

**SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE**

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION, VANCOUVER-  
BURNABY BRANCH**

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **THAT** Council send a letter to the Canadian Mental Health Association, Vancouver-Burnaby Branch seeking assurance that all clients from the former Burnaby Mental Wealth Society are afforded the same level of services and programs previously provided by the Society.
2. **THAT** a copy of the letter be sent to Mrs. Ruth Douglas, 8325 Joffre Avenue, Burnaby, BC V5J 3L4.

**REPORT**

The Social Issues Committee, at its 'Closed' meeting held on 2011 November 24, received correspondence from Mrs. Ruth Douglas regarding the Burnaby Mental Wealth Society.

The Burnaby Mental Wealth Society has played an integral role in supporting persons with and recovering from mental illnesses in Burnaby since 1993. The non-profit Society has offered its clients a 'home away from home' for the last 18 years by providing a safe place to socialize, share meals and find support.

Previous funding support from the Provincial government to the Burnaby Mental Wealth Society has been redirected to the Canadian Mental Health Association, Vancouver-Burnaby Branch. Without these critical funds the Society will no longer be able to serve their 300 member client base.

*To: His Worship, the Mayor and Councillors*  
*From: Social Issues Committee*  
*Re: Canadian Mental Health Association*  
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The Social Issues Committee recommends that Council send a letter to the Canadian Mental Health Association, Vancouver-Burnaby Branch seeking assurance that all clients from the former Burnaby Mental Wealth Society are afforded the same level of services and programs previously provided by the Society. It is critical that this segment of the population continue to find the community based services and support they require.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Paul McDonell  
Chair

Councillor Anne Kang  
Vice Chair

Councillor Pietro Calendino  
Member