

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: 2011 ENVIRONMENT WEEK

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council approve the 2011 Burnaby Environment Week program, as outlined in *Appendix A*.
2. THAT Council approve an expenditure of \$15,500 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions budget for advertising and event signage for 2011 Environment Week.
3. THAT Council approve an expenditure of \$5,000 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions budget for a Burnaby Lake Rejuvenation Project celebratory event in conjunction with the Environment Awards reception.

REPORT

The Environment Committee, at its meeting held on 2011 April 12, received and adopted the *attached* report seeking Council approval for the 2011 Environment Week program.

Environment Week is an annual event that takes place across Canada to promote and celebrate the natural environment. The City of Burnaby, through the Environment Committee, participates in Environment Week by coordinating a number of public events led by the City, community groups and other organizations. This year, Environment Week is scheduled for June 05th to 11th.

Copied to:	City Manager Director Planning & Building Director Engineering Director Finance Director Parks, Recr. & Cult. Services Fire Chief OIC, RCMP Chief Librarian
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To: His Worship, the Mayor and Councillors
From: Environment Committee
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Three main components are scheduled this year for Burnaby Environment Week:

1. the celebratory event for the completion of the Burnaby Lake Rejuvenation Project – held in the Burnaby Lake Rowing Pavilion together with presentations of the annual Burnaby Environmental Awards;
2. theme of “Waste Reduction – making a difference” – community-wide Garage Sale Day Event, an Energy Education Pilot Program, an evening lecture;
3. a complimentary group of valuable environmental activities and events which contribute to the Environment Week and help raise awareness of Burnaby’s natural environment (i.e. Environmental Festival, Bike to Work Week, a Clean Air Day commuter challenge).

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Johnston
Chair

Councillor S. Dhaliwal
Vice Chair

Councillor A. Kang
Member

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: 2011 April 8

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

FILE: 33000-01
Reference: Environment Week

SUBJECT: 2011 ENVIRONMENT WEEK

PURPOSE: To seek approval for the 2011 Environment Week program.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council be requested to approve the 2011 Burnaby Environment Week program, as outlined in *Appendix A*.
2. **THAT** Council be requested to approve an expenditure of \$15,500 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions budget for advertising and event signage for 2011 Environment Week.
3. **THAT** Council be requested to approve an expenditure of \$5,000 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions budget for a Burnaby Lake Rejuvenation Project celebratory event in conjunction with the Environment Awards reception.

REPORT**1.0 BACKGROUND**

Environment Week is an annual event that takes place across Canada to promote and celebrate the natural environment. The City of Burnaby, through the Environment Committee, participates in Environment Week by coordinating a number of public events led by the City, community groups and other organizations to promote and celebrate the environment in Burnaby. This year, Environment Week is scheduled for Sunday June 5th to Saturday June 11th with World Environment Day on Saturday June 5th and Clean Air Day on Wednesday June 8th.

This report outlines planned Environment Week events that offer a number of opportunities for public participation, education and celebration. The program was developed with the citizen representatives of the Environment Committee.

2.0 2011 ENVIRONMENT WEEK PROPOSED PROGRAM

Three main components are scheduled this year for Burnaby Environment Week. The first is the celebratory event for the completion of the Burnaby Lake Rejuvenation Project. This will be held at the Burnaby Lake Rowing Pavilion together with presentations of the annual Burnaby Environmental Awards. The second component involves this year's theme of "Waste Reduction – making a difference". This includes a proposed community-wide Garage Sale Day Event, a proposed Energy Education Pilot

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Program and an evening lecture with guest speaker, SFU Professor Anthony Perl. The third main component scheduled for this year involves a complimentary group of valuable environmental activities and events which contribute to Environment Week and help raise awareness of Burnaby's natural environment.

2.1 BURNABY LAKE REJUVINATION PROJECT AND ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

This year, an event to celebrate the completion of the Rejuvenation Project in Burnaby Lake is proposed. Scheduled for Sunday June 12 at the Burnaby Lake Rowing Pavilion, anticipated activities include presentations and refreshments as well as other possible programming on site such as dragonboat demonstrations, canoe rides and other activities. Presentations for the 2011 Burnaby Environment Awards will also be held at this time to acknowledge the individuals and groups who have substantially contributed to Burnaby's environment.

The Burnaby Lake Rejuvenation project has restored the open water for preservation of the diverse ecosystem and re-established the rowing course to international standards for training and events at Burnaby Lake. The project involved removal of 180,000 cubic metres of lakebed material. Significant effort was placed in monitoring and regulatory compliance to ensure minimal impact to the environment during the removal of lakebed material.

