

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

DATE: MAY 25, 2011

FROM: MAYOR DEREK CORRIGAN

SUBJECT: B.C. SENIORS GAMES – AUGUST 2012

---

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. THAT Council receive this report for information purposes.

**REPORT**

**BACKGROUND**

The B.C. Seniors Games is an annual, multi-sport event hosted by a different B.C. community each year. It is one of the largest Games organized within B.C. with approximately 3,500 participants, aged 55 plus from all over the Province. The Games are administered by the B.C. Seniors Games Society in cooperation with a host community. The Society was organized by the Province in 1987 to support the idea that sport and recreation development for seniors has a direct bearing on the quality of life for older British Columbians and for the province as a whole. The Games were first held in Vernon in 1988 where approximately 650 participants took part in 15 events. The Games have since grown to where there is expected to be over 3,500 participants in 26 events competing at the 24<sup>th</sup> Games being held this coming August in the West Kootenays (Castlegar and Trail).

For the purposes of the competition, the Province has been divided into 12 Zones. Burnaby is included in Zone 4 (Lower Mainland). Each Zone has its own volunteers who sign up members.

**Eligibility:**

- Participants are those persons who are 55 by December 31, the year of the Games. (Except: Track & Field - which is the 1st day of competition).
- Must be residents of British Columbia.
- Must have their principal residences in the Zone for which they are competing.

The B.C. Seniors Games Society, through the Zone representatives on their Board, administers the eligibility requirements and the playdowns, if required, to identify participants in the games. Members of each of Burnaby's four Senior's Societies have sent participants to previous Games. Athletes from Burnaby have been very successful and continue to promote and actively participate in sports that are included in the Games.

## **2012 B.C. SENIORS GAMES AWARDED TO BURNABY**

Burnaby Council, on 2009 July 20, authorized the submission of a bid to host the 2012 Games in Burnaby, which will mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Games. The bid was submitted in August 2009, and on 2009 December 02 Burnaby was awarded the right to host the games after being chosen as the successful bidder by the B.C. Games Society. The 2012 BC Seniors Games will be held at multiple venues in Burnaby from August 21 to 25. It is expected that with the increasing popularity of the Games, and with our City's location in the centre of the Lower Mainland, Burnaby's Games could attract over 4,000 participants and many thousands of spectators which will be a huge benefit to the local economy. The event will also stimulate interest and excitement throughout the sports, entertainment and cultural communities similar to the highly successful World Police and Fire Games which were held in Burnaby in 2009.

Since the Games were awarded, the City has been working to identify and put in place the organizing structure to successfully host the Games. In January of this year, I appointed a Nominating Committee which was tasked with finding a President and various Directors to administer specific tasks required to host the Games who would sit on the Burnaby Organizing Committee (BOC). The Nominating Committee consisted of:

Councillor Sav Dhaliwal, Chair, Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission  
Councillor Paul McDonell, Council Liaison to Burnaby Seniors  
School Trustee Baljinder Narang, Vice Chair, Burnaby Board of Education  
Mary Horton, President, Bonsor Seniors Society  
Lennox Akow, President, Cameron Seniors Society  
David Kresich, President, Confederation Seniors Society  
Ernie Fernandez, President, Edmonds Seniors Society

Over the past weeks the Nominating Committee has identified a number of very strong candidates through their individual contacts and through a public request for interest which was initiated in April 2011. The nomination process not only identified potential candidates for the BOC, but it also identified potential BOC subcommittee members, and several candidates for the many Games volunteers which will be needed to support the Games operations.

The Nominating Committee has now concluded its work. The Committee has named Ms. Darlene Gering as BOC President. Darlene is the former President and CEO of the Burnaby Board of Trade and has extensive experience in managing large organizations. She was very successful in growing the Burnaby Board of Trade into one of the largest and most active in Canada. Ms. Gering has extensive contacts within all aspects of the community in Burnaby and I am very pleased that she has accepted this position.

## **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT – BURNABY ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

A public announcement introducing the President and the following Board of Directors of the BOC is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, May 31 in the auditorium at Bonsor Community Centre commencing at 10:00 a.m.

**President**  
**Director of Administration**  
**Director of Ceremonies**  
**Director of Communications**  
**Director of Food Services**  
**Director of Friends of the Games**  
**Director of Medical Services**  
**Director of Promotions**  
**Director of Registration and Results**  
**Director of Security**  
**Director of Special Events and Protocol**  
**Director of Sports**  
**Director of Transportation**  
**Director of Volunteers**

**Ms. Darlene Gering**  
**Mr. Matthew Coyne**  
**Ms. Harriet Tuey**  
**(To be announced)**  
**Ms. Eda Koot**  
**Mr. Mike Prodanovic**  
**Dr. Eugene Lee/Dr. Anne Maylin-Lee**  
**Ms. Tracy Keenan**  
**Mr. Warren McKay**  
**Staff Sgt. Major John Buis**  
**Ms. Adrienne Sutherland**  
**Mr. Wayne Peppard**  
**Mr. George Kawaguchi**  
**Mr. John McQuade**

### **CITY SUPPORT AND ONGOING INVOLVEMENT**

The City is committed to supporting these Games and making the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary event the most successful and well attended Games ever. With that in mind, I have appointed Councillors Sav Dhaliwal and Paul McDonell, Chad Turpin, Deputy City Manager and Dave Ellenwood, Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services to sit as a City Liaison Committee to the 2012 B.C. Seniors Games. This Committee will ensure the BOC has a direct link to City Council and Burnaby staff to provide assistance and support leading up to and during the Games. It will also serve to keep Council well informed of the Games operations as we move closer to August 2012.

### **NEXT STEPS**

The BOC will receive orientation from the BC Games Society over the next few weeks to specifically identify their duties and to outline what is required to be done over the next few months. This will include attending the 2011 BC Seniors Games in the West Kootenays in August and shadowing the organizing committee there. After orientation, the Directors on the BOC will start to assemble the personnel they require to fulfill the necessary tasks leading up to the Games. I am very pleased with the strength, commitment and energy of the people on the BOC and we look forward to the outcome of their hard work, which we anticipate will be a huge success for Burnaby.

Respectfully submitted

Derek R. Corrigan  
MAYOR

Copy: City Manager  
Deputy City Manager  
Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services