

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE
(AWARD SELECTION)

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: 2017 LOCAL HERO NOMINEES

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council receive this report for information.

REPORT

The Financial Management Sub-Committee (Award Selection) submitted a report to the Closed meeting of Council held on 2017 July 24, recommending individuals for receipt of the 2017 Local Hero Awards.

At its Closed meeting, Council received and adopted the attached report containing this year's Local Hero nominees.

This report is provided for public information.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Johnston
Chair

Councillor C. Jordan
Vice Chair

Copied to:	City Manager Deputy City Manager Director Planning & Building Director Engineering Director Finance Director Parks, Rec. & Cult. Services Director Public Safety & Community Services Fire Chief OIC, RCMP Chief Librarian
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TO: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE (AWARD SELECTION) **DATE:** 2017 June 12

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING **FILE:** 1450 01
Reference: Local Heroes

SUBJECT: 2017 LOCAL HERO NOMINEES

PURPOSE: To recommend individuals for receipt of 2017 Local Hero Awards and to seek funding approval for the 2018 Local Hero Award Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the Committee request Council to:
 - a. Approve the nominations of the following individuals for receipt of Burnaby Local Hero Awards in 2017:
 1. Tazul Nisha Ali
 2. Joe Gallo
 3. Giovanna Lore
 4. Delmer Rens
 5. Daniella Revitt
 6. Bernie Richter
 - b. Invite approved nominees to the 2017 October 16 Council meeting to be presented with their Local Hero Award certificates of recognition.
 - c. Approve expenditures of up to \$3,000 from the 2018 Boards, Committees and Commissions budget for printing and advertising costs for the 2018 Local Hero Award program.

REPORT**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Since 1997, Burnaby has identified and recognized Local Heroes, individuals who make outstanding contributions to community well-being in Burnaby. To date, the City has recognized 255 Local Heroes, individuals who represent diverse interests and backgrounds and have contributed to the community in a variety of ways (see list of past recipients in *Appendix 1, attached*).

To: Financial Management Sub-Committee
(Award Selection)
From: Director Planning and Building
Re: 2017 Local Hero Nominees
2017 June 12 Page 2
Committee Meeting

2.0 LOCAL HERO NOMINEES

As in previous years, nominations were sought for the 2017 Local Hero Awards through advertisements in local newspapers, the City website, the City's social media channels (e.g., City Facebook page and Twitter account), and community networks (e.g. Burnaby Interagency Council¹). Associated posters and nomination forms were also circulated through all City venues (e.g., City Hall, recreation centres, libraries, community police offices), and through partners such as the Burnaby School District. Volunteer Burnaby also distributed information about the program to their members and networks. The call for Local Hero nominations opened in 2017 February and the deadline for submitting nominations was 2017 April 23. As per a long-established practice, staff reviewed the submitted nominations and developed a shortlist of nominees for Committee consideration.

As stated in the eligibility guidelines established by Social Planning Committee in 2010, a maximum of 12 Local Heroes may be selected in a given year. The awards are intended to recognize individuals who have made noteworthy contributions to community well-being in Burnaby through volunteer activities for at least five years and in a minimum of two different activities. Local Hero Awards are given on a one-time basis only.

A total of nine nominations were received this year. After reviewing the submissions in accordance with the established criteria, the following six nominees are proposed for 2017 Local Hero Awards.

Tazul Nisha Ali

Tazul has an extensive volunteer history. She has been a Board member of the BC Muslim Association for 20 years and has served in different positions in the local branch and executive positions at the Council level. Six years ago, she initiated the Seniors Circle which focuses on health, exercise and nutrition for seniors. She has also been involved with the City of Burnaby by serving on the Social Issues Committee for six years and by participating in the Burnaby Social Sustainability Strategy process in 2011. Other Committee work includes the Community Policing Advisory Committee for District 3, the Burnaby Interfaith Network (five years as a member, three of which have been as a co-chair), Voices of Burnaby Seniors (six years as a member, three of which have been as a chair), Society to End Homelessness in Burnaby (three years as a Board member) and the Raising the Profile project for community based seniors services (joined in 2016 November). As Tazul's nominators note: *"Tazul Ali has dedicated herself to her community over the years, by helping others, especially seniors, [and] by serving on several boards and committees. Tazul is out in the community making people feel welcome. Tazul has the gift of making anyone...feel special and important."*

Joe Gallo

For sixteen years, Joe has been an active volunteer with Stride Avenue Community School and Cedar Place Housing Cooperative. Almost daily, Joe has taken on a variety of roles at the School from

¹ Burnaby Interagency Council is an informal affiliation of approximately 100 representatives from organizations and agencies offering community and social services in Burnaby.

