

TO: MAYOR & COUNCILLORS
FROM: SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
SUBJECT: **NOM: SOCIAL CHANGE AWARDS (CITY AWARDS PROGRAM REVIEW)**
PURPOSE: To provide information regarding the Notice of Motion (NOM) from the Social Planning Committee that was introduced and subsequently amended by the Committee for staff to be directed to review the current awards program with a social change lens or establish a new category related to social change.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT staff be directed to review and modernize the awards that the City of Burnaby issues and explore adding a social change lens to existing awards or establishing a new category of social change awards with the intention of recognizing and uplifting important work that benefits vulnerable community members.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

The Social Change Awards align with and are supported by the following Council-adopted policies and plans/strategies: *Equity Policy (2020)*, *Corporate Strategic Plan (2022)* and the *Social Sustainability Strategy (2011)*.

Awards and decisions of award recipients are administered by the Executive Committee of Council, therefore should Council proceed with the recommendation above to direct staff on the Awards Program review, a report will be provided to the Executive Committee of Council initially for consultation and advisory to staff.

2.0 BACKGROUND

At the November 15, 2023, Social Planning Committee meeting, a discussion was held regarding the establishment of Social Change Awards for the City of Burnaby. As the City of Burnaby has several awards and community recognition initiatives including the Kushiro Cup, Local Heroes, Environmental, and Youth Week Citizenship Awards, Committee members identified a potential gap in recognizing local groups and residents for their work towards advancing social change in Burnaby.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

At the Social Planning Committee meeting held on January 24, 2024, Councillor Santiago brought forward a Notice of Motion requested from a resident representative regarding investigating the creation of Social Change Awards. The Notice of Motion was

introduced and further amended to consider all award programs at the City, and is brought forward for Council's consideration and decision.

It was brought up that these potential Social Change Awards criteria could be developed under the Terms of Reference of the Social Planning Committee similar to the Environmental Awards and the Environment Committee, but also noted the Executive Committee of Council is Council's awarding committee as awards are held in closed sessions under the section 90(1)(a) of the *Community Charter*.

The recommendation in this Committee to Council cover report reflects the final motion as amended, for Council's consideration and approval.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable at this time.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Not Applicable at this time.

On behalf of the Social Planning Committee,

Councillor Gu, Chair

Councillor Santiago, Vice Chair

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 – NOM: Social Change Awards

TO: MAYOR & COUNCILLORS

FROM: COUNCILLOR SANTIAGO

SUBJECT: SOCIAL CHANGE AWARDS

PURPOSE: To establish Social Change Awards at the City of Burnaby.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT staff be directed to look at establishing a Social Change Awards with a list of categories similar to the Environmental Awards.

BACKGROUND

At the November 15, 2023 Social Planning Committee meeting, a discussion was held regarding the establishment of Social Change awards for the City of Burnaby. As the City of Burnaby has several awards and community recognition initiatives including the Kushiro Cup, Local Heroes awards, Environmental Awards, and Youth Week Citizenship Awards, Resident Representative Lubendo and Councillor Santiago identified a potential gap in recognizing local groups and residents for their work towards advancing social change in Burnaby. It was brought up that these potential Social Change awards could be directed under the Terms of Reference of the Social Planning Committee similar to the Environmental Awards and the Environment Committee.

Due to the discussion being held near the end of the meeting, the Social Planning Committee voted for the discussion to go through the official notice of motion process through the City of Burnaby and to be formally submitted at the January 24, 2024 meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The financial impacts of this motion would include similar annual costs to the existing Environmental Awards and any work by city staff in preparing the necessary administrative processes to officially establish the Social Change Awards.

Respectfully submitted,

COUNCILLOR SANTIAGO