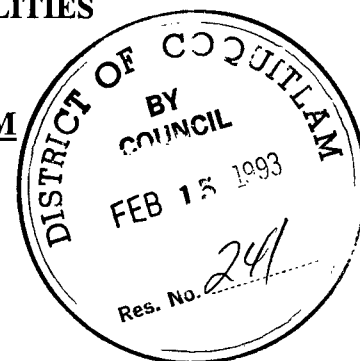


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Mayor L. Sekora

**MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1993 - 7:00 P.M.
COQUITLAM PUBLIC LIBRARY - BOARD ROOM**



Present: Councillor B. Robinson, Chair
Councillor B. LeClair
D. Douglas
L. Hauser
L. Hodge
A. Nelson
M. Smith
C. Talbot
G. Wong

Absent: C. Johnston

Guests: Steve Borthwick - Parks and Recreation Pool Manager
Angela Arandelovic - Pool Manager, Stan Stronge Pool

1. Agenda Approved
2. Minutes of November 5, 1992 Approved
3. Business Arising:

3.1 Update on Town Centre Stadium (Parking and Seating):

G. Wong reported that the location of the curb cuts in the stadium parking lot are situated close to the parking spaces. She also reported that she met with Rick Graham who is the stadium manager, and they toured the stadium to review the signage for wheelchair seating. There was an absence of signs to indicate the availability and location of said seats. R. Graham recommended that the signs be erected at either side of the stadium walkway and immediately at the seating entrance. The Committee agreed upon the locations but stressed that the signs be hung up for visibility. G. Wong also pointed out that entry to the Town Centre playground is not accessible for children in wheelchairs.

Me

Committee Action:

That G. Wong contact R. Graham and provide him with the sign information regarding the wheelchair seating at Town Centre Stadium. That G. Wong contact B. Elliott of the Parks Department to inform him of the need for a ramp for entry to the Town Centre playground.

3.2 Update on Promotions Committee:

Res. 242
The Committee reviewed the draft of the Committee pamphlet. Changes were made regarding the content. Since the pamphlet will be distributed to the public, the group recommended that the material be produced by a professional. Councillor Robinson recommended that the organization who put together the leisure guide be contacted and that a price be quoted. D. Douglas will then coordinate the pamphlet with the company.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong contact the leisure guide company and ask for a price. That Councillor Robinson seek a funding source for the typesetting and design of the pamphlet.

3.3 Update on Disabled Parking Card:

Res 242
The Committee reviewed the draft of the disabled parking card. The group recommended that the following words precede the name of the Committee: "Reminder from".

Committee Action:

That Councillor Robinson seek a funding source for the printing of the disabled parking cards.

3.4 Update on Esso Banners:

G. Wong reported that the Traffic Department did not receive any new money for the purchase of new banners. (Note: The Traffic Department has a pole banner program.) The Department may have money to put up and take down said banners. The Committee decided that such a project would best be undertaken by the Municipal Committee on Disability.

3.5 Update on Coquitlam Lawn Bowling Club:

M. Smith reported that she and L. Hauser attended the January 13th meeting of the Coquitlam Lawn Bowling Club. M. Smith briefly spoke on the history of the Committee, and its involvement with the lawn bowling green and ensuring accessibility. L. Hauser spoke on the logistics concerning the preparation of the green for individuals who use wheelchairs. Overall, the Lawn Bowling Club was open to trying out such an arrangement. The Parks Department was also in favour. G. Wong reported that the Tuesday group from Chimo Achievement Centre would be interested in participating on a trial basis. Councillor Robinson thanked M. Smith and L. Hauser for representing the Committee and recommended that an acknowledgement letter be sent to the Club.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong write an acknowledgement letter to the Coquitlam Lawn Bowling Club on behalf of the Committee. That G. Wong contact M. Nihls of the Parks Department to arrange for the use of the lawn bowling greens by individuals who use wheelchairs.

3.6 Update on Summer Curb Cut Program and Accessibility of Municipal Buildings:

G. Wong distributed copies of the status of the Summer Curb Cut Program. She reported that the Traffic Department did not receive any new money for 1993 towards the continuation of the curb cut program. The Department only received money for transit related items. Last summer's curb cut program either has been completed or will be done shortly. G. Wong also distributed copies of the status of the accessibility of Municipal Buildings. Councillor Robinson recommended that members review the status survey and bring any concerns to the next Committee meeting.

4. New Business:

4.1 New Pool Complex Plan:

S. Borthwick, the Parks and Recreation Pool Manager, presented the new pool plans in more detail to the Committee. Angela Arandelovic, who is the Pool Manager with Stan Stronge Pool in Vancouver, was invited to give valuable input regarding the accessibility of public pools for individuals with disabilities. She emphasized the need to plan ahead versus after the fact because the cost would be much greater if changes had to be made regarding pool access once the pool was completed. She also made the Committee aware about necessary features required in the changeroom, shower stalls, and washroom in addition to the pool itself. The Committee recommended that a list of items that require funding be drawn up. The group thanked the two guests for attending the meeting.

Committee Action:

That S. Borthwick write up a list of items that require funding. That G. Wong write a thank you letter to A. Arandelovic.

4.2 Information-Sharing:

Due to time limitation, Councillor Robinson recommended that the above item be deferred until the next Committee meeting.

4.3 Accessibility Award:

G. Wong reported that the annual accessibility award would need to be instigated again. The subcommittee from last year composed of L. Hauser, M. Smith, and C. Talbot agreed to stay on board and implement the award this year. The subcommittee also recommended that Tim Arthur from Permits and Licences Department be invited to attend the first planning meeting.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong invite Tim Arthur to a February 3rd meeting with the Accessibility Award Committee.

4.4 1993 Centennial Flame Research Award:

G. Wong reported that the Standing Committee on Human Rights and the Status of Disabled Persons invite applications from people with disabilities for the 1993 Centennial Flame Research Award. The award of \$1,500.00 will be given to conduct research on the contribution of a person(s) with disabilities to public life in Canada. The Committee read over the criteria and decided not to pursue an application.

