

REPORT
2005 April 04

TO: BURNABY CITY COUNCIL
FROM: KUSHIRO CUP SELECTION COMMITTEE
SUBJECT: 2004 OUTSTANDING CITIZEN OF THE YEAR – LES LEE LOWE

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for information purposes.

REPORT

Burnaby City Council, at the 'Closed' meeting held on 2005 March 21, adopted the recommendation of the Kushiro Cup Selection Committee that Les Lee Lowe receive the Kushiro Cup as Burnaby's 2004 Outstanding Citizen of the Year and that the presentation be made at the City Appreciation Dinner.

Nominations for Burnaby's 2004 Outstanding Citizen of the Year were invited through advertisements in The News Leader and the Burnaby Now newspapers.

The Kushiro Cup Selection Committee, at its meeting held on 2005 March 16, received and reviewed all nominations submitted. The Committee noted that all nominees were worthy of Council's consideration as they have all contributed a tremendous amount of their valuable time to the community.

2004 Outstanding Citizen of the Year

The Kushiro Cup Selection Committee, after due consideration, recommended Les Lee Lowe be selected as the recipient of the Kushiro Cup as the 2004 Outstanding Citizen of the Year.

Les Lee Lowe has been chosen in recognition of her varied and extensive volunteer service so generously given to the City of Burnaby and its citizens. Working behind the scenes on many projects, she is an active and contributing member of the community "who goes the extra mile and always does so with a smile".

Les Lee Lowe has made many contributions by utilizing her creative talents, her organization skills and enthusiasm. In 1990, Les Lee was a member of the Burnaby Centennial Executive Committee and in this capacity she oversaw the transferring of school children's designs into 100 fabric banners which were placed on Burnaby streets. Since 1998, she has been volunteering one

day a week at the Burnaby Village Museum with the sewing group making replica costumes and other textile items. The costumes are worn by the docents and volunteers who staff the Village. For many years, Ms. Lowe has been making knitted baby outfits and girls dresses for the Gift Shop located within Burnaby Hospital. Through the sale of these beautiful home made items the Auxiliary to Burnaby Hospital has recognised many dollars. And to top it off, last year she knit 23 men's toques for First United Church (located near Main and Hastings in Vancouver), an organization which provides assistance to men in need.

Since 1992, Les Lee Lowe has also been an invaluable volunteer with the City of Burnaby's Citizen Support Services. She has given of her time and energy in many ways to many people. Ms. Lowe has been assisting with the seniors' Flu Clinics which are held annually at seniors' centres throughout Burnaby. This task requires someone who is very organized and efficient as this may involve assisting up to 800 seniors in a day. Each year, she also helps with the Hearing Screening, a test which is provided for all kindergarten children in Burnaby. Every week Les Lee Lowe volunteers at the Breast-Feeding Drop-In Centre at McGill Library. Here she not only assists the nurses with their duties but provides water and fresh baked cookies to the mothers (and the nurses!). On her own initiative, she has been collecting baby clothes for the nurses to distribute to Burnaby families who could do with the extra help. Les Lee was one of the first volunteers with the Flying Grandmother's Baby Cuddle Program. This program is designed to provide support to new mothers who are having difficulties after the birth of their child.

Les Lee Lowe was also a volunteer member of the Burnaby Public Library Board from 1993 to 1999 and chaired the Board in 1998-99. She is currently sitting as the representative from the Burnaby Historical Society on the City of Burnaby's Community Heritage Commission.

The Kushiro Cup Selection Committee recognizes Les Lee Lowe as a compassionate individual who, through her many generous efforts, makes a difference in the lives of citizens of Burnaby and to the well being of the community. For these reasons, she is truly worthy of receiving the honour of "*Citizen of the Year*".

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Dan Johnston
Chair

Councillor Pietro Calendino
Member

Councillor Colleen Jordan
Member