

June 1st, 2015

Executive Committee of Council C/O Office of the City Clerk City of Burnaby 4949 Canada Way Burnaby, B.C., V5G 1M2

Re: 2015 Community Grant Requests

Dear Councillor Sav Dhaliwal and members of the Executive Committee,

I would like to thank you so much for your consistent support in the past years. Prior to 2014 we submitted three community grant applications throughout the year. Last year we submitted a single grant application to cover these three requests. Following this approach, please consider this 2015 application for:

- (a) \$15,000 grant to help support our Camping Bureau program and various publications;
- (b) \$8,000 grant to support the Seniors Transportation program; and
- (c) \$5,000 grant to support the Burnaby Christmas Bureau.

Your funds have allowed us to make a meaningful impact in the lives of Burnaby residents. We utilize these funds to empower people to improve their lives and their community.

Founded in 1971, Burnaby Community Services is a charitable society providing people who need support with a voice, resources and opportunities. Currently, we offer a range of programs and publications to support families with low income and seniors experiencing isolation.

We have a variety of programs that help us achieve our mission, including (but not exclusively):

Burnaby Camping Bureau

Burnaby families with low income have the opportunity to send their children to an organized summer camp that they would not otherwise be able to afford. In 2014, we provided 303 children with \$64,932 in subsidies.

Seniors Transportation

In 2014 our volunteers drove 70 seniors to 570 medical appointments, a 170% increase over 2013. This increase is largely due to the significant partnership with Citizen Support Services and the Burnaby Better At Home program. However, over 38% of our clients are not subsidized through Better at Home.

Christmas Bureau

We are again very grateful to the City of Burnaby for providing the use of 7252 Kingsway (the old Kingsway Library) for the 2013 and 2014 Christmas Bureau Toy Room. Your generosity allowed us to reach 3,150 people—including 1,487 children and 137 seniors—and distribute \$188,470 in gifts.



Publications

We published and distributed 93,550 guides in 2014. These brochures and cards to ensure that everyone in our community has access to resources and support:

60,000 Community Resource Guide, a listing of programs and services in Burnaby and New Westminster, were distributed on partnership with the Burnaby Now.

12,000 Ready, Set, Learn Brochures, a mapped resource guide of services for families with children birth to 5 years old, were printed in collaboration with the Burnaby School District.

5,000 Middle Childhood Matters Brochures (previously only available on-line), a mapped guide to services for Burnaby families with children between the ages of 6 to 12 years.

15,000 Seniors' Guide to Health & Wellbeing, a guide to services for seniors, published in collaboration with the Burnaby Now.

1,350 Seniors Resource Cards, a guide to services for seniors at-risk.

200 Community Outreach Resources Cards, a weather-resistant guide for those who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness, were distributed in partnership with Progress Housing and the Burnaby Task Force on Homelessness.

New advocacy programs

In 2014 we began a new series of programs and partnerships to help people access services and break the cycle of poverty. The new programs included a *Community Volunteer Income Tax Program* and the pilot of a new *Form Completion Assistance* program that combined helped 513 people; and partnerships with *Access Pro Bono* and UBC's *Law Students' Legal Advice Program* to deliver legal advice and law clinics.

Brentwood Community Resource Centre

On May 2nd, 2014, Burnaby Community Services, along with the City of Burnaby, the YMCA of Greater Vancouver, MOSAIC Settlement Services and Burnaby Meals on Wheels, opened the new Brentwood Community Resource Centre. The Brentwood CRC provides support and resource to meet the diverse needs of one of the fastest growing communities in the Lower Mainland. We offer programs for children, families, youth, seniors and newcomers.

In collaboration with the Burnaby Public Library and Literacy Now Burnaby we have introduced very popular *Book Swap Library* and the Brentwood Community Resource Centre. We expanded the program during the Burnaby Christmas Bureau to ensure every child received a new book.



Our grant request

We are requesting community grants in the amount of \$28,000. The grants will be allocated as outlined below:

Programs	Allocation Amount
Burnaby Camping Bureau	\$6,000
Publications	\$9,000
Seniors Transportation	\$8,000
Christmas Bureau	\$5,000
Total	\$28,000

The impact of your community grants

Your community grant will cover some of the operational costs associated with coordinating the various programs, and some of the costs associated with researching and printing our publications. Thanks to your ongoing support we continue to help families with low income and seniors experiencing isolation, and develop innovative ways to meet the growing demand for services.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a meeting please contact me at 604-292-3904 or Stephen@BbyServices.ca.

Sincerely,

Stephen D'Souza
Executive Director