4.5 Miller Park Elementary School Playground:

Councillor Robinson reported that the Miller Park Parents Group wrote a letter to make the Committee aware of their current playground project and to request a support letter that could be used when applying to outside sources for funding assistance. The Miller Park Parents Group wish to provide a physically accessible playground. The Committee was in agreement to such a support letter.

Moved by C. Talbot
Seconded by M. Smith

That the Committee support the Miller Park Elementary School
Playground.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong write a letter supporting the Miller Park Elementary School
Playground on behalf of the Committee.

4.6 Municipal Advisory Committee on Disability:

G. Wong reported that the Municipal Advisory Committee on Disability will now be meeting from January to June and focusing upon awareness projects that would be unveiled during National Access Awareness Week. This year, the Committee will be hosting a community play performed by Theatre Terrific. The play raises awareness about the importance of inclusion in the community and will be acted by individuals with disabilities and able-bodied people. The community event will take place Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. on June 4th. In the same week, the Committee hopes to showcase the accomplishments made by people with disabilities through the use of displays shown at the Coquitlam Shopping Mall.

4.7 Park Forums:

G. Wong reported that the Parks Department has been organizing park public forums for the purpose of seeking input from the residents of Coquitlam. Specifically, Mundy Park and Brookmere Park have been chosen for public involvement. The Committee recommended that a representative from the Parks Department attend the next meeting to go over the plans. The group wishes to ensure that both parks be made accessible to all.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong invite a representative from the Parks Department to attend the next Committee meeting.

4.8 Disability Awareness Training Course for Taxi Drivers:

C. Talbot reported that Mobility Plus, Transport Canada's Newsletter on Accessible Transportation, included an article about a seven hour disability awareness training course for taxi drivers. The course is designed to help taxi drivers and representatives of different service organizations become more aware of the specific needs of persons with disabilities. C. Talbot recommended that information concerning the course be sent to Mr. Dhillon from Coquitlam Taxi. The Committee was in agreement.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong contact Ottawa for further information concerning the course and send the information to Mr. Dhillon from Coquitlam Taxi.

5. Next Meeting:

Thursday, February 25, 1993 at 7:00 p.m.
Coquitlam Public Library - Board Room

6. Adjournment:

8:45 p.m.

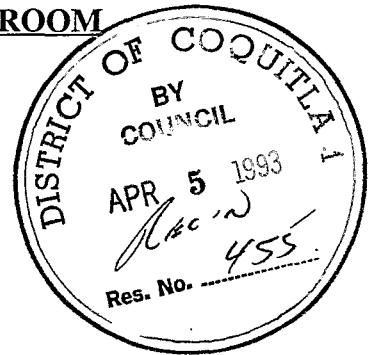
COQUITLAM

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION



504

**MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1993 - 7:00 P.M.
COQUITLAM PUBLIC LIBRARY - BOARD ROOM**



Present: Councillor B. Robinson, Chair
Councillor B. LeClair
L. Hauser
C. Johnston
M. Smith
C. Talbot
G. Wong

Absent: D. Douglas
L. Hodge
A. Nelson

Guests: E. Bowes, Parks Department
D. Palidwor, Parks Department

1. Agenda Approved
2. Minutes of January 28, 1993 Approved
3. Business Arising:
 - 3.1 Update on Town Centre Stadium Wheelchair Seating:

G. Wong reported that Rick Graham, the Stadium Manager, took a tour of the Stadium and suggested that a sign indicating the location of wheelchair seats be posted in the ground on the south and north side. At the seating area, a sign could be posted on the cement wall at both entrances.

Me

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will inform B. Elliott of the Parks Department about the recommended locations for the disabled seating signs at the Town-Centre Stadium.

3.2 Update on Promotions Committee:

D. Douglas was absent. Councillor Robinson informed the Committee that Council has approved the funding of the pamphlet. The Committee can now forge ahead with the design and printing of the pamphlet.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will contact T. Klassen of the Clerk's Office to inquire about the source of funding for the pamphlet. She will also contact D. Douglas to inform her about the decision.

3.3 Update on Disabled Parking Card:

Councillor Robinson reported that Council has also approved the funding of the disabled parking card. C. Johnston wished to inquire on behalf of those people who have a temporary disability and who could benefit from the use of a disabled parking placard.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will also ask T. Klassen of the Clerk's Office about the funding source of the disabled parking card. That G. Wong will write a letter of inquiry to S.P.A.R.C. of B.C. regarding the temporary use of a disabled parking placard.

3.4 Update on Coquitlam Bowling Club::

G. Wong reported that the Parks Department will go ahead with the plan to prepare the bowling greens for wheelchair participation. The Department is in the midst of building a ramp that would be safe for people in wheelchairs to access. When actual playing takes place, grass conditions will be monitored. The following plan will be carried out:

1. G. Wong and a few Committee members will go through a dry run, using borrowed wheelchairs.

2. A group from Chimo Achievement Centre will try out the sport.
3. The Committee will make contact with the Lawn Bowling Club to work out integrated playing times.

3.5 Update on Accessibility Award Committee:

C. Talbot reported that she, M. Smith and T. Arthur from the Permits and Licence Department met to discuss the set-up of the Access Award. L. Hauser wrote a press release that was sent to various papers and publications. The Chamber of Commerce is once again funding the awards and organizing a presentation luncheon in mid-May. The awards Committee will wait for any responses before personally approaching potential nominees.

3.6 Update on Disability Awareness Training Courses for Taxi Drivers:

G. Wong reported that Transport Canada contacted her regarding the disability awareness training course for taxi drivers. The complete training package cost approximately \$64.00. The Committee recommended that the information be made available to Mr. Dhillon of Coquitlam Taxi, and that the local papers write an article about the new wheelchair taxis and the procedures for complaining.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will contact Mr. Dhillon of Coquitlam Taxi regarding the disability awareness training course for taxi drivers. That G. Wong will contact Hazel Postma or Kate Poole regarding the write-up of an article concerning the new wheelchair taxis and the procedures for complaining.

