

March 23, 2015

Heights Neighbourhood Association
c/o Katie Rodgers
4063 Yale Street
Burnaby, BC V5C 1R1

Executive Council of City of Burnaby
c/o Lynne Axford
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2

Re: HNA documentary celebrating the 100th anniversary of Gilmore Community School

To Whom It May Concern:

I represent the Heights Neighbourhood Association, a community group in North Burnaby. As you may know, Gilmore Community School, is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year and we are in the process of producing a 30-minute documentary to mark the centenary.

We anticipate the film will cost \$10,000 and have already raised \$5,000. We are approaching other groups and businesses in North Burnaby but hope that the City of Burnaby will donate \$1,000 to this worthwhile project.

I have attached an overview of the film by local CBC producer and reporter, and HNA member, Bob Nixon that describes the project in more detail.

The film will be shown at celebrations of the centenary and, hopefully, at other community events such as the Chevron movie night in Confederation Park. We are also planning to sell copies of the film online and distribute it to other media outlets such as BC's Knowledge Network.

Thank you for your attention to this request. If you have any questions please contact me at 604-298-4333.

Sincerely,
Katie Rodgers

attachment



The Heights Neighbourhood Association (HNA) is pleased to tell you about an exciting project we're planning to help celebrate a major anniversary in 2015. One hundred years ago, Gilmore Community School officially opened its doors to Burnaby Heights elementary students. As part of a number of activities that will mark this milestone, the HNA has commissioned a film to honour the school, its students, teachers and staff and the generations of families who have called this neighbourhood home.

Since the doors officially opened in 1915, Gilmore Elementary has seen more than 30,000 children attend classes within its distinctive red brick walls. Situated right in the very heart of the Heights neighbourhood, the school has always been much more than a place where children learn to read and write. Built when much of the Heights was still dotted with small farms created after loggers cleared the forest, Gilmore School was a central part of the City of Burnaby's promise to build a new community. Since then it has schooled future soldiers, merchants, nurses, welders, fishers, scientists and so many more, part of the fabric of Canadian life. In many ways, its student population reflected British Columbia society and 100 years later, as Gilmore Community School, it has retained and expanded that vital role.

The HNA film will help tell the stories that have made Gilmore School such a community symbol over the past ten decades. We will hear from neighbourhood pioneers right up to today's kindergarten class. Neighbourhood resident Yuneun Perez Vertti will direct the film drawing on a rich collection of historic films and video, photographs, yearbooks, pennants and trophies to tell the story.

You can help with the project. The HNA is looking for any old 8 and 16mm films that you might have stashed in the attic or garage, as well as any videotape shot over the past 40 years. We also seek to film any artefacts you have relating to the school's 100 years. Production begins in May and the entire community will be welcome to see the completed film in the fall. For more information, please contact burnabyhna@gmail.com.