To: Financial Management Sub-Committee
(Award Selection)
From: Director Planning and Building
Re: 2017 Local Hero Nominees
2017 June 12 Page 3
Committee Meeting

picking up and coordinating the distribution of food from the food bank, sorting community donations, assisting with special events, helping with custodian and housekeeping tasks and updating earthquake kits. Joe is also very active at the Housing Cooperative where he helps with lawn cutting, snow removal, bike repairs, handyman tasks, pet grooming, dog walking and general emotional support when others are in crisis. As Joe's nominators write: *"Joe's passion for helping and taking care of people at Stride and the local community, along with his courage to overcome personal challenges truly makes Joe our local hero!"*

Giovanna Lore

Giovanna has been an active volunteer in Burnaby for many years seeking to enrich the lives of others in the community. Since 2010, she has been involved with the City of Burnaby's Citizen Support Services on a weekly basis. Giovanna visits an isolated senior in her home once a week, shops for groceries every Tuesday and helps host the weekly Lunch Program. She also assists seniors on monthly bus outings and is involved with the Shopping Buddies program at Brentwood Mall. Although not formally detailed in her application, through reference letters and biographical information, staff learned that Giovanna has also volunteered at her children's elementary school helping in the playground and with lunches, been a foster parent for many years, a block parent and a member of Block Watch. As Giovanna's nominators describe: *"I cannot say enough about Giovanna's positive attitude and caring personality. We are very fortunate to have such a compassionate and generous volunteer within our organization."*

Delmer Rens

For over two decades, Delmer has been an active volunteer with Stoney Creek School. He is involved with many activities in and around the school and is known by all students and staff. Twice a week for the past 22 years, he has helped with administrative tasks, community events and general miscellaneous assistance. Specific tasks include assisting with recycling, office duties, monthly newsletters; greeting parents; answering student inquiries; making ice bags for students when they are hurt; helping the teachers when possible; and assisting with the upkeep of the Library, staff room and community room. He also helps at community events such as the community barbeque and spring Fun Fair and assists with charity work such as the refugee clothing drive, the family Christmas hampers and the Food Bank. Delmer's nominators explain: *"He is always enthusiastic, very helpful to everyone and is very dedicated...He is a true model of how someone who has had many medical impediments...can still push through what he is feeling and comes to work to help others and give back to his community."*

Daniella Revitt

Since 2011, Daniella has been involved with South Slope Elementary school by organizing a fundraising video to build an accessible playground, creating and running a Glee program to enable children to perform, and developing a breakfast program at the school. In 2014, when she and her husband recognized that many children faced physical challenges and could not visit a pumpkin patch, they created a pumpkin patch experience at several Burnaby elementary schools. This involved applying for funding, months of planning and taking a week off work. She has also helped with special events, children's activities, music initiatives and programs (e.g. a free mobile clothing shop and Christmas hampers) at her church. Since 2008, Daniella has recruited elementary school students to create Christmas cards and has made gift boxes for BC Children's Hospital. As Daniella's

To: Financial Management Sub-Committee
(Award Selection)
From: Director Planning and Building
Re: 2017 Local Hero Nominees
2017 June 12 Page 4
Committee Meeting

nominators describe: *"Daniella is the most active and giving volunteer that I have ever met...She truly is a Burnaby Hero! Even though she works full time, she is never too busy to say 'no' to anyone. Not only that, but, she actively looks for ways that she can make this world a better place! I know that Burnaby is a better place because of her!"*