3.7 Review of Accessibility of Civic Buildings:

The Committee was unsure as to the current status of all municipal buildings regarding accessibility. The group recommended that G. Wong meet with T. Murphy of Engineering to obtain a status report on the buildings. Then she, M. Smith and L. Hauser will meet to prioritize which buildings require the Committee's most urgent attention. The Committee also requested that the architect for the restoration of Mackin House be invited to a future Committee meeting.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will contact T. Murphy of Engineering to discuss the current status of all municipal buildings regarding accessibility. That G. Wong, M. Smith and L. Hauser will meet to prioritize said buildings in terms of importance to the community. That G. Wong will also contact V. Sudra of Permits and Licences to invite the architect for Mackin House to a future Committee meeting.

4. New Business:

4.1 Brookmere Park Plans:

E. Bowes of the Parks Department presented the Brookmere Park plans to the Committee. Late last year, a public information forum was held to determine the future development of the park. The Parks Department compiled the responses from the meeting (see attached report). A concept plan will then be drafted in direct response to the results of the forum. The 1993 budget has no funds available, however funding requests will be brought forward for 1994. The Committee emphasized the need for a user friendly park especially for those residents who live on the southside. They also stressed the need for accessible parking and pathways, and possibly a walkway around the perimeter of the park. E. Bowes will keep the Committee abreast of the park plans and will be asked to return for a future presentation.

4.2 Mundy Park Plans:

D. Palidwor of the Parks Department presented the Mundy Park plans to the Committee. A number of public information forums have been held to determine the future development of the park, focusing on such issues as parking, safety, pathways, etc. Again, the Committee emphasized the need for a user friendly park especially for people who use wheelchairs, have limited mobility, or have young children seated in baby carriages. Since the park is large in scope, the Committee suggested that the Parks Department make improvements to the west side regarding accessibility first before attempting any changes to the east side. The group also commented upon Como Lake and the need for an improved pathway. D. Palidwor will be asked to return to show the Committee any future plans of the park.

4.3 B. C. Transit Correspondence:

G. Wong reported that B. Chown, the Manager of Accessible Transit responded to the Committee's written submission regarding the review of accessible transit services for people with disabilities. A report has been prepared summarizing oral and written comments received from organizations like ourselves. B. C. Transit intends to continue with initiating changes to ensure that people with disabilities can participate fully in their community.

4.4 Hear Branch Correspondence:

C. Johnston reported that the Hear Branch wished to bring the following concerns to the Committee:

1. Some people who use walkers have difficulty in accessing the conventional bus service.
2. Some people who are deaf or hard of hearing have had negative experiences with some of the drivers.

C. Johnston also mentioned that a representative from B. C. Transit did attend a past Hear meeting who heard the various concerns, and provided the group with helpful answers. The Hear Branch will continue to monitor the situation and keep us up-to-date on the progress of B. C. Transit.

4.5 Building Code for Townhouses and Condominiums:

M. Smith reported that the building requirements for people with disabilities only applies to public apartments. She recommended that the Technical Code Committee bring forth a recommendation or that the Permits and Licences Department put forward a change to Council who can convert the change into a bylaw.

Committee Action:

That Councillor Robinson will approach Council and ask the Building Committee to report to our group regarding the possible creation of a building bylaw for townhouses and condominiums.

4.6 GAIN Report:

M. Smith reported that a new philosophy for GAIN for the handicapped has been developed that focuses on an attitudinal change. A new income support system would move from the present charity approach towards a human resources approach. M. Smith asked for verbal support from the Committee. Everyone was in favour of the new change. Copies of the report will be distributed at the next meeting.

4.7 Health Fair at Eagle Ridge Hospital:

C. Johnston reported that a health fair is being organized from April 22 - 24 at Eagle Ridge Hospital. He is presently sitting on the Planning Committee.

4.8 Arts Centre Development Plans:

L. Hauser reported that plans for the development of the Arts Centre have been appearing in the local papers. She suggested that the architect be invited to a future Committee meeting. Councillor Robinson commented that the building is very much in the early planning stages. Therefore the architect could be invited as soon as the plans become more concrete.

4.9 Development of New Schools:

L. Hauser requested that a representative from the School Board attend a future Committee meeting to provide us with information about any new schools that are being developed.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will contact the School Board and invite a representative to attend a future Committee meeting.

5. Next Meeting:

Thursday, March 25, 1993 at 7:00 p.m.
Coquitlam Public Library - Board Room

6. Adjournment:

8:45 p.m.

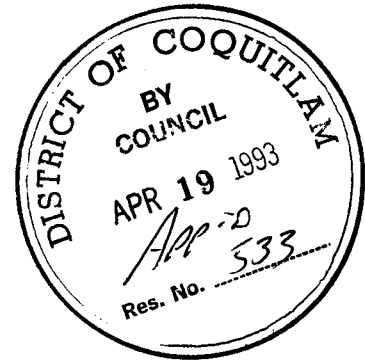


Mayor L. Sekora

504

**MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1993 - 7:00 P.M.
COQUITLAM PUBLIC LIBRARY - BOARD ROOM**

Present: Councillor B. Robinson, Chair
Councillor B. LeClair
D. Douglas
L. Hodge
C. Johnston
M. Smith
C. Talbot
G. Wong



Absent: L. Hauser
A. Nelson

Guests: Liz Screamin, Iredale Partnership

- 1. Agenda Approved
- 2. Minutes of February 25, 1993
- 3. Business Arising:
 - 3.1 Update on Promotions Committee:

D. Douglas reported that she has attempted to make contact with the Print Shop but unfortunately the staff person has not been in when she has called. G. Wong suggested that she will inform the Print Shop about the Committee pamphlet and have the staff person contact D. Douglas.

- 3.2 Update on Disabled Parking Card:

G. Wong distributed the final draft copy of the disabled parking card from the Print Shop. The Committee approved the final draft. The Print Shop will now print copies of the card for distribution to the public.

Handwritten signature

3.3 Update on Accessibility Award Committee:

C. Talbot reported that the Award Committee has not received any nominations from the community. The Award Committee will now meet with T. Arthur of the Permits and Licence Department to inquire about potential nominees and approach said individuals about applying for the Award.

