
COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: CHARTING CHANGE INTERACTIVE ATLAS

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council approve the development of the Charting Change Interactive Atlas project, as outlined in this report.
2. THAT Council approve an expenditure of Gaming Funds not to exceed \$30,000 (inclusive of 5% GST) to implement the Charting Change Interactive Atlas project.

REPORT

The Community Heritage Commission, at its meeting held on 2009 June 11, received and adopted the *attached* report outlining a proposal to create the 'Charting Change Interactive Atlas' for the public on the Heritage Burnaby Website, and seeking Council's expenditure approval of Gaming Funds in the amount of \$30,000. A sufficient capital allocation for this project is available in the 2009-2013 Annual Capital Program.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor C. Jordan
Chair

Councillor A. Kang
Vice Chair

Councillor R. Chang
Member

Copy: City Manager
Deputy City Manager
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Director Finance
Chief Librarian
Chief Information Officer
Director Planning & Building

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

DATE: 2009 June 09

FROM: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

FILE: PC 3520 20
File Ref: HPOD

SUBJECT: CHARTING CHANGE INTERACTIVE ATLAS

PURPOSE: To outline a proposal to create the Charting Change Interactive Atlas for the public on the Heritage Burnaby Website.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** the Community Heritage Commission request Council to approve the development of the Charting Change Interactive Atlas project, as outlined in this report.
2. **THAT** the Community Heritage Commission request Council to approve an expenditure of Gaming Funds not to exceed \$30,000 (inclusive of 5% GST) to implement the Charting Change Interactive Atlas project.

REPORT**1.0 BACKGROUND**

The mandate of the Community Heritage Commission is “To provide opportunities for increased awareness and the conservation of the City’s unique natural, cultural, archaeological and built heritage.” The Commission has taken many opportunities to develop this mandate to serve the citizens of Burnaby through the support of the City Archives, and the creation of a public website known as “Heritage Burnaby” to share the City’s heritage collections with the community.

As part of its efforts to develop new website content for the public, the Commission and Council have supported ongoing Heritage Burnaby website initiatives. At their meeting of 2009 April 02, the Commission was presented a verbal report on a collaborative project proposal developed by Burnaby Village Museum, the City Archives and the Heritage Planning Program to create a new website feature entitled the ‘Charting Change Interactive Atlas’.

This report outlines the subject proposal to develop the ‘Charting Change Interactive Atlas’ and seeks Council funding approval through the use of Gaming Funds.

2.0 CHARTING CHANGE INTERACTIVE ATLAS

2.1 Charting Change Map Poster

In 2000, the City of Burnaby celebrated the Millennium with a number of civic legacy projects. At that time, the Community Heritage Commission developed a map poster titled ‘Charting Change: An Atlas of Burnaby’s Heritage into the New Millennium’. This project created a series of historical maps for the years 1825, 1905, 1925, 1955 and 2001 to demonstrate the development of the city and the creation of its various heritage resources. The map poster was printed in quantity and made available to the public. Seven years later, these posters remain one of the most popular projects ever created by the Community Heritage Commission. Public requests for copies of the poster continue to be received by staff on a weekly basis.

2.2 Digital Charting Change Website Pages

In 2003, the Charting Change Map Poster was made available in a digital format on the City’s website, and was later posted to the new Heritage Burnaby web page. The Charting Change website is static in that it only allows for a limited viewing that includes four “zoomed” sections of the scanned map poster. Access to 38 designated heritage site information points is also provided. In the past two years, the City of Burnaby’s website (<http://www.burnaby.ca>) has had an average of 33,133 page views (hits) per day. Of those hits, the City’s online heritage resources and Charting Change Map pages has remained in the top 100 of all city page views.

The Heritage Burnaby website is intended to be gradually populated with addition digital content through projects advanced by the Community Heritage Commission and the Museum, Archives and Heritage Planning program. This digital content is to better serve Burnaby’s citizens by providing more opportunities to learn about the City’s heritage and history.

