyn Cooper
Linda Corrin
Bill Corson
Frances Dickson
Diane Dobie
Begum Ebrahim
Kate Evans
Theresa Johannsen
Patrick Johnson

Allan Joyce
Vicki Kreuzer
Irene Kyle
Larry Lynn
Fergus McCann
Pearl Price
Josie Romero
Gloria Tom Wing Staudt
Gail Yip

2. **THAT** Council invite nominees to a Council meeting in November, during Social Planning Month, to be presented with certificates of recognition for their contributions.
3. **THAT** Council approve an expenditure of up to \$3,000 from the 2006 Council Committees and Boards Budget for printing and advertising costs for next year's Local Hero program.

COPY – CITY MANAGER DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING DIRECTOR FINANCE DIR. PARKS, REC. & CULTURAL SERVICES

To: His Worship, the Mayor and Councillors
From: Social Issues Committee
Re: 2005 Local Hero Nominees
2005 October 24 Page 2

REPORT

The Social Issues Committee, at its 'Closed' meeting held on 2005 October 18, received and adopted the *attached* report providing nominations for the 2005 Local Hero Awards. The Committee noted that the nominees satisfied the guidelines for Burnaby Local Hero recognition and made noteworthy contributions to community well being.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Dan Johnston
Chair

Councillor Lee Rankin
Vice Chair

Councillor Sav Dhaliwal
Member

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

DATE: 2005 October 13

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

FILE: 1450 01

Reference: Local Heroes

SUBJECT: 2005 LOCAL HERO NOMINEES

PURPOSE: To recommend a list of individuals for consideration for Local Hero Awards for 2005 and to gain approval for launching a 2006 Local Hero program.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council be asked to
 - a) approve the nominations of the following individuals for receipt of Burnaby Local Hero Awards in 2005:
 - Marilyn Cooper
 - Linda Corrin
 - Bill Corson
 - Frances Dickson
 - Diane Dobie
 - Begum Ebrahim
 - Kate Evans
 - Theresa Johannsen
 - Patrick Johnson
 - Allan Joyce
 - Vicki Kreuzer
 - Irene Kyle
 - Larry Lynn
 - Fergus McCann
 - Pearl Price
 - Josie Romero
 - Gloria Tom Wing Staudt
 - Gail Yip
 - b) invite nominees to a Council meeting in November, during Social Planning Month, to be presented with certificates of recognition for their contributions.
 - c) approve expenditure of up to \$3,000 from the 2006 Council Committees and Boards Budget for printing and advertising costs for next year's Local Hero program.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Each year since 1997, Burnaby has identified and recognized Local Heroes: people who had made substantial contributions to the community over several years. In 1997 and 1998, the impetus came from the Social Planning and Research Council (SPARC) of B.C., which invited Burnaby and other municipalities in the province to undertake a Local Hero initiative. Beginning in 1999, the City decided to launch its own annual Local Hero recognition program.

To date, the City has recognized 112 Local Heroes - individuals who represent diverse interests and backgrounds and have contributed to the community in a variety of ways (see list of previous recipients in Appendix 1, *attached*).

This report provides background information and recommendations on the nominees for the 2005 Local Hero program.

2.0 RECENT CHANGES TO THE PROGRAM

In 2004, two changes to the program were adopted by the Social Issues Committee. The first change involved making it a requirement of the program that nominations be supported by two nominators, whereas only one nominator was required in the past. The second change involved supplying a list of all nominees and nominators to members of the Social Issues Committee, rather than a list of recommended recipients only. In accordance with the second change, a list of all nominees and their nominators has been supplied to Committee members under separate cover.

3.0 LOCAL HERO NOMINEES

As in previous years, the following channels were used to seek nominations for the 2005 Local Hero awards: advertisements in Burnaby's community newspapers, a call for nominations through the City's web site, and requests to participants at various inter-agency meetings to "get the word out" about the initiative. Posters and brochures on the program were circulated through Burnaby Schools, City Hall, recreation centres, libraries, resource centres, and other venues. In addition, Volunteer Burnaby included nomination forms in mail-outs to its membership (over ninety non-profit agencies), publicized the program on its web site and in its electronic newsletter and promoted the program at community fairs. A copy of the brochure, which includes eligibility guidelines and nomination form, is presented in Appendix 2, *attached*.

