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**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENT WEEK 2009 - PROPOSED PROGRAM**

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. THAT Council approve the proposed event program for Environment Week 2009, as outlined in Appendix A of this report.
2. THAT Council authorize an expenditure of \$6,500 from the Committees, Boards and Commissions budget for advertising and event signage for Environment Week.

**REPORT**

The Environment Committee, at its meeting held on 2009 April 14, received and adopted the attached report seeking approval of the proposed event program for Environment Week 2009 in Burnaby.

Environment Week is a national event to raise environmental awareness and encourage environmental stewardship. This year Environment Week occurs on 2009 June 01 – 07 under the theme “Small Change – Big Impact”. The proposed activities will raise awareness of opportunities to improve our environment.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Johnston  
Chair

Councillor S. Dhaliwal  
Vice Chair

Councillor A. Kang  
Member

Copied to:	City Manager Director Engineering Director Finance Director Parks, Recr. & Cult. Services Director Planning & Building
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**TO:** CHAIR AND MEMBERS  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

**DATE:** 2009 April 07

**FROM:** DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

**FILE:** 33000-01  
*Reference: Environment Week*

**SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENT WEEK 2009 - PROPOSED PROGRAM**

**PURPOSE:** To request approval of the proposed event program for Environment Week 2009 in Burnaby.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **THAT** the Committee request Council to approve the proposed event program for Environment Week 2009, as outlined in Appendix A of this report.
2. **THAT** the Committee request Council to authorize an expenditure of \$6,500 from the Committees, Boards and Commissions budget 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, participates in Environment Week by coordinating a variety of public environmental events led by the City, community groups, local businesses, agencies, and other organizations. The City, together with its community partners, has developed a proposed program of events for this year's Environment Week celebration.

This report presents the variety of events that are proposed to celebrate Environment Week 2009. The events provide many different opportunities for community involvement, stewardship, and broad public participation, and are scheduled to occur from mid-May to mid-June.

**2.0 PROPOSED ENVIRONMENT WEEK PROGRAM**

As approved by Council on the recommendation of the Environment Committee on 2009 February 16, this year's Environment Week theme is "Small Change – Big Impact". The overall objective for this year's program is to empower people to make small changes in their own lives that will have a broader impact on the environment. As such, the proposed Community events

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From: Director Planning and Building  
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provide opportunities for participants to learn about and make greener choices in their homes, gardens, communities, and workplaces. The community ecosculpture planting event, "Catch the Spirit of Eagles," will be the feature event this year, with community members invited to plant ecosculptures and learn from interactive display material presented by stewardship groups, environmental agencies, businesses, schools, and community groups.

The following list outlines the proposed events for Environment Week 2009. A more detailed schedule and description of events is provided in *Appendix A, attached*.

- *Announcement of the 2009 Environmental Awards Recipients by Council*
- *Bike to Work Week Commuter Stations*
- *Bike to Work Week Staff Challenge*
- *Catch the Spirit of Eagles" Community Ecosculpture Planting Event*
- *Byrne Creek English Ivy Removal*
- *Burnaby Streetwise Cycling Course*
- *City "Green Team" Launch*
- *Burnaby Public Library Displays*
- *"A Journey to Southern Continents" Naturalist's Presentation*
- *Barnet Beach Paddle Trip*
- *Clean Air Day – Commuter Challenge*
- *The Vancouver Electric Vehicle Association's "Ride Electric Vehicles Event!"*
- *"Healthy Garden, Healthy Community Workshop" at Eagles Estate*
- *Environment Awards Reception – Burnaby Lake Rowing Pavilion*
- *Still Creek Recycling Depot Open House*

### **3.0 SPONSORSHIP AND ADVERTISING**

Sponsorship of community events have been generously provided by our corporate and community partners. The following sponsorships have been received from:

- Honeywell in the amount of \$5,000 for the 2008 Environmental Awards reception.
- Arinso Canada in the amount of \$2,500 for Clean Air Day Commuter Challenge.
- The TDL Group Corporation (Tim Horton's) in the amount of \$3,000 for Environment Week activities.

