

SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: 2010 LOCAL HERO NOMINEES

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council receive this report for information.

REPORT

Council, at the 'Closed' Council meeting held on 2010 October 18, received and adopted the *attached* report containing this year's Local Hero nominees.

A copy of the Local Hero report is provided for public information.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor P. Calendino
Chair

Councillor P. McDonell
Vice Chair

Councillor A. Kang
Member

<p>COPY: City Manger Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director Planning and Building</p>
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TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

DATE: 2010 September 27

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

FILE: 1450 01
Reference: Local Heroes

SUBJECT: 2010 LOCAL HERO NOMINEES

PURPOSE: To recommend individuals for receipt of 2010 Local Hero Awards and to seek funding approval for the 2011 Local Hero Award program.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council be requested to:
 - a. Approve the nominations of the following individuals for receipt of Burnaby Local Hero Awards in 2010:
 1. Jonathan Van Aggelen
 2. Ray Allen
 3. Elsie Dean
 4. David Gates
 5. Shirley Hill
 6. Darlene James
 7. Carole Kaye
 8. Kathy Tietjen
 9. Tony Tsang
 10. Violet Zaytsoff
 - b. Invite approved nominees to the 2010 November 22 Council meeting to be presented with their Local Hero Award certificates of recognition.
 - c. Approve expenditures of up to \$3,500 from the 2011 Council Committees and Boards Budget for printing and advertising costs for the 2011 Local Hero Award program.

REPORT**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Each year since 1997, Burnaby has identified and recognized Local Heroes: people who have made outstanding contributions to community well-being in Burnaby. To date, the City has recognized 200 Local Heroes, individuals who represent diverse interests and backgrounds and have contributed to the community in a variety of ways (see list of past recipients in Appendix 1, *attached*).

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This report provides background information and recommendations on the nominees for the 2010 Local Hero Award program.

2.0 LOCAL HERO NOMINEES

As in previous years, the following means were used to seek nominations for the 2010 Local Hero awards: advertisements in Burnaby's community newspapers; display of a large format poster at the Metrotown information kiosk; a call for nominations through the City's website; and requests to participants at various inter-agency meetings to "get the word out" about the initiative. Posters and brochures on the program were circulated through Burnaby City Hall, schools, recreation centres, libraries, community resource centres, and other venues. Volunteer Burnaby also distributed information about the program to their members and networks.

The deadline for submitting Local Hero nominations was 2010 June 30. As stated in the eligibility guidelines, a maximum of 12 Local Heroes may be selected in a given year. Local Hero Awards are intended to recognize individuals who have made contributions to community well-being in Burnaby over an extended period of time in multiple capacities. Local Hero Awards are given on a one-time basis only.

A total of 19 nominations were received this year. After reviewing the submissions in accordance with the established criteria, the following 10 nominees are proposed for 2010 Local Hero Awards:

Jonathan Van Aggelen

Jonathan is an excellent student who volunteers as a peer tutor at Burnaby Mountain Secondary school, and is vice-president of the student council. Jonathan has also been actively involved in playing, officiating, and coaching volleyball within the school. In addition, Jonathan has been a canvasser for the Canadian Cancer Society for over five years, collecting donations and issuing tax receipts in his neighbourhood. Lastly, Jonathan has volunteered for the Kidney Foundation of Canada, canvassing for funds within his community and distributing information on kidney disease. Jonathan's nominators note that *his ability to bring a positive energy to any group in which he acts either as a leader or as a participant makes him an asset to any task.*

Ray Allen

Ray has been the chairperson of the Southeast District Community Police Advisory Committee (CPAC) since 1995 and has represented that group on the Community Policing Committee since that time. In this role, Ray has assisted the Burnaby Task Force on Homelessness reach out to the faith community and work together to address homelessness. Ray also contributes to hosting a monthly meal for homeless people. Since 2004, Ray has worked with other CPAC members to build an award winning float for the Edmonds Santa Claus Parade. Ray has also been a member of the Burnaby Crime Prevention Society since 2005. Ray's nominators have written: *I don't know of a more deserving individual or someone who has given more to his community than Ray. He goes beyond his call of duty as a volunteer, which is very rare.*