3.4 Update on Accessibility of Civic Buildings:

M. Smith reported that she, G. Wong, and L. Hauser meet to prioritize which buildings needed to be addressed first by the Committee. L. Hauser volunteered to draft a memo that is to be sent to the administrator of each building, inquiring about access to said building. The Committee has asked that a response be made before the next meeting.

3.5 Update on Building Code for Townhouses and Condominiums:

Councillor Robinson reported that presently there is no building code requirements for people with disabilities for townhouses. In terms of condominiums, the building code in this area is limited. Specifically, for seniors who have a hearing impairment, there is a requirement for strobes to be wired. Councillor Robinson recommended that the Committee research other areas such as Burnaby and Surrey before speaking with the City Solicitor regarding the drafting of a bylaw.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will contact T. Arthur from Permits and Licence Department to inquire about the building code requirements for townhouses and condominiums in other areas.

4. New Business:

4.1 Mackin House Plans:

L. Screamin of Iredale Partnership presented on the plans of the restoration of Mackin House. Initially, the building will house civic offices until they move to their new location. Afterwards the building will be under the Coquitlam Heritage Society. Access to the House is through the main floor and basement. The washrooms are located on the main floor and in the basement. They will be accessible. Unfortunately, due to budget limitations, no elevator will be built and therefore there will be no access to the second floor. There is only one disabled parking stall. The Committee recommended that the door of the basement washroom be changed to a sliding door because the door that was shown in the plans does not leave much room in the washroom for a person in a wheelchair to manoeuver. They also recommended that a second disabled parking stall be included. L. Screamin appreciated the invitation to come and present, and the Committee thanked for attending.

4.2 Access to Conferences, Institutes, and Meetings:

D. Douglas shared with the Committee a planning guide titled "Access to Conferences, Institutes, and Meetings" that was developed by the Ministry of Education and Ministry Responsible for Multiculturalism and Human Rights. The guide was used in the planning for the Independence '92 Conference. The purpose of the guide is to assist planners in ensuring that program and facilities are accessible for people with disabilities. For any interested Committee members, G. Wong has two copies.

4.3 City Newsletter:

Councillor Robinson recommended that a Committee update be included in the City Newsletter.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong contact T. Klassen, Director of Administrative Services, to inquire about the City Newsletter and to submit an article about the Committee.

4.4 Social Planning and Review Council of B.C. (SPARC):

G. Wong reported that SPARC does provide temporary disabled parking placards for people with temporary disabilities. The organization is also recruiting volunteers to sit on the Board for a 2 year term, particularly an individual who lives in the Tri-City and who has a disability. The Board meets three to four times in the year on the weekends, and they are involved in the development of new social policies. Councillor Robinson suggested that the above information be relayed to Councillor Parker who sits on the Social Planning Committee.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong write an internal memo to Councillor Parker regarding the request from SPARC for a Board Member.

4.5 New Town Centre Pool:

G. Wong reported that the architect has responded to questions asked by the Committee regarding access issues and the new pool. The Committee read over the memo and felt that not all questions were answered.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will contact S. Borthwick, Manager of Aquatics, regarding the memo written by the architect of the new Town Centre Pool.

4.6 Public Meeting Regarding Health Issue in B.C.:

C. Johnston reported that a special public meeting concerning the future reorganization of health in B.C. is being held on Tuesday, March 30th at 7:00 p.m. in the McDonald Cartier Room of the Social Recreation Centre. The guest speaker is Dennis Cocke who is a former Minister of Health.

4.7 Shaughnessy Closure:

M. Smith wished to discuss the impending closure of Shaughnessy Hospital and its impact on the City of Coquitlam. Since the meeting was coming to a close, Councillor LeClair suggested that the topic be deferred to the next meeting. C. Talbot mentioned that there is an information booklet available that speaks about the closure. She will pass on the contact number to G. Wong.

4.8 The Recreation Council on Disability in Nova Scotia:

C. Talbot reported that the Recreation Council on Disability in Nova Scotia has developed an awards system that recognizes the contributions that volunteers and professionals are making to improve recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities. She circulated a copy of the awards criteria for the Committee to view.

5. Next Meeting:

Thursday, April 22, 1993 at 7:00 p.m.
Coquitlam Public Library - Board Room

6. Adjournment:

8:30 p.m.

THE RECREATION COUNCIL ON DISABILITY
IN NOVA SCOTIA

AWARDS CRITERIA

Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Description of Awards**
- 3. Criteria**
- 4. Key Terms**
- 5. Nomination Form**

Introduction

The Recreation Council on Disability in Nova Scotia has recently redefined its awards system. The Council felt it was imperative to recognize the contributions that both volunteers and professionals are making to improve recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities. In order to achieve this the Council has developed a Volunteer Award and Professional Award in addition to the Facility Excellence Award. All nominees will receive certificates. In order to facilitate the distribution of these awards the Council has enclosed the criteria.

RECREATION COUNCIL ON DISABILITY IN NOVA SCOTIA

AWARDS

Volunteer Award

Is given to an individual or volunteer organization that makes a significant contribution to the development of recreational or leisure opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Criteria:

Voluntary - Candidates must achieve their success in a volunteer capacity.

Innovation - Candidates must show a degree of innovation with regard to developing recreational and leisure opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Leadership - Candidates must exhibit qualities that further the development of recreational and leisure opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Professional Award

Is given to a professional or professional organization that makes a significant contribution to the development of recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Criteria:

Professional - Candidates must achieve their success in a professional capacity.

Innovation - Candidates must show a degree of innovation with regard to developing recreational and leisure opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Leadership - Candidates must exhibit qualities that further the development of recreational and leisure opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Facility Excellence Award

Any individual, community organization, business or municipality is eligible to be nominated for the concept, design, development or modification of any cultural, sports or recreation facility or environmental project initiated in Nova Scotia.

Criteria:

Access - the degree to which the facility or environment provides access to all.

Innovative - the degree to which original ideas have been used to develop a barrier-free design.

Practicality - the degree to which the barrier-free features are useful and functional.

Intregation - the intregation of barrier-free features into the facility or overall environmental design which results in more disabled persons using the facility.

Note:

Nominations must be accompanied by supporting letters, documents and black and white photos of candidates or facilities.

