
TO: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE **DATE:** 2017 January 19

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING **FILE:** 1650-20
Reference: Burnaby 125

SUBJECT: “BURNABY THEN AND NOW”
CELEBRATING BURNABY 125 WITH HERITAGE MARKERS

PURPOSE: To obtain Council approval and funding for a project to celebrate the City’s 125th anniversary as outlined in this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** the Committee request Council approval for an expenditure not to exceed \$60,000.00 (including 5% GST) from the City’s Gaming fund to implement the Burnaby 125 Heritage Marker project as outlined in this report; and
2. **THAT** a copy of this report be sent to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission and the Community Heritage Commission for information purposes.

REPORT**1.0 BACKGROUND**

Arising from a discussion at its Open meeting held on 2016 October 19, the Financial Management Committee requested staff to prepare a proposal to initiate a project to install additional historic plaques around the City to commemorate the City’s 125th anniversary. This initiative would serve to provide a legacy to mark this milestone event and provide additional opportunities for the public to learn about the City’s rich history. This report outlines a proposal to develop a heritage interpretation program to create and install heritage markers around the City and seeks Council approval to implement and fund the project through the use of Gaming funds.

2.0 BURNABY THEN AND NOW

Burnaby has a rich and diverse history spanning 125 years. Since its incorporation as a Municipality in 1892, the City has grown from a small rural, pioneer community to a vibrant urban centre. To celebrate Burnaby’s 125th anniversary, it is proposed to create and install a series of heritage markers at key locations throughout the City. The theme for these markers, “Burnaby Then and Now”, is intended to celebrate Burnaby’s unique stories provided by local residents and would focus on five key themes:

- i) Working People – the lives of Burnaby citizens;
- ii) Taking a Stand – Collective action and advancing human rights;
- iii) Protecting the Environment – Waterways, green spaces and parks;

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- iv) Celebrating Diversity – Multi-cultural Burnaby – all themes are past and present; and
- v) Urban Development – Transportation, urbanization and building a modern city.

The creation and installation of the proposed heritage markers would form part of a larger public engagement exercise conducted throughout the year, including collaboration and outreach with other community partners, including seniors' groups, neighborhood associations, historical groups and other community-based organizations. This project will be advanced as part of Burnaby Village Museum's existing heritage programs planned for 2017. After these stories are captured, they will be used to create permanent interpretive signs using the words of Burnaby people through quotes, photographs and stories. As each series of heritage markers are created, a final design and proposed civic locations will be shared with the Community Heritage Commission for their review and approval.

The project will be launched on 22 September 2017 as part of the Burnaby 'Neighborhood History Series' of the Burnaby Village Museum which runs until 11 November 2017. Finally, the stories, artifacts and photographs collected during the course of the project will be catalogued and digitized for inclusion on the Heritage Burnaby website with an online digital version of the installed heritage markers. Members of partner groups and the community would be invited to attend these presentations and encouraged to continue collaborating on gathering and sharing stories and information.

3.0 FINANCING

Council approval is sought for the use of Gaming funds not to exceed \$60,000.00 (inclusive of 5% GST) to implement the project. The use of Gaming funds for this project is consistent with Council guidelines to support heritage, cultural and environmental projects.

4.0 NEXT STEPS

The Burnaby 125 Heritage Marker project will provide a more complete and inclusive picture of Burnaby's history through local stories and historical images, and would complement the existing interpretive plaques and signs previously established under the City's ongoing Heritage Program. With the concurrence of the Committee and Council, staff will proceed to advance the project as outlined in this report with regular updates to the Community Heritage Commission and the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission.


Lou Pelletier, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

HL:sa
Copied to: City Manager
Deputy City Manager
City Clerk
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Community Heritage Commission