Elsie Dean

Elsie has been a steadfast activist for most of her life, championing causes of peace, public health care, and the elimination of poverty. Most recently Elsie has focused her volunteer efforts on seniors' issues. She is a member of the Network of Burnaby Seniors, and on the board of the Women Elders in Action. Elsie is one of the founding members on the Task Force of the Voices of Burnaby Seniors and serves as Secretary on the Executive. She is a leader on the Community

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Action Coalition of Burnaby raising awareness and initiating discussions on homelessness, air quality, freeway expansion and other issues. Elsie has also sat on the Board of the World Peace Forum Society since 2004. Elsie is credited for being *a true hero to all who are privileged to know and work with her.*

David Gates

David has been volunteering his time and skills for over 25 years in several different capacities. He has been an active member of the Burnaby Host Lions since 1985 and participated on the Executive Board as President/Chairman and manager of the Lion's Hall. David has also been a Block Captain through Burnaby Block Watch for over 25 years. David has worked closely with community policing volunteering with a number of programs including: Speed Watch, inspecting multi-family residences, the Burnaby Citizens Crime Watch since 2000, the RCMP bait car program, reception at the Southwest District office, and as a the Treasurer for the Community Policing Advisory Committee. David's nominators note that *David gives his time freely to enhance community well-being in Burnaby by spending long hours to enhance the lives and safety of the citizens in his community.*

Shirley Hill

Shirley has been an active and involved volunteer at Burnaby Hospital for more than ten years in many capacities. She volunteers at the Regional Cancer Centre taking on leadership roles and working closely with other volunteers to help clients during treatment for critical health situations. Shirley also supports the Auxiliary as a member of the Executive Board and as a weekly cashier in the gift shop. For over six years, Shirley has facilitated a monthly Breast Cancer peer support group. Lastly, she is a volunteer ambassador with the White Caps soccer team. Her nominators observe that *Shirley has proven to be one of the most reliable and dedicated volunteers at the Hospital.*

Darlene James

Darlene has a long history of community development work within Burnaby. Darlene was one of the original community school coordinators and in her retirement has continued, in a volunteer capacity, her commitment to helping children and families in Burnaby flourish. She is "the machine" behind the Supporting Burnaby Youth Society. Her role as treasurer includes taking minutes, setting agendas, facilitating meetings, distributing funds, sending thank-you letters, liaising with Metropolis, and organizing the Burnaby Children's Fund operated by the Society. Darlene also volunteers organizing the Eastburn Interagency Pre-school Fair and the International Community Schools Conference. Her nominators note that *Darlene has worked tirelessly to assist children and families in Burnaby.*

Carole Kaye

Carole has been volunteering with Citizen Support Services since 2003 in a variety of capacities. Previously she administered the Hearing Screening Program in elementary schools and contributed to testing over 1800 children per year. Carole also helps drive housebound seniors every month to participate in the Outings for the Elderly program. In addition, Carole has undertaken the task of researching and updating the programs and services in the Senior Citizens Telephone Book, a biennial publication. Carole is also the Chair of the Voices of Burnaby Seniors and the recording Secretary with the Burnaby Seniors' Interagency Society. Her nominators note that *Carole is practical and pragmatic, [that] she brings good humour to meetings, graciously facilitating the decision process so everyone has an opportunity to participate. Carole exemplifies the best attributes of a volunteer.*

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Kathy Tietjen

Kathy has volunteered at the Burnaby Village Museum in registration and collections management for 22 years. She is a dedicated volunteer who works every week on the ephemera portion of the museum collection, which is transitory written and printed matter not intended to be retained or preserved. Kathy typed all of the original 50,000 written records of the museum collection into the original computer database. She is also a part of a team of volunteers that inventoried all of the artifacts in the collection, checking each item in village buildings and storage – an immense task. Kathy also enters new information concerning the map and books collections and continues to catalogue all museum items and enter them in the database. Kathy's nominators note that *without her dedication to the museum, many areas of the collection would not be as complete. We enjoy Kathy's company as she brings a smile to all of us during lunch breaks and social events.*