In addition, Tim Horton's have generously provided in-kind contributions for Environment Week events. Other community sponsors may also be identified over the next month as Environment Week details are finalized.

As in previous years, advertisements will be placed in the local newspapers, including a detailed schedule of events with 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 in Metrotown.

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In previous years, requests for funding for advertising and appropriate promotional materials have been supported by Council, and drawn from the Committees, Boards and Commissions budget. This year a similar expenditure authorization for promotional funding in the amount of \$6,500 is proposed. Sufficient funds are available for this purpose and with Council approval; this funding would again be drawn from the Committees, Boards and Commissions budget.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

Environment Week is a national event to raise environmental awareness and encourage environmental stewardship. This year Environment Week occurs on 2009 June 1 to June 7. This report presents, for Committee and Council approval, a summary of proposed events, to be undertaken with our community partners, to celebrate Environment Week in Burnaby for 2009. This year, a broad spectrum of activities, under the theme “Small Change – Big Impact”, are proposed for approval for the period of mid-May to mid-June to raise awareness of opportunities to improve our environment.



*for* B. Luksun, Director  
PLANNING AND BUILDING

MW:sla  
*Attachment*

cc: City Manager  
Director Engineering  
Director Finance  
Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services  
City Clerk

## **APPENDIX A – PROPOSED ENVIRONMENT WEEK PROGRAM**

### **MONDAY, MAY 11**

#### ***Announcement of the 2009 Environmental Awards by Council***

The City of Burnaby 2009 Environmental Award recipients will be announced at the regular meeting of Council on 2009 May 11. Award categories include Communications, Planning and Development, Community Stewardship, Youth, Green Choices, and Business Stewardship. A reception for the recipients will be held on June 07 at the Burnaby Lake Rowing Pavilion.

### **WEEK OF MAY 11 - 17**

#### ***Bike to Work Week Commuter Stations***

Bike to Work Week (May 11 to May 17) is a program aimed at changing the way Lower Mainland residents commute to work. It is anticipated that the Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition and the City will be hosting up to three commuter stations in Burnaby during the week of May 11, with times and locations to be announced. Commuter cyclists will be rewarded with free refreshments, cycling info, prize draws and more.

### **WEEK OF MAY 11 - 17**

#### ***Bike to Work Week Staff Challenge***

City of Burnaby staff will be challenged to ride their bicycle to work during Bike to Work Week. This event takes place throughout the Lower Mainland, is organized by the Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition, and sponsored by the City. Support from experienced cyclist staff members will be provided to assist new cyclists in choosing a safe route to work, and new cyclists will be encouraged to cycle home with experienced commuters.

### **THURSDAY, MAY 28-FRIDAY, MAY 29, 9:30-3:00 PM (Schools and community groups) SATURDAY, MAY 30, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM (Public)**

#### ***“Catch the Spirit of Eagles” Community Ecosculpture Planting Event***

Members of the public will be invited to plant Eagle Ecosculptures at Central Park, for use in the upcoming World Police and Fire Games. On Thursday and Friday, invited school and community groups will be participating in the planting. On Saturday, May 30, the event is open to the public, and will feature environmental displays, interactive and educational activities, food and entertainment.

### **SATURDAY, MAY 30, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

#### ***Byrne Creek English Ivy Removal***

Community volunteers are invited to participate in the restoration of Byrne Creek, in cooperation with Byrne Creek Streamkeepers, by removing invasive English Ivy from the surrounding forested areas. Volunteers are asked to dress appropriately for the weather and to bring a pair of gardening gloves. Light refreshments are provided. Participants will meet at Edmonds SkyTrain Station.

**SUNDAY, MAY 31, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

***Burnaby Streetwise Cycling Course***

The City of Burnaby has partnered with the Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition to offer cycling courses for adults interested in commuting by bicycle. This 7 1/2 hour course, to be held at the Bonsor Community Centre (6550 Bonsor Avenue), will combine classroom and on-road training to build traffic cycling proficiency in adults. Participants must have a helmet and a bike in good working order. Register by calling 604-878-8222 or emailing [admin@vacc.bc.ca](mailto:admin@vacc.bc.ca).