Bernie Richter

Bernie has been a dedicated volunteer since 2004 for Burnaby Edmonds Lions Club. He has participated in various events including the Edmonds Town Centre Spring and Fall Clean-ups, the Edmonds Santa Claus parade, Canada Day celebrations, the Festival of Lights and barbeques and pancake breakfasts at different elementary schools. For the past few years he has also been Treasurer for the Lions Club. In 2013 he helped the Burnaby Association for the South East Side (BASES) prepare to open their thrift store to the public. As such, he came in daily to paint, sweep, move furniture and clean. He has continued to volunteer weekly (sometimes several times a week) since the store opened. He has helped by cleaning and repairing donated items so that they can be sold. As Bernie's nominator writes: *"[Bernie's] smile and warm heart brings joy to all those volunteering with him."*

3.0 ASSESSMENT

Based on the established selection criteria, the foregoing six nominees satisfy the guidelines for Burnaby's Local Hero Award program and demonstrate the exemplary characteristics required of a local hero. In their unique ways, they have all made noteworthy contributions to community well-being and merit recognition as Local Heroes.

4.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

2017 marks the twenty-first year that Burnaby has recognized Local Heroes. As in previous years, the quality of submissions and calibre of nominees is high. It is believed that the Local Hero Award program is an effective vehicle for recognizing citizens who have made noteworthy contributions to community well-being in Burnaby over the years. A key strength of the program is that the nominations are received from the community.

It is recommended that the Committee request Council to approve the nominations of the following individuals for receipt of Burnaby Local Hero Awards in 2017:

1. Tazul Nisha Ali
2. Joe Gallo
3. Giovanna Lore
4. Delmer Rens
5. Daniella Revitt
6. Bernie Richter

To: Financial Management Sub-Committee
(Award Selection)
From: Director Planning and Building
Re: 2017 Local Hero Nominees
2017 June 12 Page 5
Committee Meeting

It is further recommended that the Committee request Council to invite approved nominees to the 2017 October 16 Council meeting to be presented with certificates of recognition. After the awards presentation, staff will publish an article celebrating the Local Hero Award recipients in a forthcoming issue of InfoBurnaby and on the City website.

Finally, as in previous years, it is recommended that the Committee request Council to approve expenditures of up to \$3,000 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions budget for printing and advertising costs for the 2018 Local Hero Award program. Staff will also work to align 2018 promotional activities with the Kushiro Cup program, the time period of which overlaps with the Local Hero Award program, in order to save on advertising and printing costs. Since the awards criteria were last updated in 2010, staff also propose to review and refine the criteria in time for next year's program. Any proposed refinements to the program will be forwarded to the Committee for approval.

With Committee adoption of the recommendation of this report, the report will advance to Council for consideration. With Council approval, successful nominees would be notified, and the awards presented at the 2017 October 16 Council meeting.


Lou Pelletier, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

KL:sa
Attachment

Copied to: City Manager
Director Engineering
Fire Chief
OIC - RCMP
Chief Librarian

Deputy City Manager
Director Finance
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Director Public Safety and Community Services
City Clerk