The deadline for submissions for Local Hero nominations was 2005 September 30. Twenty-one nominations were submitted. Many strong nominations were received, with each highlighting very worthy candidates for the awards. As stated in the eligibility guidelines, a maximum of 20 Local Heroes may be selected in a given year. In addition,

the guidelines indicate that the City aims to recognize a balanced slate of nominees each year (e.g., representation from a diversity of age groups, geographic areas, and activity types). With this in mind, and based on the established criteria, the following eighteen nominees are proposed for the 2005 Local Hero Awards:

Marilyn Cooper: Marilyn has volunteered with the Girl Guides of Canada for thirty-five years. She currently serves as the District Commissioner for Girl Guides in Burnaby Heights. Recently she has taken on the leadership of Sparks and Pathfinder units when no one else was available. She has organized many national and international trips for girls who might not otherwise have had the opportunity to travel. She does not drive and will walk to the homes of girls to deliver information or notices. In addition to her extensive Guiding experience, she is also an active volunteer with her church. Her nominators state "Marilyn is always ready to pitch in. She is very committed to the well-being of young people."

Linda Corrin: Linda grew up in Burnaby, attended Burnaby schools and has served as a teacher and community school coordinator in Burnaby for thirty years. In her role as the Coordinator at Stoney Creek Community School, she went above and beyond the call of duty. She has spent many days, evenings and weekends developing and implementing family literacy programs, assisting with community events such as Healthy Preschool Fairs and Empty Bowls, improving daycare on the school site and planning environmental initiatives such as the Great Salmon Send-off and the Stream of Dreams mural at Lougheed Town Centre. Although she is now retired, she continues to be a mentor for the Roots of Empathy program and serves as the membership chair of the Association for Community Education in BC. Her nominators note, "Linda is an extraordinary leader and communicator. She has made a huge difference in the lives of hundreds of people."

Bill Corson: Bill has been involved with crime prevention in Burnaby for over nine years. His volunteer work includes a regular shift at the Southwest Community Police Office, participating in Crime Watch on Fridays and Saturdays and serving as the Block Watch captain in his neighbourhood. He is a member of the Southwest Community Consultative Group and is president of the Burnaby Crime Prevention Society. He is credited with identifying many stolen vehicles. In addition, Bill drives cancer patients to appointments at the cancer clinic and is actively involved with Skate Canada. In the words of one of his nominators "Bill is an outstanding community-minded individual. He loves volunteering and the community of Burnaby."

Frances Dickson: Frances has been actively involved with Gilmore Community School for over three years. She contributes her time to the hot lunch program, many special events and the school's free food box program. As the co-chair of the School's Safety Committee, she makes a daily commitment to monitoring traffic speed and parking at the school. She also serves as Gilmore's representative to the Hastings Brentwood Community Police Committee. She is known for her ability to collect donations and prizes for special events and encourage others to participate in community activities. She

has recently taken on the role of coordinator of a community kitchen that will be started at the School. Outside of the school, she has served as a Girl Guide leader. Her nominators state, "Frances is dedicated, caring and hard working. She is always ready to help out with any event or program."

Diane Dobie: Diane has provided over 20,000 hours of volunteer services to the Burnaby Hospital Auxiliary. Since 1992, she has filled a weekly shift in the gift shop. She has also been involved in buying for the shop and managing its operations. Her expertise in antiques and collectables has made the Auxiliary's bi-annual collectables sales a popular and profitable event. She has also held many Board positions including president from 1998 to 2000. During her term, she led the Board in a complete revision of its bylaws and reorganization of its structure. Her nominators add, "Diane always looks for the positive side of situations. She is always ready to do whatever she can to further the success of Burnaby Hospital and the Auxiliary."

Begum Ebrahim: Since coming to Canada from Uganda in the 1970s, Begum has helped other immigrants and refugees settle in Burnaby. She has assisted newcomers by helping them find places to live, taking them to government offices and helping them enroll their children in school. Through her volunteer work with the Immigrant Services Society of BC, she has assisted in establishing peer support groups for women from war torn countries and has referred many newcomer youth to leadership training at the Society. She is also a member of its Advisory Committee. Her nominators add, "Begum always makes you feel valued and cared for. She is a role model and inspiration to all who meet her."