Tony Tsang

Tony has lived in Burnaby since 1992 and during that time volunteered with a number of organizations. He has been actively involved with the Burnaby Mountain Mantas Swim Club as Director of Officials and Swim Meet Manager. He was elected as Club President in 2004 and held the position for four years. Tony is also involved in promoting summer swimming and held the position of Regional Director of Officials for 3 years for the Simon Fraser Region. Tony is also a winter biathlon coach and has volunteered his time with the Department of National Defence and West Coast Nordic in coaching and developing young biathletes across the lower mainland. Lastly Tony was a member of the City's Healthy Community Initiative in the 1990s. Tony's nominators note that *he has been working tirelessly with people and volunteers from all walks of life. He gains the trust of people and he leverages his leadership and the respect from other people in promoting healthy initiatives in Burnaby.*

Violet Zaytsoff

Violet gives countless hours of volunteer time to facilitate the *Roots of Empathy* program in the Burnaby School District. *Roots of Empathy* is an evidence-based classroom program that seeks to reduce levels of aggression among schoolchildren by raising social/emotional competence and increasing empathy. Since 2005, she has regularly visited classrooms to implement the program and sits on the Steering committee for *Roots of Empathy* in Burnaby. Violet has also volunteered at the Burnaby Hospice and was a strong force in the establishment of Burnaby Hospice Thrift Shop on Kingsway, in addition to sitting on the Hospice Board and being a hospice volunteer for many years. Dating back 20 years, she was the President of Lochdale Community Association for three years. Violet's nominators note that *she is caring and kind and helps build empathy in our future adults.*

3.0 ASSESSMENT

Based on the established selection criteria, the foregoing 10 nominees satisfy the guidelines for Burnaby Local Hero recognition and demonstrate the exemplary characteristics required of a local hero. In their unique ways, they have all made noteworthy contributions to community well-being and merit recognition as Local Heroes.

4.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

2010 marks the fourteenth year that Burnaby has recognized Local Heroes. As in previous years, again the quality of submissions and calibre of nominees is high. It is believed that the Local Hero Award program continues to be an effective vehicle for recognizing citizens who have made

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noteworthy contributions to community well-being in Burnaby over the years. A key strength of the program is that the nominations are received from the community.

It is recommended that Council be asked to approve the nominations of the following individuals for receipt of Burnaby Local Hero Awards in 2010:

1. Jonathan Van Aggelen
2. Ray Allen
3. Elsie Dean
4. David Gates
5. Shirley Hill
6. Darlene James
7. Carole Kaye
8. Kathy Tietjen
9. Tony Tsang
10. Violet Zaytsoff

It is further recommended that these individuals be invited to the 2010 November 22 Council meeting to be presented with certificates of recognition for their contributions. As in previous years, a reception for the Local Hero award recipients will be held prior to the meeting. Volunteer Burnaby will be invited to have a display at the reception in recognition of its ongoing support in promoting the program.

To facilitate the printing of brochures, posters, certificates, invitations and placement of newspaper advertisements for next year's Local Hero program, it is also recommended that Council approve an expenditure of up to \$3,500 for this purpose from the 2011 Council Committee and Boards Budget.

With Committee and Council adoption of the recommendations of this report, following the presentation of the Awards on November 22th, staff will publish an article on this year's Local Hero Award recipients in a forthcoming issue of InfoBurnaby.

B. Luksun, Director
PLANNING & BUILDING

DP/sa
Attachment

Copied to: City Manager
Deputy City Manager
Director Engineering
Director Finance
Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
Fire Chief
City Clerk
OIC - RCMP
Chief Librarian