APPENDIX 1
LOCAL HEROES 1997 - 2016

1997 (7) Barbara Brady Don Brown Beth Chobotuck Don Copan Edie Fisher Maddie Greenlay Barb Peabody	2001 (11) Roxy Abernethy Beverly Adams Tracie Buzza Dennis Baker Joane Carne Paulene Hall Christina Lupien Judi Marshall Louise Towell Sandy Twinn Marguerite Wallace	2004 (20) Joy Ayers Hakam Bhaloo Olive Fera Gino Fera Sandra Fesiuk Gillian Gallson Lois Godfrey Helen Hamilton Joanna Illerbrun Michelle Leong John McQuade Shirely Mortimer Kevan Oxley Lou Ryan Harminder Saghera Liza Shoda Carolyn Sinclair Tom Stewart Lisa Thomson Lisa Wong	2006 (19) Amanda van Aggelen Pat Beaucamp Delia Benig Ardell Louise Brophy-Fitzpatrick Alia Chatur Bonnie Davies Liz Dill Doreen George Rhodora Horgan Gerry Juzenas Margaret Koster Jim Lawrence Anna Rowden Tina Schipper Hazel Simnett Sasha Tewari Ryan Brandlmayr Paul Legge Charn Toor	2008 (19) Grace Mui Stephanie Jaeger John Johnston Rosemary Meech Norman Roberts Gloria Kravac Laurie Sheehan Myrtle Linden Diane Gillis Anne Baker Irene Harvalias Margaret (Peggy) McClean Nelly Noort Ernie Bodie Bob (Robert) Khun Frankie Cena Sam K. Naicker Ken Best Shayma Akhi	2011 (7) Darlene Gering Stephen Hughes Vicky Ma Raymond McKay Jim McQueen Sonia Purewal Nellie Wong
1998 (9) Ray Abernethy Allison Dalglish Bharti Envik Lilac Jung Faye Ku Ruth Loland Anita Loy Melody Marbach Sharon Mudrakoff	2002 (19) Elizabeth Briemberg Steve Cairns Millie Canessa Kenney Chan Jack Cyr Harvey Elder Richard Harvey Ethel Hawthorne Reg Hawthorne Vivian Henderson Gail Klarer Kenny So Ying Leung Nick Lutz Eleanor MacQueen Merv Magus Regina Ogmundson Hugh Robertson Norm Sandercock Bernice Wiseman	2005 (18) Marilyn Cooper Linda Corrin Bill Corson Frances Dickson Diane Dobie Begum Ebrahim Kate Evans Theresa Johannsen Patrick Johnson Allan Joyce Vicki Kreuzer Irene Kyle Larry Lynn Fergus McCann Pearl Price Josie Romero Gloria Tom Wing Staudt Gail Yip	2007 (20) Jennifer Atchison Pushpa Cheema Donna Dawson Eman Elmasri Barbara (Barb) Harris Gregg Harris Jon Hernandez Mary Hernandez Mary Horton Rainy Kent Rehman Lalji Aly Lalji Elizabeth (Liz) McEwan Wanda Mulholland Susan Papadionissiou Patrice Pratt John Speckman Pak-Kwan Tam Chiu-Lin Tam Margaret Widmer	2009 (13) Stella Castillo Merrilyn Cook Sidney Cumbers Keanna Driedger Sharon Freeman Fatehali Jetha Jack Kuyer Tammy Ozero Wanley Poh Deepak Prasad Wendell Ratcliffe Mohammed I. Shamsi Millie Wylie	2012 (8) Karen Corcoran Thea Juett Maria Motta Vivian Pinter Michael Raynor Linda Saunders Tanaya Shaw Marilena (Marilyn) Soligo
1999 (14) Georgie Cole Marjorie Deschner Gloria Inglis Effie Kennedy Erna Kozak Marion Krause Nick Kvenich George McLean Scott Robertson Ken Ryan Rudy Spense Don Steen Barbara Stewart Tim Zimich	2003 (20) Jeannette Aadland Keith Beedie Gladys Brundrett Parvin Chami Gillian Chan Paul Colvin John DeForest Jeanne Fike Maureen Francois Ruth Gautschi Lina Hu Pak Wing Kan Carol La Croix Jay McGarva Rajinder Pandher Eric Seto Norman Song Margaret Van Soest Greg van Euw Deb Yaschuk			2010 (10) Jonathan Van Aggelen Ray Allen Elsie Dean David Gates Shirley Hill Darlene James Carole Kaye Kathy Tietjen Tony Tsang Violet Zaytsoff	2013 (8) Verna Adamson Georgette Leduc Dr. Carol Matusicky Gulshan Megji Verlma Pallen Larry Smith Ken Tunncliffe Melanie Walkus
2000 (11) Mark Angelo Lillian Chalmers Glenice English Philip Henderson Grace Jo Les Lee Lowe Barbara Lussier Tony Mauro Doreen Player Joyce Rosteron Carol Roycroft					2014 (10) Farida Bano Ali Flavia Crema Ernest Maitland Ceilidh Millar Teresa Morton Susan Nugent Carol Rush Arlene Sawchuck Yun-Ik Schallert Peggy Woodruff
					2015 (8) George Doering Janice Froese Aliya Jiwa Maureen Kirk Lindy McQueen Heather Podrow Clare Stegen Tony Wong
					2016 (4) Khalid Boudreau Hazel Caley Brenda Felker Annette Vowles