Revised R.C.D.N.S. Awards

The Board of Directors for the Recreation Council on Disability in Nova Scotia has approved the revision of its awards, and the criteria for each. In general, a third award was introduced in order to make it easier to distinguish between the professional and the volunteer. The three awards are the Rick Hansen Volunteer Award, the Rick Hansen Professional Award and the Rick Hansen Facility Excellence Award.

Rick Hansen Volunteer Award

For making a significant contribution to the development of recreation/leisure opportunities for people with a disability (over several years where applicable)

Criteria #1 Max 25 points

Has the person/organization made an outstanding contribution towards the development of recreation/leisure opportunities for people who have a disability? (ie: innovative ideas/techniques to improve recreation/leisure for a person or people with a disability)

Criteria #2 Max 20 points

Has the person/organization achieved their success in a volunteer capacity?

Criteria #3 Max 10 points

Has the person/organization been successful through substantial efforts?

Criteria #4 Max 10 points

Did the person/organization achieve success on one or more occasions?

Criteria #5 Max 15 points

Has the person/organization displayed leadership qualities with respect to further development/enhancement of recreational/leisure opportunities for a person or people with disabilities?

Criteria #6 Max 10 points

Has the person/organization demonstrated a degree of innovation, re: application of new ideas or techniques to enhance or further develop recreational/leisure services.

Criteria #7 Max 10 points

Does the quality of documentation (ie. supportive letters, printed material and a variety of other sources) demonstrate the candidates achievements of merit.

Rick Hansen Professional Award

For making a significant contribution spanning several years to the development of recreation/leisure opportunities for persons who have a disability.

Criteria #1 Max 30 points

Has the person/organization demonstrated a high standard within the profession towards the development of recreation/leisure opportunities for persons who have a disability? (ie. uniqueness and originality of ideas/techniques to improve recreation/leisure opportunities)

Criteria #2 Max 5 points

Has the person/organization achieved their success in a professional capacity as part of the mandate or job description of the organization, or from outside of the organization?

Criteria #3 Max 20 points

Has the person/organization contributed in a significant way to the field of recreation at the local, provincial and/or national level?

Criteria #4 Max 20 points

Has the person/organization a proven record of success in the development and promotion of leisure/recreation opportunities for persons with a disability.

Criteria #5 Max 20 points

Has the person/organization provided exceptional qualities in effective leadership on an administrative, training and/or educational level? If yes, please list achievements.

Criteria #6 Max 10 points

Has the person/organization made a contribution to the body of knowledge within the field through written material, the dissemination of information and/or contributing to national, regional and/or local committees?

Criteria #7 Max 5 points

Has the quality of documentation (ie. supportive letters, print material and a variety of sources that demonstrate the candidates achievements of merit?

The Rick Hansen Facility Excellence Award

For excellence in the design and modification of facilities and environments that provide ease of access and use for everyone. For the concept, design, development or modification of any cultural, sports or recreation facility or environment project in Nova Scotia.

Criteria #1 Max 25 points

Has the individual, community organization, business, municipality made an outstanding contribution to improving and providing access to facilities/environments?

Criteria #2 Max 20 points

Has the facility/environment become functional, useful and practical regarding access for all?

Criteria #3 Max 10 points

Has there been evidence of integration of barrier-free features into the facility design?

Criteria #4 Max 10 points

Has there been evidence of originality and innovation in the barrier-free design?

Criteria #5 Max 15 points

Has the facility/environment seen a significant increase in the number of persons with a disability using the facility/environment since the level of accessibility was increased.

Criteria #6 Max 10 points

Has the individual, community organization, business, municipality made substantial efforts to achieve a barrier-free environment?

Criteria #7 Max 10 points

Does the documentation through supportive letters, print material, etc. demonstrate achievements of merit.

Note

Due to the wide variance in populations served in the province, a weight score will be added to the score given for criteria numbers one to 7 when evaluating the facility award.

<u>Population</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Score</u>
000000 - 005000	11.5	050000 - 055000	6.5
005000 - 010000	11.0	055000 - 060000	6.0
010000 - 015000	10.5	060000 - 065000	5.5
015000 - 020000	10.0	065000 - 070000	5.0
020000 - 025000	9.5	070000 - 075000	4.5
025000 - 030000	9.0	075000 - 080000	4.0
030000 - 035000	8.5	080000 - 085000	3.5
035000 - 040000	8.0	085000 - 090000	3.0
040000 - 045000	7.5	090000 - 095000	2.5
045000 - 050000	7.0	095000 - 100000	2.0
		Over 100000	1.0

Deadline for applications is August 30, 1992

Keys Terms

Volunteer and Professional Awards

Leadership - exhibiting qualities that further the development of potential in people.

Innovation - application of new ideas and techniques.

Impact - improvement in the quality of life.

Facility Excellence Award

Access - the degree to which the facility or environment provides access to all individuals.

Practicality - the degree to which barrier-free features are functional and useful.

Integration - the integration of barrier-free features into the overall design of the facility or environment.

Innovation - originality in the barrier-free feature.

Please Send To:

Chairperson , Awards Committee
Recreation Council on Disability in Nova Scotia
Suite 308, 5516 Spring Garden Road
Halifax, N.S.
B3J 1B6

We hereby nominate for the: Volunteer Award
 Professional Award
 Facility of Excellence Award

Name of Nominee: _____

Address of Nominee: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please attach a statement of 500 words or less describing the nominee's contribution. Keep in mind the award criteria. Supporting documents such as newspaper clippings, letters of support, testimonials, and at least one black and white photo should accompany the nomination.

Nominated By: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Handicapped-accessible playgrounds a priority

by KEVIN SWAYZE

Municipalities shouldn't wait until legislation forces them to give handicapped citizens easy access to playgrounds, parks and nature areas, an Ontario park design expert says. "It must become a priority," says Vic Hergott, manager of parks for the city of Brantford and past president of the Ontario Parks Association. "The disabled user should have the same access as a regular user. Why should a park not be accessible to a disabled person when it's accessible to everyone else?"