Kate Evans: Kate was instrumental in initiating a program to integrate children with disabilities into Twelfth Avenue Elementary School. The program was later implemented throughout the Burnaby School District. Her work as a teacher at Twelfth Avenue went above and beyond the call of duty. Among other initiatives, Kate raised funds and organized trips to Disneyland for children with disabilities. She currently serves on the board of the Burnaby Children's Fund and actively fund raises for the organization. She also volunteers with Theatre Terrific, a theatre company that works with people with disabilities. Recently, she has helped a number of immigrant families settle into the community. Her nominators note, "Kate has unselfishly and tirelessly made noteworthy contributions for the well-being of so many people. Kate's calling in life is to serve humanity and the spirit that touches us all."

Theresa Johannsen: Theresa has been a volunteer literacy tutor with Douglas College's Individualized Community Adult Reading Education (I-CARE) Program since 2003. During this time she has worked one-on-one with a number of Burnaby residents who want to improve their basic reading and writing skills. She also helps with literacy classes at the college. She provides additional support to many of the students by accompanying them to appointments, filling out forms and helping them set up bank accounts. Through volunteer work at Burnaby South Secondary, Theresa has also become very involved with the Cinderella Project. This project helps student attend their

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From: Director Planning and Building
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graduation festivities by providing them with formal attire. Without this assistance, some students would not be able participate in graduation. Theresa contacts teachers and counsellors to let them know about the project and coordinates volunteers and donations. In the words of one of her nominators "Theresa has unending patience, a sense of humour, and compassion for the challenges and difficulties our students face."

Patrick Johnson: Over the last five years, Patrick has been a volunteer with the Progressive Housing Society. The Society provides mental health support services and housing for people with mental illness. In appreciation for the services he has received, Patrick has assisted the Society with all of its fundraising events, community events and the pick-up and distribution of donations. He has assisted other clients of the program with minor household repairs and has helped them move. His active involvement with the Society has made him a role model for other mental health consumers. He has also served on the Progressive Housing's Board of Directors. To quote his nominators, "Patrick is a great contributor towards building a healthy community in Burnaby."

Allan Joyce: Allan has been an active volunteer of the Burnaby Hospice Society since 2002. He first became involved as an office volunteer after the passing of his wife. This involvement led to him serving on the Society's Board where he has helped with many fundraising events. His biggest contribution has been as project manager for the creation of the Living Garden at St. Michael's Centre Hospice. He developed the design of the garden and contributed over 600 hours in constructing it. He is currently working on a second project, the English Garden, which will be located at the front of St. Michael's. In addition, Allan volunteers at the SPCA and with the Burnaby Seniors Support System. His nominators state, "Allan stands out as an example of community activism, demonstrating through endless hours of community service what it means to take the knowledge and compassion we have accumulated from our own life, and extend it into the larger community."

Vicki Kreuzer: In the five years that Vicki has been a resident of southeast Burnaby, she has been involved in a number of initiatives, committees and volunteer activities. She has helped many immigrants settle in the community by running ESL conversation classes, holding coffee groups, accompanying families to medical appointments and meetings at government offices and connecting people to emergency food and clothing supplies. She is an active volunteer at Edmonds Community School where she organizes community dinners, supervises on field trips, facilitates a community kitchen and collects food, clothing and household items for families in need at the school. Although she is currently employed part-time as a neighbourhood outreach worker with South Burnaby Neighbourhood House, her involvement with people in need extends beyond her paid employment. In the words of her nominators, "Vicki's skill in developing the trust of vulnerable community members and her deep concern for the welfare of all makes her a true local hero."

Irene Kyle: Irene has contributed over one thousand hours as a volunteer with the New Vista Society. As a volunteer, she has entertained seniors with her piano playing, helped with music therapy programs, assisted with gardening and delivered the Society's newsletter to 170 suites every other month. She coordinates the Vista Tower's soup and sandwich program and helps with its Thursday night dinner program. She has also entertained seniors at the Edmonds Community Centre and Fair Haven Care Home. Recently, she has become a volunteer cashier at New Vista's boutique. Her nominators add, "Irene is always smiling and up beat. She is reliable, kind and generous and just wants to help."

