



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 In-kind Grant Requests

Dear Councillor Sav Dhaliwal and members of the Executive Committee,

Thank you for inviting me to the May 19th, 2016 meeting of the Executive Committee of Council. I really appreciated the opportunity to highlight Burnaby Community Services programs, publications and partnerships, the impact of the City of Burnaby's ongoing support of our Society, and some of the challenges we are facing.

One of the central aspects of my presentation was our Community Resource Publications; specifically the *Community Resource Guide*, *Ready, Set, Learn Brochure*, *As We Age Seniors Resource Guide*, *Seniors Resource Card*, and *Community Outreach Resources Card*.

Following my presentation we had a frank conversation about the continued need for these resources despite access to information through online search engines like Google and Bing, and services like BC211. As you may recall, I indicated that the demand for print has been increasing over the last few years as:

- (a) people are looking for information they can have confidence in,
- (b) those who are most marginalized and vulnerable have barriers in accessing these online tools and navigating systems,
- (c) with print material we can have the material where people are (schools, libraries, ministry & government offices, service providers, etc.), and
- (d) when making referrals, all the information is in one place that people can easily take with them.

Since the first publication of the *Directory of Services for Burnaby and New Westminster* in September 1984, the City of Burnaby has supported our publications. The Community Grant currently provided help fund the staff required for the publications, specifically the collection of information (a time consuming process to ensure accuracy), design and layout of the materials, and coordination of the distribution.

Following the presentation to the Executive Committee of Council, we began discussions with the City of Burnaby print shop to get quotes for the various resources. Through the discussion, they advised us to apply to the Committee of an in-kind grant to support the printing costs of the publications. Given the significant ongoing support of the Mayor and Council, we felt it would be appropriate to have this request coincide with our 2017 Community Grant Request so that there is full transparency.

Burnaby Community Services
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Based on estimates from the print shop, **we are asking for an in-kind grant of \$7,750**. These funds would be used to print 6,000 *Seniors Outreach Cards* in multiple languages (\$2,500), 15,000 *Ready, Set, Learn Brochures* (\$3,250), and 6,000 *Community Outreach Cards* (\$2,000) on a weather resistant paper.

The combination of the annual Community Grant allocated towards the publications and this in-kind grant would be a total of \$16,750.

We know this is a significant contribution (and this doesn't include the lease grant and myriad of other ways that you support us on an ongoing basis) towards ensuring Burnaby residents have access to civic and community information. However, we also know that these publications are critical to the health of our community. This was recognized within the *City of Burnaby's Social Sustainability Strategy* as Suggested Action 75 which notes the need for "a guide for new Burnaby residents, which provides information on Burnaby's features and assets, and on available City and community services and resources". The resources fulfill this strategic action for seniors-at-risk, families, and those living in extreme poverty.

For samples of each of these publications you can visit www.BbyServices.ca/resources.php.

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