

July 3, 2019

Dear Mayor and Council,

Recently I heard a young girl named Lucy Diaz speaking on CBC radio about how hard it is for her 10 year old sister Amy, to get out of the house and have a normal child's life as Amy has cerebral palsy and is wheelchair bound. There are no accessible washrooms where change tables are large enough to hold her growing body where she can get her diaper changed. Instead, if the family goes out they have to lay Amy on the floor to change her. If this is true for a child of 10, what do adults, who are wheelchair bound have to go through? I can think of nothing more disgusting than to have to lay on a public bathroom floor while someone would have to kneel on the floor to assist with the work.

Lucy has researched Accessible washrooms and apparently since 2006 the United Kingdom has become a leader in creating accessible washrooms, called "Changing Places" that include height adjusting tables complete with power hoists.

I request that Burnaby council consider adapting washrooms at Heritage Village, Shadbolt Centre and Barnet Marine Park so that people with disabilities that need these adapted washrooms will be able to enjoy these places like everyone else does. Eventually, I hope you will consider adapting washrooms in all Recreation centres and swimming pools in our fair city.

Sincerely,



Joanne Reid

[REDACTED]

Burnaby, B.C.

Referred to:

Environment and Social Planning Committee (2019.09.03)

Copied to:

City Manager

Dir. Corporate Services

Dir. Planning and Building

Dir. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