Larry Lynn: Larry became a volunteer at Burnaby Youth Custody Services in 2002 after serving as a volunteer at the Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women before it closed. At the youth centre, Larry began as a recreational volunteer playing basketball with the youth incarcerated at the centre. When he felt that he was no longer able to keep up with the youth, he started a film-making program. As a cinematographer, he shares his skills with the youth, teaching them how to make a film from start to finish. He has also worked with the youth to create a film that will be shown for Restorative Justice week in November. His nominators state, "By volunteering in such an innovative way and in a challenging environment as only Larry can, he is making a great difference in the lives of the youth here which will impact the greater community as well."

Fergus McCann: Fergus has been an advocate for inclusive education for twenty years. He has been a member of the Burnaby Association for Community Inclusion for over ten years. During the last four years, he has served as president of the Association. During this time he has volunteered many hours assisting with education, training and advocacy to individuals with disabilities and their families. He has also served as director of the Association's Sharing Our Future Foundation and has been involved with the Burnaby School District in promoting inclusive education. One of his nominators adds, "Through his ongoing involvement and contributions, he truly inspires others to carry on his work."

Pearl Price: Pearl has been a volunteer with BC Special Olympics Burnaby for twenty years. Her activities have included score-keeping at events, yearly registration, transporting athletes to events, fundraising and serving on the organization's executive board as well as many sub-committees. In the last ten years, she has also been a volunteer with Citizen Support Services. During this time she has served as a shopping buddy, assisting seniors and people with disabilities with their weekly shopping. She also assists with lunch programs and Gadabout and Wheeler outings for seniors. In the words of her nominators, "Pearl is a very kind, compassionate and caring person who goes out of her way to make people feel welcome and cared for."

Josie Romero: Josie is described as going above and the call of duty in her position as the manager of the north Burnaby branch of Van City Credit Union. She has been responsible for establishing junior credit unions in elementary and secondary schools. In particular, she has worked closely with Capitol Hill elementary school where children have become more financially literate and gained skills in operating a credit union,

conducting formal meetings, allocating funds and working as a team to plan events. She has attended many events at the school that occur outside of normal working hours and helped many individual students who have experienced difficulties in their lives. She is an active member of Rotary Club and serves on the financial committee of her church. She has also been responsible for organizing many fund raising events at her branch of VanCity and was instrumental in the branch's support of a seniors' softball team for over twenty years. Her nominators state, "Josie gives tirelessly of her own time and talents to foster programs and support charities which benefit our community."

Gloria Tom Wing Staudt: Gloria has been an active volunteer in Burnaby over the past eight years. As a member of the Metrotown Rotary Club, she has contributed many hours organizing fundraising events which have benefited the Burnaby Hospice Society and Burnaby Symphony Orchestra, and have funded the replacement of Burnaby Lake's Piper Spit boardwalk. She has been elected as the Club's president in 2006. In addition, she has volunteered with the Burnaby Board of Trade where she has been instrumental in organizing its annual Business Excellence Awards. She also serves on the Board of the St. Michael's Foundation and is an active member of St. Helen's church and elementary school where she coordinates an annual parents program called Developing Capable People. Her nominators add, "Gloria touches so many people in the many communities she belongs. She truly deserves to be recognized."

Gail Yip: Gail has served as a volunteer with the Burnaby Block Parent Program for twenty-one years. As coordinator of the program, she worked closely with the Burnaby RCMP in screening prospective block parents and recruiting and educating new Block Parent coordinators at elementary schools. Through the program, hundreds of houses displayed the Block Parent sign indicating that they offered a safe place for children to report if they were threatened in any way in their neighbourhood. Over the years, Gail has provided resource articles and teaching aids to school coordinators, chaired meetings, held fundraising events and attended provincial Block Parent meetings. She is currently serving on a small committee to implement a new child safety program for elementary schools. Her nominators state, "Her supreme efforts over a twenty year period have made Burnaby's children feel safe as they walked back and forth to school."

4.0 ASSESSMENT

Based on the established selection criteria, the foregoing eighteen nominees satisfy the guidelines for Burnaby Local Hero recognition. In their unique ways, they have all made noteworthy contributions to community well-being. It is therefore proposed that they be recognized as Local Heroes for 2005.

5.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

2005 marks the ninth year that Burnaby has recognized Local Heroes, and the seventh year that it has done so as a City initiative (i.e., independent of an invitation from SPARC BC).