That kind of discrimination was outlawed in the United States, with the introduction of the American Disability Act in January 1992, Hergott says. It requires that public facilities offer easy access to people with handicaps. While similar legislation isn't on the books anywhere in Canada yet, he expects it soon: "I am certain it will be in place within five years in Ontario, if not across Canada."

When Hergott worked as superintendent of parks for the city of Cambridge, he pushed for and — with the financial help of the local Optimist Club — received a handicapped-accessible play structure installed in one of the city's main parks. With only \$18,000 in the parks budget to spend on a play structure in Churchill Park, he went begging to the service clubs supporting the community around the park. Optimist Club members were happy to chip in the extra \$8,000 needed to buy the equipment, Hergott says.

Paris Playground Equipment supplied the structure, stretching almost 20 metres along a park pathway beside mature trees. At one end, a two-metre-wide, double ramp leads into the unit. Each half of the ramp is wide enough for a wheelchair to climb. Over one side of the ramp, horizontal rungs are low enough for children in and out of wheelchairs to reach up and grasp. Gently sloping ramps continue to rise into the structure, stopping at platforms where a giant plastic tic-tac-toe game can be played along the guardrail, or a chest-high steering wheel can be spun. In other spots on the unit, children can crawl into plastic tubes or up into lookouts. On the highest platform, a child can jump onto a bright yellow plastic spiral slide for a fast trip to the ground.

Hergott left Cambridge for Brantford about the time the structure was dedicated in the summer of 1991. Calling his Cambridge project a good first attempt, he's now working on comprehensive plan to overhaul Brantford's main park, making it a showcase for handicapped accessibility. He wants all facilities in 12-hectare Mohawk Park accessible to people with disabilities, from the play equipment to the washrooms to the paths through a wooded nature area. "Upon completion, we see it as a model for the entire province," he says.



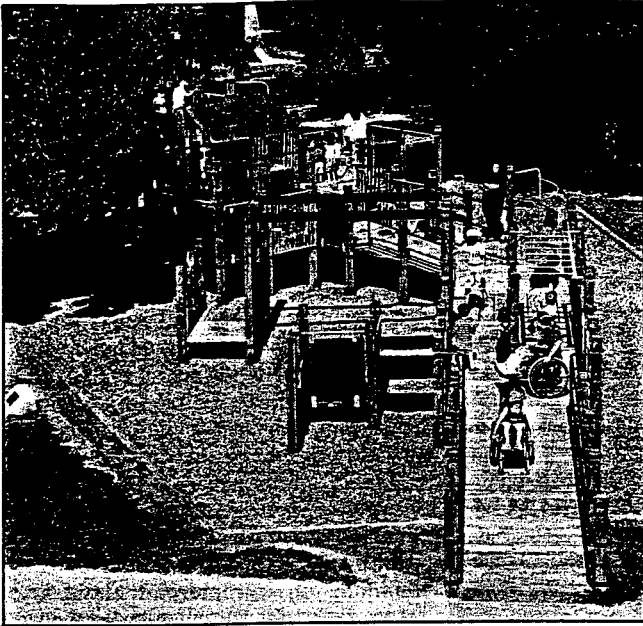
Churchill Park: The play structure is built in levels, gradually rising far enough above the ground to accommodate a plastic spiral slide.

Again, money is the main stumbling block. Overhauling the park — which currently has no handicapped facilities — will cost about \$400,000 and take four years to complete. Early this year, Hergott canvassed community groups and service clubs to ask for a financial commitment to the plan. The first phase — which includes new play structures and renovating one of the washrooms — will cost about \$90,000. Subsequent phases will cost at least \$90,000 in each of the following years.

New park facilities won't just make it easier for wheelchair users to get around and enjoy themselves, Hergott says. There are other people to consider as well. Blind people, for example, need different help than people using canes, or wheelchairs. "It's easy to forget other disabilities, because all we remember are the wheelchairs."

Hergott says it's important to remember that play equipment must be easy to use for both disabled and able-bodied children. That's something he would consider if he were to redesign the structure in Cambridge's Churchill Park. While its features are a great improvement over what's found on most playgrounds, it still confines children to their wheelchairs to have fun. It doesn't easily allow children to climb from their wheelchairs and play in all areas. "They don't necessarily need to be in a wheelchair, if you provide them with more transfer points. By doing that, you allow them to go and play by themselves or with other able-bodied children."

Steve Howes, coordinator of marketing and international



A ramp at one end of the structure gives easy access to all children.

sales at Paris Playground Equipment, in Paris, Ontario, agrees. But he notes there are different ways to look at playground accessibility, and they must be part of the equation. "There are two schools of thought on accessible play structures: the access ramp theory and the transfer point theory. Ramps allow access to the play structure, but if there's no money available for ramps, steps up can be used instead. A child in a wheelchair crawls out of the wheelchair onto the structure and plays."

Play structures using transfer points, or stand-alone units like spinning roundabouts, are cheaper to install than

"It's important to remember that play equipment must be easy to use for both disabled and able-bodied children." — Vic Hergott

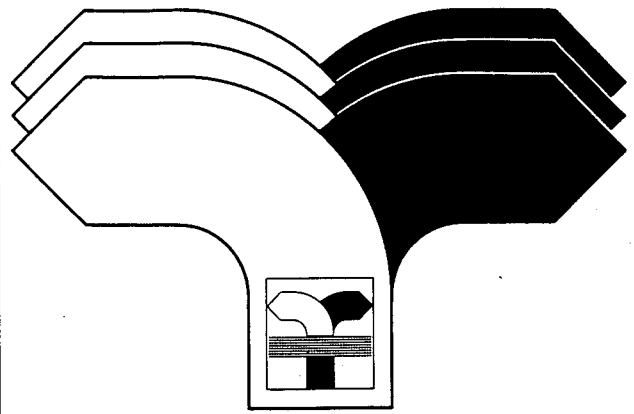
ramped units, Howes says. "But they need rubber safety surfacing around the structure, and that's expensive. Most injuries in playgrounds come from falls. In general terms, it's going to break out even in total cost."

The amount of space available for a play structure is also important, Howes says. Wide, flat areas are easiest to build on, and allow for expansion later on if a modular play system is purchased.