Council expenditure approval of \$5,000 from the Boards, Committees and Commission is recommended for this celebratory event. The Clerks Department has advised that there are sufficient funds available for this purpose.

2.2 WASTE REDUCTION – MAKING A DIFFERENCE

As approved by Council through the recommendation of the Environment Committee on 2011 February 21, this year's Environment Week theme is "Waste Reduction – making a difference". The goal is to focus on providing greater awareness for the public on the topic of waste reduction in Burnaby. Accordingly, a number of the proposed community events provide opportunities for participants to learn more about waste reduction and waste reduction choices at home, work and play.

As noted above, a community-wide Garage Sale Day Event Program is a new event proposed this year to encourage Burnaby residents to reduce waste and reuse household items. This program invites Burnaby residents to host their own private garage sale on Saturday 2011 June 11 during Environment Week and to register their civic address for their garage sale with the City.

City staff will promote the program and a list of submitted residential garage sale addresses in the two local newspapers, on City webpages and at civic facilities. A map of participating garage sales will also be displayed on the City website for public viewing. Information material including garage sale responsibilities, guidelines, tips and signage will be provided to all program participants. The community-wide Garage Sale Day is scheduled for Saturday 2011 June 11 from 9am to 1pm and will be organized under the auspices of the Engineering Department with assistance from other City staff.

Additional waste reduction themed activities include an evening lecture with Professor Anthony Perl, Director of the Urban Studies Program at SFU, a documentary film screening of the "Clean Bin Project" at Bob Prittie Metrotown Branch Library, a proposed Energy Education Pilot Program, three community swap-meet events at Burnaby's community centres, and themed information displays at Burnaby's public libraries.

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2.3 COMPLIMENTARY ENVIRONMENT ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

This year's one-day public Environmental Festival event is scheduled to take place on Saturday 2011 June 11 at the Metrotown Civic Square with environmental displays, live music featuring the band "Highrise Lonesome" and barbeque. Burnaby Food Services will operate the barbeque and demonstrate their environmentally friendly food choices and initiatives.

Other Environment Week events and activities include Bike to Work Week, a Clean Air Day commuter challenge and electric vehicle display, a Burnaby Public Library documentary film screening on the topic of water and two public Burnaby Mountain guided hiking tours.

The following list outlines the scope of proposed events for 2011 Environment Week. A more detailed schedule and description of events is provided in **Appendix A, attached.**

- Announcement of the 2011 Environment Awards Recipients by City Council
- Environment Awards reception & Burnaby Lake dredging celebratory event
- Garage Sale Day Event Program (new event)
- Guest Speaker – Tommy Douglas Library
- Burnaby Environment Film Festival – Bob Prittie Library
- Energy Education Pilot Program – Employee and public events
- Burnaby Public Library themed displays and documentary film screening
- Car Trunk Sale – Edmonds Community Centre
- Car Trunk Sale – Bill Copeland Sports Centre
- New To You Sale - Bonsor Recreation Complex
- Environment Festival at Metrotown Civic Square - Bob Prittie Library
- Burnaby Mountain Park guided hiking tours
- Bike to Work Week – Commuter Stations and City staff participation
- Clean Air Day – Commuter Challenge and Electric Vehicle public display

3.0 SPONSORSHIP AND ADVERTISING

Corporate sponsorship of Environment Week events and activities has been a significant component in previous years and City staff are currently in discussion with previous sponsors and pursuing new prospects.

Tim Hortons has graciously agreed this year to again contribute \$3,000 and their 'community cruiser' towards Environment Week activities. At this time, a new sponsor for 2011, Grand & Toy, has also generously agreed to make donation towards Environment Week this year.

Information material promoting 2011 Environment Week will be advertised in the two local newspapers and one regional newspaper, circulated to civic facilities and placed on City webpages. Information material introducing and promoting the Garage Sale Day Event program, including the listing of registered civic addresses, will also be advertised in the two local newspapers, placed on the City webpages and displayed at civic facilities.

Council expenditure approval of \$15,500 from the Boards, Committees and Commission is recommended for Environment Week to provide for advertising and event signage. The Clerks Department has advised that there are sufficient funds for this purpose.

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4.0 CONCLUSION

Burnaby's contribution to Environment Week is an annual opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of the natural environment and acknowledge the people who strive to enhance it. This year's Burnaby Lake Rejuvenation Project celebratory event, waste reduction and other environmentally themed activities will allow Burnaby citizens to learn more and actively participate in, a wide variety of community environmental initiatives. This year's scheduled list of events demonstrates Burnaby's continued commitment to its environmental sustainability.

B. Luksun, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

GB/DD:sla:sa
Attachment

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