As in previous years, the quality of submissions and calibre of nominees for 2005 were high. It is believed that the Local Hero program continues to be a relatively inexpensive, effective vehicle for recognizing citizens who have “gone above and beyond the call of duty” in contributing to the community over the years.

In conclusion, it is recommended that Council be asked to approve the nomination of the following individuals for receipt of Burnaby Local Hero Awards in 2005:

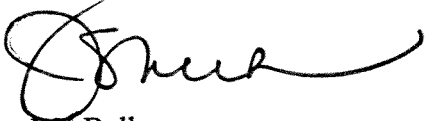
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It is further recommended that these individuals be invited to a Council meeting in November, during Social Planning month, to be presented with certificates of recognition for their contributions. As in previous years, a reception for the recipients will be held prior to the meeting. Volunteer Burnaby will be invited to have a display at the reception in recognition of their support in promoting the 2005 program.

It is also recommended that Council be asked to approve the expenditure of up to \$3,000 from the 2006 Council Committee and Boards Budget for the printing of brochures and posters and placement of newspaper advertisements for next year’s Local Hero program.

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From: Director Planning and Building
Re: 2005 Local Hero Nominees
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Given Committee and Council concurrence with these recommendations, staff propose to publish an article on this year's Local Hero recipients in InfoBurnaby and arrange for publication of their names in SPARC News (SPARC of BC's newsletter, which is circulated throughout the province).



J.S. Belhouse
DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

MM:lr:sa
Attachments (2)

Copied to: City Manager
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Director Finance
City Clerk

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APPENDIX 1

PREVIOUS BURNABY LOCAL HEROES

1997

Barbara Brady
Don Brown
Beth Chobotuck
Don Copan
Edie Fisher
Maddie Greenlay
Barb Peabody

1998

Ray Abernethy
Allison Dalglish
Bharti Envik
Lilac Jung
Faye Ku
Ruth Loland
Anita Loy
Melody Marbach
Sharon Mudrakoff

1999

Georgie Cole
Marjorie Deschner
Gloria Inglis
Effie Kennedy
Erna Kozak
Marion Krause
Nick Kvenich
George McLean
Scott Robertson
Ken Ryan
Rudy Spense
Don Steen
Barbara Stewart
Tim Zimich

2000

Mark Angelo
Lillian Chalmers
Glenice English
Philip Henderson
Grace Jo
Les Lee Lowe
Barbara Lussier
Tony Mauro
Doreen Player
Joyce Rosteron
Carol Roycroft

2001

Roxy Abernethy
Beverly Adams
Tracie Buzza
Dennis Baker
Joan Carne
Paulene Hall
Christina Lupien
Judi Marshall
Louise Towell
Sandy Twinn
Marguerite Wallace

2002

Elizabeth Briemberg
Steve Cairns
Millie Canessa
Kenney Chan
Jack Cyr
Harvey Elder
Richard Harvey
Reg and Ethel Hawthorne
Vivian Henderson
Gail Klarer
Kenny So Ying Leung
Nick Lutz
Eleanor MacQueen
Merv Magus
Sev Morin
Regina Ogmundson
Hugh Robertson
Norm Sandercock
Bernice Wiseman

2003

Jeannette Aadland
Keith Beedie
Gladys Brundrett
Parvin Chami
Gillian Chan
Paul Colvin
John DeForest
Jeanne Fike
Maureen Francois
Ruth Gautschi
Lina Hu
Pak Wing Kan
Carol La Croix
Jay McGarva
Rajinder Pandher
Eric Seto
Norman Song
Margaret Van Soest
Greg von Euw
Deb Yaschuk

2004

Joy Ayers
Hakam Bhaloo
Olive & Gino Fera
Sandra Fesiuk
Gillian Gallson
Lois Godfrey
Helen Hamilton
Joanna Illerbrun
Michelle Leong
John McQuade
Shirley Mortimer
Kevan Oxley
Lou Ryan
Harminder Sanghera
Liza Shoda
Carolyn Sinclair
Tom Stewart
Lisa Thomson
Lisa Wong

Is the person being nominated for activities done as a volunteer or paid employee?

- Volunteer
- Paid employee

If a paid employee, please state where the person works:

Why does the nominee deserve to be recognized as a Local Hero?
(Please attach additional pages or supporting materials, if necessary).

