

MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON GRAFFITI

TERMS OF REFERENCE

BACKGROUND

Graffiti has become a serious problem for our community. Its presence affects everyone who sees it. Left alone, graffiti creates an impression that a neighbourhood is uncared for and unsafe – which in turn can invite more graffiti and other types of vandalism and crime. Graffiti is personally damaging if it conveys hatred or discrimination, and offensive graffiti detracts from the enjoyment of streets and other public areas by all citizens. The cost of removing graffiti is also considerable.

Graffiti is a community problem which requires the attention of many stakeholders. To respond to graffiti in Burnaby, a Mayor's Task Force on Graffiti has been established.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Task Force is to examine **best practices** and **innovative ideas** on the prevention and eradication of graffiti in the community. Based on its findings, the task force will make recommendations to Council on a proposed strategy to combat graffiti in Burnaby. The work of the task force will include (but not be limited to) examining:

- best practices in eradicating graffiti (e.g. graffiti control bylaws, assistance for the victims of graffiti vandalism, graffiti removal on public property and utilities).
- best practices in policing of graffiti vandals.
- innovative preventative measures (e.g. public education and awareness, mural programs, community clean-ups).

MEMBERSHIP

The Task Force will be chaired by Councillor Colleen Jordan.

The Task Force will consist of the following members representing a broad cross section of the community bringing different perspectives and experience in graffiti.

Members:

- Chair
- One representative from each Community Police District
- St. Leonard's Youth and Family Services Society (1 member and 2 youths as needed)
St. Leonard's holds the Ministry of Children and Family Development contract for youth services in Burnaby. It works with youth who have received court orders to complete work service hours.

- Heights Merchants Association (1 member)
- Burnaby Board of Trade (1 member)
- Edmonds Town Centre Business and Community Association (1 member)
- Business Watch/Crime Prevention Society (1 member)
- North Road Business Improvement Association (1 member)
- Kingsway/Imperial Neighbourhood Association (1 member)
- Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission (1 member)
- Burnaby School Board (1 member)

Staff representation from each of the following departments will provide support to the Task Force:

- Planning - research on best practices in the prevention and eradication of graffiti and project management.
- Engineering - information and expertise on graffiti removal.
- Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services - information and expertise on graffiti removal and information on youth programs aimed at preventing graffiti.
- License - property use bylaw enforcement.
- Clerks - administrative support.
- RCMP - law enforcement, crime prevention.

DURATION OF MANDATE

The Task Force will present a proposed strategy for combating graffiti within six months of its inception.

MEETING FREQUENCY AND LOCATION

Meetings will be at the call of the Chair. However, it is anticipated that the Task Force will likely meet about six times. Meetings will be held at City Hall or another suitable location determined by the Task Force.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

Any capital and operating expenditures required to support specific recommendations or actions shall be submitted for the consideration of Council for review in relation to other City priorities as part of the annual preparation of the City's Financial Plan

Costs of printing, mailing and other incidental support for the Mayor's Task Force on Graffiti will be through the Clerks and Planning Departments.

