

## COMMISSION REPORT

**TO:** CHAIR AND MEMBERS  
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE  
COMMISSION

**DATE:** 2020 Jan 30

**FROM:** DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION &  
CULTURAL SERVICES

**SUBJECT: BURNABY MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION TRAIL BUILDING  
VOLUNTEERS**

**PURPOSE:** To provide information to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission regarding Burnaby Mountain Biking Association trail building days.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **THAT** the report be received for information purposes.
2. **THAT** a copy of this report be sent to the Burnaby Mountain Biking Association.

**REPORT****1.0 INTRODUCTION**

At the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting held on 2020 January 21, a delegation from the Burnaby Mountain Biking Association (BMBA) inquired about increasing the number of volunteer days for the trail building events that take place on Burnaby Mountain each year. Arising from discussion the following motion was adopted:

THAT the presentation be referred to staff for a report.

**2.0 POLICY SECTION**

Community participation in environmental programs is aligned with the City of Burnaby's Corporate Strategic plan by supporting the following goals and sub-goals:

- A Connected Community
  - Partnership
  - Social connection
- An Inclusive Community
  - Create a sense of community
- A Healthy Community
  - Healthy life
  - Community involvement

To: Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission  
From: Director - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services  
Re: BURNABY MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION  
TRAIL BUILDING VOLUNTEERS

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### **3.0 BACKGROUND**

The BMBA has four trail-building days on Burnaby Mountain each year. The BMBA promotes attendance at these events through their regular communications with members and to the public by posting on their website and social media. The number of participants fluctuates depending on volunteer availability, the weather and time of year. The number of volunteers per trail day ranges from 10 to 25 participants. The City does not limit the number of volunteers, however, we do work with the BMBA to estimate the group size so we can ensure we have enough work project areas and refreshments for the day.

With a multitude of volunteer events occurring each season throughout various areas of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Services Department, staff take a holistic approach in the review and approval of scheduled events. This ensures proper distribution of events to allow for staff support as required. The current practice of capping BMBA trail building events to four days provides staff with the ability to secure personnel and materials for construction well in advance. Trail building events typically take place on a weekend. The four events are pre-scheduled, enabling better opportunity to encourage volunteers and manage financial resources. This system has worked well for both the volunteers and staff who attend, support and supervise the work.

The complete list of volunteer activities managed by parks is brought to Commission on an annual basis. Commission approved the 2019 schedule at the 2019 March 05 meeting. Staff currently provide support for a wide variety of events. The addition and inclusion of additional event days is reviewed on a yearly basis with direct communication between individual associations and clubs, however, in most cases expansion is not recommended.

### **4.0 SUMMARY**

Community volunteer activities in Burnaby Parks are supported in principle. The timing and makeup of each event is balanced within the yearly operational work plan. The ability to expand any one program is limited; however, the expansion of the number of volunteers that can participate in the events is not. Staff will continue to work with all volunteer groups to enable volunteer day events to continue. This report is for the information of Commission.



Dave Ellenwood  
DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES