

Item	4
Director's Report No	. 2
Meeting2017 F	eb 15

## **COMMISSION REPORT**

TO:

CHAIR AND MEMBERS

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE COMMISSION

FROM:

**DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION &** 

FILE:

09100-25

**CULTURAL SERVICES** 

SUBJECT:

LICENCE AGREEMENT RENEWAL - BURNABY AND REGION

**ALLOTMENT GARDENS ASSOCIATION** 

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. THAT approval be granted for the renewal of the licence agreement with Burnaby and Region Allotment Gardens Association.
- 2. THAT Council be requested to concur.
- 3. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Ann Talbot, President of the Burnaby and Regional Allotment Gardens Association.

## REPORT

The Burnaby and Region Allotment Gardens Association (BARAGA) is a non-profit, volunteer association that manages 372 garden plots located on 14 acres of City owned, urban agricultural land in an area east of Meadow Avenue and north of 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue in the Big Bend area of Burnaby as shown on the attached map (Attachment #1). The agreement for the operation of the allotment garden expired on 2016 November 30.

The BARAGA garden plots are well utilized by Burnaby Residents. Burnaby Residents make up the majority of the current membership and on average 20 - 25 vacant allotments are re-issued to waitlisted Burnaby residents each year.

BARAGA is a valued community partner that provides a variety of education programs and gardening opportunities for the community. By partnering with other local community groups such as Burnaby Neighborhood House they extend their gardening expertise and practices to others in the community. The fresh vegetables and fruit grown are a source of nutrition to the allotment holders, their families, members of the community and also to clients of the Food Bank. Assisted by volunteers from the membership, BARAGA has a weekly pick-up from the Food Bank's Community Angels program during the growing season. Approximately 2,200 lbs. of produce grown at the site last year was donated to the food bank.

To: Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission

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Gardening provides a unique opportunity for community engagement, social interaction and has gained in popularity within the last few years. The Association holds community picnics, volunteer work parties, and maintains common areas within the site to encourage members to meet socially.

The recommended terms and conditions include:

- A new agreement will be for the period commencing 2017 February 01, ending on 2022 January 31.
- Reports on plot allocations (name of individual and address) are to continue to be provided to the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department annually by October 31.
- Numbers of individuals on wait lists (both Burnaby and non-Burnaby) are to be provided to the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department annually by October 31.
- 4. That the lands are cultivated in a proper manner according to accepted agricultural practices, and following Municipal guidelines for the use of pesticides on public land. Any construction or site development is subject to the City's approval(s).
- 5. That Comprehensive General Liability Insurance coverage be reviewed annually and provided to meet the approval of the City of Burnaby's Risk Manager.

The Burnaby and Region Allotment Garden Association offers a valuable community service. It is therefore recommended that approval be given for the renewal of the licence agreement, with the terms and conditions as outlined in the report.

Dave Ellenwood

DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES

DP:tc

Attachment

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Copied to: City Solicitor

Director Finance Risk Manager