Also, the age of the children using the equipment dictates what style is needed. "Children age two to five have different needs than children age six to 12, and you have to ask if any or all of the structure are going to be accessible to children with disabilities," Howes says. Building a structure in stages, or deciding to buy stand-alone play units like slides, riding animals or swing sets over several years can stretch limited funds, he adds.

Another consideration when designing a play structure is giving easy adult access — especially if the work will be done by a local metal shop unfamiliar with modern playground equipment design and construction, Howes says. "Your design must not only address children in wheelchairs, it also must accommodate disabled parents. They need access too, to play with their children." ♦

Mr. Swayze is a freelance writer based in Cambridge, Ontario.



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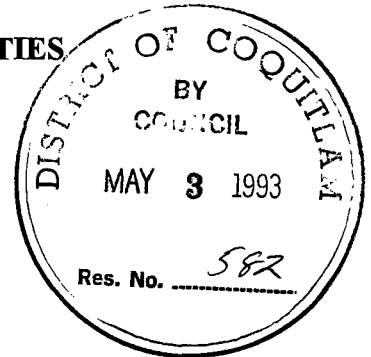
COQUITLAM



506

Mayor L. Sekora

**MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1993 - 7:00 P.M.
COQUITLAM PUBLIC LIBRARY - BOARD ROOM**



- Present:** L. Hauser, Temporary Chair
L. Hodge
C. Johnston
A. Nelson
M. Smith
C. Talbot
G. Wong
- Absent:** Councillor B. Robinson, Chair
Councillor B. LeClair
D. Douglas
- Guests:** Bill Low, Manager of Facilities, School Board
Jim Rose, Architect

1. Agenda Approved
2. Minutes of March 25, 1993 Approved
3. Business Arising:

Please Note: G. Wong extended apologies to the Committee from Councillors Robinson and LeClair. Their attendance was required at a public meeting. Councillor Robinson appointed L. Hauser to temporarily chair the meeting.

3.1 Update on Promotions Committee:

D. Douglas was not in attendance. L. Hauser deferred the matter to the next Committee meeting.

3.2 Update on Accessibility Award Committee:

C. Talbot reported that no nominations have been received by the Award Committee. They have been in contact with T. Arthur of Permits and Licences, who gave a list of addresses of places that have been built within the last two years. The Award Committee will personally contact each place and recommend that a nomination be submitted. The award luncheon is scheduled for May 20. Committee members are requested to confirm their attendance with G. Wong.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will confirm payment of the award luncheon and number of people attending with T. Klassen of the Clerk's Office.

3.3 Update on Accessibility of Civic Buildings:

L. Hauser reported that a memo regarding access concerns about civic buildings were sent out. Responses have been returned with the exception of three buildings.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will contact the administrators of the three buildings and ask for a response regarding access issues.

3.4 Update on Building Code Requirements for Townhouses and Condominiums:

G. Wong reported that she was in contact with P. Olynyk of Permits and Licence. He did not have any information about the building code requirements for townhouses and condominiums in other neighbouring cities. He advised that contact be made with the Permits and Licences Department in those cities.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will contact the directors of the Permits and Licence Departments in Surrey and Burnaby to inquire about the building code requirements for townhouses and condominiums.

3.5 Update on Ramp for Town Centre Playground:

G. Wong reported that the Parks Department expressed a concern about the placement of a ramp at the Town Centre playground. Since the playground is resting upon soft material, a wheelchair could get stuck when the weather is wet. The Committee believed that the playground scenario is no different than an individual in a wheelchair who is accessing Como Lake or Mundy Park trails. The Committee recommended that a ramp be placed at the Town Centre playground.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will contact M. Bird of the Parks Department and ask that a ramp be placed at the Town Centre playground.

3.6 Update on Lawn Bowling Green:

G. Wong reported that the Parks Department has built a ramp that is safe for people in wheelchairs to use when accessing the green. She and L. Hauser will be going through a dry run before inviting the President of the Lawn Bowling Club to observe and before inviting a group from Chimo Achievement Centre to come and try the sport.

4. New Business:

4.1 School Board Plans:

B. Low, Manager of Facilities for the School Board spoke about the retrofitting of existing schools. He distributed a list of schools whose access for people with disabilities were planning to be improved. He works closely with Don Chapman of Student Services in determining which schools are retrofitted. The School Board is required to apply for funding each year. Last year, \$250,000 was made available for retrofitting. This year, the School Board only received \$67,000. For the Committee's information, elevators are preferred over the use of a stair lift because the former is more versatile.

Next, Jim Rose who is one of the main architects responsible for building new schools in Coquiltam (e.g. Panorama Heights) walked the Committee through the design of an imaginary school, emphasizing access requirements for people with disabilities.

- Architect must adhere to the building requirements for persons with disabilities (Section 3.7).
- Accessible parking area and disabled parking spaces.
- Entrance to school-ramp, stairs with extension on hand railings, tactile strips on stairs, automatic doors, special threshold so person can enter through door, minimum width required to reach door.
- Lever handles for doors.
- Low counter for assistance.
- Varying shelf heights.
- Accessible stage and multipurpose area.
- Washroom - one individual, unisex washroom is mandatory.
 - other washrooms have at least one handicapped stall
- Health - must have accessible shower and washroom.
- If school has multiple floors, each floor must have an accessible washroom.
- Elevator for access from floor to floor.
- Showers - pull down seat from wall and hand held shower head.
- Auditorium - listening system
 - wheelchair seating - generally located at the front.
- Building Code currently does not address hearing and visually impaired adequately.

L. Hauser thanked B. Low and J. Rose for attending the meeting and giving such a thorough presentation. She encouraged the School Board to submit a nomination form(s) for Panorama Heights and any other schools.

4.2 Shaughnessy Closure:

M. Smith led a discussion about the impending closure of Shaughnessy Hospital. She expressed a concern about the impact of the closure upon Coquitlam residents. G. Wong reported that information about the closure is forthcoming. M. Smith recommended that a letter expressing the Committee's concern be written and forwarded to Elizabeth Cull, the Minister of Health. Since neither Councillors were available, the Committee suggested that the letter be drafted and discussed at the next Committee meeting.

