
TO: CITY MANAGER **DATE:** 2012 October 29

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING **FILE:** 13000 02

SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF THE LICENSE AND OPERATING AGREEMENTS FOR HANNA COURT AND TAYLOR PARK CHILDREN'S CENTRES

PURPOSE: To obtain Council authorization to renew the License and Operating Agreements with the Burnaby Children's Centres Society for the operation of the City-owned Hanna Court and Taylor Park Children's Centres.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council authorize the renewal of the License and Operating Agreements with Burnaby Children's Centres Society for the Hanna Court and Taylor Park Children's Centres for a five year term ending on 2017 December 31, as outlined in this report.
2. **THAT** copies of this report be forwarded to the Board of Directors of the Burnaby Children's Centres Society, and to the Social Issues Committee for information.

REPORT**1.0 BACKGROUND**

Hanna Court Children's Centre and Taylor Park Children's Centre (formerly BC Hydro Children's Centre), located in the Edmonds Town Centre, commenced operations in 1995. Hanna Court has been owned by the City since it opened. It was developed in conjunction with the construction of the BC Hydro Headquarters Complex in Edmonds in the early 1990s. As part of the rezoning process for its headquarters, BC Hydro made a donation to the City of funds and a 15,000 square foot site on Southpoint Drive towards the development of the Hanna Court Children's Centre. In exchange, a Section 219 covenant was placed on the land title which committed the City to making one-third of the spaces in the centre available to children of BC Hydro employees. In 1993, after conducting a survey of its employees, BC Hydro determined that its employees' child care needs were greater than it had anticipated and constructed the BC Hydro Children's Centre across the street from Hanna Court Children's Centre. Both centres opened in 1995. As part of a cooperative effort to deliver child care services, BC Hydro and the City joined forces to establish the Burnaby Children's Centre Society (BCCS) to operate the two centres. In 2002, BC Hydro transferred ownership of its centre to the City when it found that its employees' needs for child care had diminished, and its involvement with the centre hindered the Society's fundraising efforts since the Society was not able receive charitable tax status. Under City ownership, the centre was renamed the Taylor Park Children's Centre.

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A five-year, rent-free Licence and Operating Agreement with the City was prepared for Hanna Court Children's Centre when it opened in 1995. The License and Operating Agreement was renewed in 2000. In 2003, at the time the City assumed ownership of Taylor Park Children's Centre, a new License and Operating Agreement was established for each centre. As part of the new License and Operating Agreement for Hanna Court, the Section 219 Covenant was removed from the land title that gave priority placement to children of BC Hydro employees in the centre. The new License and Operating Agreements for both child care centres outlined the roles and responsibilities of the facility owner and the operator. The agreements stipulated that the operator is responsible for all financial operations of the centre, with the exception of the maintenance and repair of major capital items. The fully-furnished and equipped child care centres were made available to the BCCS on a rent-free basis for a five year period from 2003 to the end of 2007. The License and Operating Agreements were renewed in 2008 on the same basis. The current five year agreements (commenced 2008 January 1) expire on 2012 December 31.

This report seeks Council authorization to renew the Licence and Operating Agreements for Hanna Court and Taylor Park Children's Centres with the BCCS on a rent-free basis for a further five year term (2013-2017).

2.0 SUMMARY INFORMATION ON BURNABY CHILDREN'S CENTRE SOCIETY AND HANNA COURT AND TAYLOR PARK CHILDREN'S CENTRES

Burnaby Children's Centres Society is a BC registered non-profit society that was formed in 1995 to operate the two child care centres. Hanna Court and Taylor Park Children's Centres are open from Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Hanna Court is licensed for 20 children ages 0 to 3 years and 25 children ages 3 to 5 years, and Taylor Park is licensed for 16 children ages 0 to 3 and 25 children ages 3 to 5 years, for a total of 86 licensed spaces. The Society is operating at full capacity with an extensive wait list. The Society operates three programs - an infant, toddler, and 3 to 5 year program. Each program is developed and implemented according to the developmental needs of the children.

The Centre employs 17 full-time and seven part-time staff. All of the staff are licensed early childhood educators, have first aid training and have received criminal record checks. Parents receive regular feedback on their children. Parent involvement is encouraged in many ways including participating on the Society's committees, attending field trips, donating supplies, and serving on the Society's board.

The Society is represented on the City's Child Care Resources Group, a subcommittee of the Social Issues Committee which advises the Committee and Council on child care matters. City staff do not have any concerns with the Society's operation and management of the Hanna Court and Taylor Park Children's Centres. Staff reviewed the established terms and conditions of the License and Operating Agreements with the BCCS and no required changes to the agreements were identified.

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3.0 CONCLUSION

The Burnaby Children's Centres Society has operated the Hanna Court and Taylor Park Children's Centres since they were established in 1995. The Society's current License and Operating Agreement with the City expires on 2012 December 31. Given that the Society is providing quality service to Burnaby families and has continued to successfully operate both centres since 1995, it is recommended that Council authorize the renewal of the License and Operating Agreements with Burnaby Children's Centres Society for the Hanna Court and Taylor Park Children's Centres on a rent-free basis for a five year term ending on 2017 December 31.

It is further recommended that copies of this report be forwarded to the Board of Directors of the Burnaby Children's Centres Society, and to the Social Issues Committee for information.



Lou Pelletier, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

MM/sla/sa

cc: Acting Director Engineering
Director Finance
Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
City Solicitor
City Risk Manager
Chief Licence Inspector