

**TO: CITY MANAGER** **2006 July 10**

**FROM: OIC BURNABY DETACHMENT** **BBY 1511-9-6**

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT - BURNABY YOUTH SERVICES**

**PURPOSE:** To provide Council with condensed information with reference to the activities of Burnaby Youth Services during the calendar year of 2005

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **THAT** Council receive this report for information purposes.
2. **THAT** Council refer report to Community Issues and Social Planning Committee and Community Policing Committee for information.

**REPORT**

The following contains information directly related to the activities of the services provided by Youth Services under the direction of the Burnaby R.C.M. Police Detachment.

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Megan Collins officially filled the Supervisor position in 2005. The Community Youth Worker position was filled by Sarah Murray in March 2005. Stephen Morton, who was hired as auxiliary staff in 2003 still remains. The auxiliary position is important to efficient operation as it allows Youth Services to keep up with referral demands. Ms. Nazlin Hirji remains the Section Secretary for Burnaby Youth Services and Inspector Bob Wood. Ms. Hirji has held this position since April 1996.

The Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA) was implemented April 1, 2003 and focusses heavily on extrajudicial measures which are measures taken outside the court process designed to provide effective responses to less serious youth crime. Youth Services continues to provide the police a diversion option and also fulfills the RCMP=s National Youth Strategy Mandate which makes youth a priority for the RCMP. The current Youth Services program offers valuable education, individual and family counselling that works to encourage responsibility in the young person and identify underlying issues that may be contributing to the behaviour. Youth Services continues to participate in Restorative Justice Initiatives established in 2001.

2. In 2005, the program received 120 referrals, although provided services for 113 of those files.

## **PROGRAM ACTIVITY**

Assessment and counselling services were augmented by the following activities:

1. Youth Services attends the following community committees and task force:

- \$ The Burnaby New Westminster Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth Task Force
- \$ Burnaby Sexual Exploitation Team
- \$ Burnaby Kid Specific/ North and South
- \$ Burnaby Active Youth Network
- \$ BRAG - Burnaby Restorative Action Group
- \$ Critical Incident Response Team with the Burnaby School District

Attendance to these committees is generally second in priority to meeting with youth and their families and depends on current waitlist and workload demands.

2. The staff have made several presentations in the community during 2005:

- \$ Self Harm to Public Health Nurses
- \$ Youth Criminal Justice Act - Shared RCMP member training - new recruits
- \$ Sexual Exploitation
- \$ Inter-generational Conflict
- \$ Canadian Youth Culture
- \$ Drug and Alcohol Awareness Education
- \$ Self Harm
- \$ Youth Violence - Bill Good Show with Cpl. Pierre LeMaitre
- \$ Annual Family Court Youth Justice Provincial Forum

3. The staff continued with their professional development training by attending:

- \$ Threat Assessment Training - Train the Trainer - Level I
- \$ Trauma Counselling
- \$ Attachment and Working with Resistant Youth
- \$ Annual Cross-Cultural Mental Health Symposium
- \$ Effective Communication in the Workplace
- \$ Annual Youth Services Conference
- \$ Asset Development
- \$ Annual Forum on Sexual Exploitation of children and youth
- \$ Family Court Youth Justice Annual Provincial Forum
- \$ ER Psychology Symposium

- \$ AScared Stiff@ Cognitive Approaches to Behavioural Problems
- \$ Parent Education on Youth and Drugs

4. The goals for the next year include:

- \$ Ongoing public relations - attending briefings, district offices, local schools
- \$ Continue reviewing Burnaby Youth Services Policy to ensure that it is in keeping with the standards set by the YCJA.
- \$ Connect with Youth Services offices in other municipalities
- \$ Support to the Sexual Exploitation Task Force in upcoming projects
- \$ Continue to use auxiliary staff to assist with workload demands and pilot the use of Restorative Conferencing as a way to resolve conflict in the community.

5. Wait List:

1. Police referrals continue to be handled on a priority basis. The program waitlist is normally anywhere from 3 to 4 weeks but fluctuates slightly depending on the nature of the case files being referred and how much of a time commitment is needed to adequately address the issues.
- b. Community referrals were generally accommodated within 6 to 8 weeks. The current age range of Youth Services clientele is 9 to 17 with priority given to children and youth age 9 to 14 and youth who self refer. Word of mouth amongst young persons and community service providers continues to be a strong referral source.

### **DESCRIPTION OF YOUTH SERVICES MANDATE**

Burnaby Youth Services is designed as an alternative to formalized prosecution by the courts. It is the goal of the program to offer and provide an alternative means of dealing with young persons who have become involved in a criminal matter or disruptive incident. Short term guidance and counselling for both young persons and their parents is provided with a view of eliminating future criminal activity. This mandate falls under the Extrajudicial Measures portion of the YCJA which puts emphasis on diverting young people and seeks community solutions outside of the court room. The following is a brief summary of Youth Services' mandate which will clarify the referral base:

1. Police referrals for Burnaby youths 9 to 17 years of age
2. Community and self referrals are accepted for youths 9 to 14 years of age exhibiting behaviour and attitudes which place them at risk for offending behaviour. Some exceptions are made on a case by case basis, the willingness to work with youth outside of the age range

depends on their need and openness to the services. Workload and waitlist are also taken into consideration.

3. Youth before the courts or with an active bail probation order will not be accepted by Youth Services. However due to changes in the youth justice system (YCJA), youth who have had past charges and are not currently receiving support from the provincial court or probation system will be eligible for referral if their behaviour is not repetitive in nature.

