



BURNABY
COMMUNITY
SERVICES

January 16th, 2017

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

Re: 2017 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. Please consider our 2017 application for:

- (a) \$6,000 grant to help families send their children to summer camp;
- (b) \$9,000 grant to connect people to services through various community resource guides;
- (c) \$8,000 grant to drive seniors to medical and related appointments; and
- (d) \$5,000 grant to brighten the Holiday Season for families and seniors.

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 2016, we provided 221 children with \$24,174 in subsidies.

Seniors Transportation

Volunteers provided 568 drives to 88 seniors in 2016. This program continues to be delivered in partnership with Citizen Support Services, with $\frac{2}{3}$ of the seniors partially subsidized through Burnaby Better At Home.

Additionally, in 2016 we launched a regional project to develop innovative transportation approaches to overcoming barriers to participation for seniors. The *Seniors on the Move* project, funded through a three-year New Horizons for Seniors Program grant, is a partnership with SHARE Family and Community Services (Tri-Cities), Collingwood Neighbourhood House (Vancouver), Silver Harbour Seniors Centre (North Shore), Better Environmentally Sound Transportation (regional coordinator); and supported by Translink, MVT Canada/HandyDART, ICBC, Fraser and Coastal Health Authorities, United Way of the Lower Mainland, the Bus Co-op, Modo, Vancity, Seniors Services Society, Immigrant Services Society, and SFU Gerontology. The project is still in early stages, but we are already developing expansions of

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transportation options such as introducing a fleet of vehicles through Modo Car Co-op, working on shuttle bus routes (thank you for nominating the “Door 2 Door Seniors Bus Project” for a FortisBC community grant), and public transit orientation in collaboration with Translink and HandyDART.

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, 2014, 2015 and 2016 Christmas Bureau Toy Room. Your generosity allowed us to reach 3,100 people—including 1,739 children, 137 seniors and 35 unique individuals (those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness).

In addition to traditional Christmas Bureau activities, in February of 2016 we provided gifts and household items to over 80 recently arrived Syrian refugee families.

Advocacy

A series of programs and partnerships to help people access services and break the cycle of poverty, including *Community Volunteer Income Tax Program* and a *Form Completion Assistance* program that combined helped 940 people—a 253% increase from last year; and partnerships with *Access Pro Bono* and UBC’s *Law Students’ Legal Advice Program* to deliver legal advice and law clinics.

Welcoming Seniors Spaces

Starting in May 2016, Burnaby Community Services partnered with Burnaby Neighbourhood House, Tommy Douglas Library and Confederation Seniors Centre to create Welcoming Seniors Spaces. This project, funded through Employment and Social Development Canada, to coordinate outreach services to seniors experiencing isolation and engaging them in social integration activities throughout the community.

Publications

We published and distributed 100,050 guides in 2016. 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 in partnership with the Burnaby Now and Record.

15,000 Ready, Set, Learn Brochure, a mapped resource guide of services for families with children birth to 12 years old, were printed in collaboration with the Burnaby School District and Whole Food Markets. Listings include both pre-school and school-age programs.

25,000 As We Age Seniors Resource Guide, a guide to services for seniors in Burnaby and New Westminster, published in collaboration with the Burnaby Now.

500 Community Outreach Resources Card, a weather-resistant guide for those who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness, were distributed in collaboration with Progress Housing and the Society to End Homelessness in Burnaby.

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We didn't print any Seniors Resource Cards (a guide to services for seniors at-risk, including translations in Chinese, Farsi (Persian), Punjabi and Korean), but continued to use those printed late in 2015 and will be printing 6,000 early this year.

Brentwood Community Resource Centre

Burnaby Community Services, along with the City of Burnaby, the YMCA of Greater Vancouver, MOSAIC Settlement Services and Burnaby Seniors Outreach and Burnaby Meals on Wheels operate the 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

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