**MONDAY, JUNE 01**

***City “Green Team” Launch***

The City will be launching its staff “Green Team” program during Environment Week. A Green Team representative for various departments and workplaces around the City will be chosen to help further develop and implement the City's Sustainable Purchasing Guidelines. Green Team members will also encourage staff to make green choices in their workspace, such as printing double sided, using recycled paper, reducing energy use, and recycling.

**MONDAY, JUNE 01 – SUNDAY, JUNE 07**

***Burnaby Public Library Displays***

Burnaby Public Library branches will be featuring library materials and other media related to the theme of "Small Change – Big Impact", including climate change, alternative forms of transportation, and green choices for individuals. A listing of Environment Week 2009 activities will be displayed at all Library locations.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 02, 12:30 PM (City Hall Council Chambers);**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 03, 7:00 PM (Metrotown Library Resource Room)**

***“A Journey to Southern Continents” A Naturalist’s Presentation***

Participants are invited to join renowned naturalist, award-winning photographer and educator, Danny Catt as he presents a vibrant photo-essay of the southern continents, from Antarctica to Central America, at the Bob Prittie Metrotown Library (6100 Willingdon Avenue). Join him for inspirational photos of the natural world, and insight into global sustainability challenges. Danny Catt was a City of Burnaby Environment Award recipient in 2008, and the 2009 Canadian recipient of the Rotary Foundation Alumni Global Service to Humanity Award.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 02**

***Barnet Beach Paddle Trip (Time to be confirmed)***

Participants (aged 16 years and up) will be invited to paddle along Burrard Inlet during one of two sea kayak tours led by a qualified instructor. Participants will meet at the Texaco Building at Barnet Marine Park, and should bring sunglasses, sunscreen, hat, towel and swimsuit, warm fleece and/or rain jacket, a full water bottle, proper foot wear, and a dry bag/garbage bag for their clothing. Advance registration will be required.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 03**

***Clean Air Day – Commuter Challenge***

On Clean Air Day, City employees will be challenged to travel to and from work using alternative modes of transportation, such as 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.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 06, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

***The Vancouver Electric Vehicle Association’s “Ride Electric Vehicles Event!”***

The Vancouver Electric Vehicle Association will be hosting its popular Ride Electric Vehicles event in Burnaby to celebrate Environment Week 2009. Families will be invited to view a wide range of electrically-powered vehicles, including cars, scooters, bikes, skateboards and more. Participants will also have an opportunity to ride electric vehicles within a closed course near Burnaby Lake, and get hands-on experience with these innovative machines. Informational displays on City environmental programs and other community groups will also be available. This free event will take place in the parking lot near the Burnaby Lake Rugby Club (3760 Sperling Avenue, between Sprout Street and Joe Sakic Way).

**SUNDAY, JUNE 07, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM**

***“Healthy Garden, Healthy Community Workshop” at Eagles Estate***

Burnaby Continuing Education Society, Master Gardener Catherine Dale, and the City of Burnaby have partnered to host an education workshop on pesticide-free garden care at Eagles Estate Heritage Garden (5655 Sperling Avenue). Workshop participants will learn how to grow healthier and tastier vegetables and beautiful flowers while keeping their yard safe and healthy. Topics will include: choosing appropriate plants for the site, building soil, and organic pest and disease management, with questions welcome. Register by phone at 604-664-8888, or go to <http://www.burnabyce.com>.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 07, 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

***Environment Awards Reception – Burnaby Lake Rowing Pavilion***

The City’s 2009 Environmental Award recipients will be announced at the Council meeting of 2009 May 15. The awards will be presented at the Environmental Awards Reception at the Burnaby Lake Rowing Pavilion (6871 Roberts Street) on Sunday, June 07 starting at 12:00 pm. The reception will provide an opportunity for participants to network and meet others who are involved in the community.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

***Still Creek Recycling Depot Open House***

The City of Burnaby Still Creek Recycling Depot (4800 Still Creek Avenue) will hold its popular annual event to show-case the recycling services available in Burnaby, and provide an opportunity for residents to learn more about the City’s environmental initiatives including the new Zero Waste Challenge. Live entertainment and free hot dogs will be provided.

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