### **STATISTICAL ANALYSIS**

Youth Services statistics represent a select number of referrals and in no way reflects actual youth crime rates in the City of Burnaby.

1. The program received 120 referrals in 2005 which was a decrease from 140 referrals in 2004.
2. Police referrals increased by 6 referrals from 74 in 2004 to 80 in 2005.
3. The program received 40 parental/self referrals in 2005 compared to 66 in 2004.
4. ANALYSIS OF SERVICES PROVIDED (See page 7)

The program provided intake and assessment services for 77 families, an increase from 68 in 2004. Youth Services short term counselling is limited to ten sessions. Throughout 2005, there was an increase of clients who chose to continue counselling right up to their limit of ten sessions. There were also several extensions given for further counselling after they reached their 10 sessions. The waitlist fluctuated throughout the year depending on the intensity of the client demand and nature of the files being referred.

### **RECIDIVISM CHECKS**

The following statistics are based on three (3) month recidivism checks. Youth Services confirms these stats by accessing the police computer to check for further offences. All program files remain open until the check has been completed.

1. The statistics regarding recidivism checks in 2005 are based on 67 files that have been closed to date.
2. Of the 67 three-month checks, 2 youths re-offended during this period. This gives the program a 97.01 percent success rate for intervention and counselling.

3. Youth Services continues to offer quality assessments and counselling and maintains an effective crime prevention approach.


### SUMMARY

Youth Services continues to be successful at reaching the desired goal of decreasing problematic behaviours. They continue to do their best to collaborate with the RCMP and prioritize.

Throughout the year, Youth Services continued to provide a restorative response to harms done by a young person/persons. Several Restorative Justice conferences were held with the goal of repairing the harm done to relationships and to community property.

The program continues to provide services at the District 4 Office (Metrotown) and the District 2 Office (Lougheed). The goal to provide families throughout Burnaby more convenient office locations has been well received by the families they serve. At times, outreach services are limited due to the demands on the program. All efforts are made to provide outreach services to community police offices and schools when time and schedule allows.

The Youth Services staff make every effort to attend community meetings and committees that focus on youth issues in Burnaby. Their goal is to work with the community and support them in addressing the issues related to youth crime.

  
R.M. Wood for  
C.G. SCHMIETENKNOP, Supt.  
Officer in Charge  
Burnaby Detachment

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## **DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE**

### **INTAKE AND ASSESSMENT**

Initial interview(s) with youth and parents to introduce our program, gather relevant information, identify the nature of the problem and recommend an appropriate course of action.

### **SHORT TERM COUNSELLING**

Counselling regarding the specific referring incident and may involve contracting with a youth and family for an appropriate number of sessions to work on identified problem areas and goals.

### **PROVISION OF CONSULTATION AND INFORMATION**

Consultation with other professionals, agencies, schools, etc., with reference to a client as well as telephone contacts with parents to provide information and advice.

### **CRISIS MEDIATION**

Immediate action on a crisis situation in progress.

### **REFERRAL TO OTHER AGENCIES/PROFESSIONALS**

Where our assessment indicates a youth and/or family requires services beyond those provided by Youth Services.

### **FAMILY MEDIATION**

Following a structured model of mediation, we assist families in coming to agreements and resolving their problems.

### **RESTORATIVE JUSTICE**

A Restorative Program that brings together all parties affected by an incident in order to repair the harm caused.

**BURNABY YOUTH SERVICES  
 COMPARATIVE REFERRAL STATISTICS - 2005/2004**

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
<b>TOTAL REFERRALS:</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>140</b>
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MALE:	75	89
FEMALE:	45	51
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5 - 11 YEARS	16	19
12 - 14 YEARS	39	64
15 - 17 YEARS	63	56
OVER 18 (former clients or parents)	2	1

**REFERRAL SOURCE:**

BURNABY R.C.M.P.	80	74
PARENTAL/SELF	38	66
BURNABY SCHOOL BOARD	2	0
OTHER	0	0

**R.C.M.P. REFERRALS:**

WATCH A	12	13
WATCH B	9	7
WATCH C	10	13
WATCH D	21	18
SCHOOL/NEIGHBOURHOOD LIAISON OFFICERS	24	21
OTHER	7	9

**REASON FOR REFERRAL:**

<b><u>OFFENDING BEHAVIOURS</u></b>	<b><u>2005</u></b>	<b><u>2004</u></b>
ASSAULT	23	15
BREAK & ENTER	1	0
DOMESTIC	5	8
DRUGS/ALCOHOL	7	9
FIRE SETTING	2	2
FRAUD	0	0
SHOPLIFTING	1	4
THEFT UNDER \$5000	18	17
THREATS	7	6
VANDALISM/WILFUL DAMAGE	4	13
WEAPONS	6	4
OTHER	3	1

**NON-OFFENCE REFERRALS:**

PARENT/CHILD CONFLICT	2	4
RUNAWAY/MISSING PERSONS	5	1
SCHOOL PROBLEMS	2	1
SOCIAL PROBLEMS/WORRISOME BEHAVIOURS	35	55
OTHER	0	1

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**DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE**

INTAKE AND ASSESSMENT	77	68
SHORT TERM COUNSELLING	61	48
PROVISION OF CONSULTATION & INFORMATION	61	55
CRISIS MEDIATION	28	55
REFERRAL TO OTHER AGENCIES/PROFESSIONALS	20	27
REFUSAL TO CONTINUE COUNSELLING	7	25
REFUSAL	14	4
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE	13	6
OTHER (MOVED, UNABLE TO REACH, ETC.)	20	36
<b>ACTIVE CASELOAD</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>90</b>

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