2.3 Proposed Interactive Charting Change Atlas Project

The proposed Interactive Charting Change Atlas Project offers an opportunity to create a significant new asset for the City’s website. The project would be based on the four historic maps for the following significant time periods in Burnaby’s history:

- *The 1825 Map* focuses on First Nations uses of the land and the impact of early settlement. The location of various resources that contributed to First Nations land-use patterns are included on the map, as well as sites of legend, and sites of villages.
- *The 1905 Map* focuses on the impact of transportation, focusing on the early railroads that brought non-Native settlers and industry to the community. Burnaby’s diversity was established in this era, with settlers from China taking up railway work, and then agriculture. Sikh workers contributed to the development of the early sawmill industry.

- *The 1925 Map* focuses on the real estate boom of 1908-1913 and the impact of development, speculation, and broader economic forces on the development of the community.
- *The 1955 Map* focuses on the impact of the Depression and Second World War on the community, as well as the post-war era of suburban growth.

From these maps, users would be able to:

- select a map from one of the four eras;
- read a short text overview of the history of that era;
- zoom into the map and Burnaby's neighbourhoods;
- select any of the series of 170 points of interest;
- receive results from the selected points of interest providing textual information, neighbourhood histories, and links to digitized photographs, historic sites and artifacts related to the historic location, and other reference materials; and
- use this information to see how historical events -- from the incorporation of Burnaby in 1892, through to the Great Depression and post-war housing boom -- helped to shape our City.

For example, selecting the archaeological site that appears on the 1825 map, in the vicinity of Deer Lake, would reveal photographs of archaeological specimens later found on Claude Hill's farm that reveal technology and land use patterns of First Nations in the area. Selecting on the same location on the 1905 map will reveal a variety of images of the Hill family and their farm. Selecting this location from the 1925 map will reveal that the Hill farm had been transformed into an exclusive subdivision with access to photographs and descriptions of the beautiful mansions that are today's heritage landmarks. The more recent transformation of this neighbourhood into the seat of municipal government can then be viewed in the final 1955 map.

In summary, the project would provide for an interactive map resource that would link Burnaby's heritage resources to specific points of interest on the maps across the four major eras of the City's development.

3.0 FINANCING

The cost for completion of the project, from development through to activation on the City's public website, is estimated at \$50,000 inclusive of GST and in-kind contributions from existing Burnaby Village Museum, City Archives and the Heritage Planning program resources. The value of the in-kind contributions from existing resources is estimated at \$20,000. The balance requested to be funding from Gaming Funds is \$30,000.

There is also potential for receipt of funds to off-set the cost of this project. Staff have submitted a grant application in the amount of \$25,000 to the Archival Community Digitization Program (ACDDP) operated by the Department of Canadian Heritage under the auspices of the City

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From: Director Planning and Building
Re: Charting Change Interactive Atlas
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Archives for this proposed project. At this time, the ACDDP grant application is being adjudicated by the Library and Archives of Canada. City staff expect that a decision regarding the awarding of the Burnaby grant will be received in 2009 July. Should the grant application be successful, any amount received would be used to repay to the Gaming Fund for the requested City expenditure.

As such, it is recommended that the Commission seek Council expenditure approval of Gaming funds for this project in the amount of up to \$30,000 inclusive of 5% GST. A sufficient capital allocation for this project is available in the 2009-2013 Annual Capital Program. The use of Gaming funds for this project is consistent with Council guidelines to support heritage, cultural and environmental capital projects.

4.0 NEXT STEPS

With Council authorization for funding of this project, staff would proceed to advance the project. Based on the outcome of the grant application, any funds received would be used to repay the Gaming Fund. The project is expected to take nine months to complete and would be launched to the public in the spring of 2010. This heritage initiative will also continue to be guided and supported with regular updates submitted to the Community Heritage Commission.


B. Luksun, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

JW:tn:sa

- cc: City Manager
- Deputy City Manager
- City Clerk
- Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
- Director Finance
- Chief Librarian
- Chief Information Officer