Please return completed nomination form to:


2005 Local Hero Recognition
Social Issues Committee
c/o City Clerk's Office
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V6S 1M2
Attention: Sid Cleave
Telephone: 604-294-7290
Fax: 604-294-7537

Time Lines:

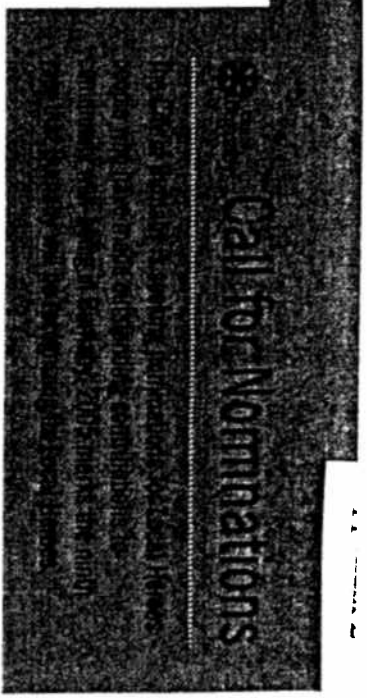
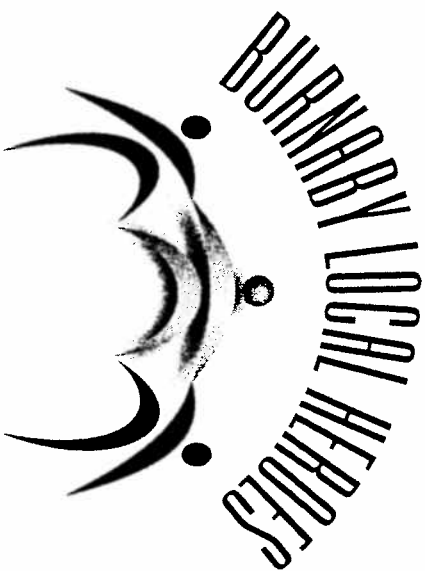
Friday September 30, 2005:
Deadline for submission of nominations.

Late October 2005:
Assessment of nominations by the Social Issues Committee.

Early November 2005:
Council decision on annual Local Hero recipients, based on recommendations from the Social Issues Committee.

Late November 2005:
Presentation of recognition certificates to Local Heroes at Council meeting.

Early 2006:
InfoBurnaby article on recipients.



Eligibility:

All people living, working, or participating in Burnaby are eligible for recognition.

Nominations:

Nominations are invited from community groups, agencies, and the general public. Each nomination must have the support of two nominators.

Selection Criteria:

What distinguishes Local Heroes? They are people of any age group or background who have made noteworthy contributions to community well-being in Burnaby.

Priority will generally be given to nominees who have contributed to the community over an extended period of time. Consideration will also be given, however, to those who have made noteworthy contributions over a shorter period (e.g., youths, recent immigrants).

Examples of activities include volunteering for a local agency or community school, participating in environmental initiatives, or helping recent immigrants with settling into the community.

The intent is to recognize volunteers, rather than people who contribute through their paid employment. In exceptional circumstances, however, people who go "above and beyond the call of duty" in their jobs may also be eligible for recognition.

A maximum of 20 Local Heroes will be selected this year. Further, efforts will be made to recognize a balanced slate of Local Heroes, which collectively represent a diversity of:

- age groups,
- geographic areas - i.e., people living in or contributing to various parts of Burnaby, and
- activity types - i.e., participate in a range of activities, rather than a select few.



Recognition:

Local Heroes will be presented with certificates and publicly recognized at a City Council meeting in November. An article on the Local Hero recipients will also be published in the City's information newsletter, InfoBurnaby, in early 2006.

Submission Procedure:

People wishing to submit a nomination are requested to return a completed Nomination Form (attached), along with any necessary supporting materials, to:

**2005 Local Hero Recognition
Social Issues Committee**
c/o City Clerk's Office
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2
Attention: Sid Cleave



Nomination Form



Who is being nominated?

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ (home)

Who is making the nomination? (The names of two nominators are required.)

1 Name: _____ (work)

Address: _____

Phone: _____ (home)

2 Name: _____ (work)

Address: _____

Phone: _____ (home)

Phone: _____ (home)

_____ (work)

What category or categories best describe the nominee's activities (please check all that apply)?

- Health or community services
- Education
- Environment
- Recreation
- Other (describe briefly) _____

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