Committee Action:

That M. Smith will draft a letter of concern regarding the impact of Shaughnessy closure upon Coquitlam residents.

4.3 Children's Hospital - New Wing:

C. Talbot reported that Children's Hospital is planning for a new wing for ambulatory care and were looking into utilizing the space that will be made available if Shaughnessy closes down.

4.4 Traffic Signage for People Who are Deaf:

G. Wong reported on behalf of Councillor B. Robinson who was wanting to inquire about the feasibility and availability of traffic signs for children who are deaf. He stressed the importance of the Committee being proactive versus reactive. He cited an example in Washington State whereby a private business donated \$200 for the creation of such a sign.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will contact C. Mohoruk of the Traffic Department to inquire about the feasibility and availability of traffic signs for children who are deaf.

5. Next Meeting:

Thursday, May 27, 1993 at 7:00 p.m.
Coquitlam Public Library - Board Room

6. Adjournment:

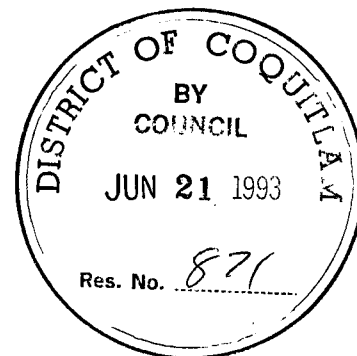
8:30 p.m.



Mayor L. Sekora

MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1993 - 7:00 P.M.
COQUITLAM PUBLIC LIBRARY - BOARD ROOM

504



Present: Councillor B. Robinson - Chair
L. Hauser
L. Hodge
C. Johnston
A. Nelson
G. Wong

Absent: Councillor W. LeClair
D. Douglas
M. Smith
C. Talbot

Guests: G. Shinkewski, Chairperson, Design Panel

- 1. Agenda Approved
- 2. Minutes of April 22, 1993 Approved
- 3. Business Arising:

3.1 Update on Promotions Committee:

G. Wong reported that D. Douglas was unable to attend the meeting and extended her apologies. A draft copy of the Committee brochure was distributed amongst members. The Committee requested some minor changes and overall, were satisfied with the brochure. D. Douglas was commended for her contribution and hard work.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong relay the changes to D. Douglas regarding the Committee brochure.

MM

3.2 Update on Accessibility Award:

L. Hauser reported that the Chamber of Commerce Luncheon was well attended by the award winners. Congratulations to this year's winners:

Residential Category: Pacific Provincial Rental Housing Corp.

Institutional Category: Panorama Heights Elementary

Honourable Mention: Montgomery Junior Secondary

Coquitlam Lawn Bowling Club

Commercial Category: Raven Construction Ltd.

906 Roderick Ave.

Industrial Category: Ebco Co./Hamilton Partners

Aircare Building

Councillor Robinson extended a thanks to the Chamber of Commerce for funding the awards and providing a venue for the presentation. He also congratulated the Nominations Committee, L. Hauser, M. Smith, C. Talbot and T. Arthur for a job well done.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will write a letter of thanks to the Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the Committee.


3.3 Update on Accessibility of Civic Buildings:

L. Hauser reported that all memos regarding the access of civic buildings have been answered. The only two locations that require action are Blue Mountain Park and the fire stations.


Committee Action:

That G. Wong will contact D. Palidwor of the Parks Department regarding Blue Mountain Park and T. Arthur of Permits and Licences Department regarding the fire stations.

3.4 Update on Building Code for Townhouses and Condominiums:

G. Wong reported that she had researched the Cities of Burnaby and Vancouver regarding the building code for townhouses and condominiums. In Burnaby and Vancouver, they are exempted from the 3.7 building code. Disabled parking and access into the building are mandatory however. An individual suite is not made accessible unless a person with a disability plans to live in the suite. Councillor Robinson will pursue the matter further with U.B.C.M. 

Committee Action:

That Councillor Robinson will research the possibility of a building code for townhouses and condominiums with U.B.C. 

3.5 Update on Shaughnessy Closure (Letter of Concern):

G. Wong reported that M. Smith will draft a letter of concern regarding the Shaughnessy closure that will be attached to the Minutes. Members are asked to read and comment at the next Committee Meeting.

3.6 Traffic Signage for People Who Are Deaf:

G. Wong reported that a memo regarding the feasibility and availability of traffic signs for children who are deaf was forwarded to T. Murphy of the Engineering Department. No response has been made yet.

3.7 New Leisure Pool:

G. Wong reported that she met with S. Borthwick, the Manager of Aquatics, regarding the list of concerns about the new pool. The majority of questions were answered. The outstanding issues were the following:

- list of equipment needs; i.e. shower/pool chair
- proper lighting for the visually impaired.

The Committee recommended that a tour of the pool be scheduled before its completion.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will approach G. Briggs-Simpson of Chimo Achievement Centre to inquire about possible equipment needs. That G. Wong will approach the C.N.I.B. regarding the guidelines of proper lighting for the visually impaired.

4. New Business:

4.1 City Design Panel:

G. Shinkewski, the chairperson of the City Design Panel, spoke about the purpose of the Committee. It was formed after the master community plan was implemented. The Committee is composed of three architects, an engineer, landscape architect, and an interior designer. The role of the group is to look at the esthetic quality of a project. He stated that he is witnessing more sensitivity in each project such as access issues. He will also focus on access if he anticipates a problem. The needs of one disabled group can also be in opposition with the needs of another disabled group. In this scenerio, a good compromise must be found. Councillor B. Robinson thanked G. Shinkewski for his presentation.

4.2 National Access Awareness Week:

G. Wong reminded the Committee that National Access Awareness Week is scheduled for May 31 to June 6. The following events will be taking place:

1. A photographic display of the access award winners will be ready for viewing during the month of June at the library on Poirier.
2. The Municipal Advisory Committee on Disability is hosting a performance of Theatre Terrific on Friday, June 4th at 7:00 p.m. at Hyde Creek Centre in Port Coquitlam.
3. The disabled parking cards are ready for distribution to the public. During NAAW, the cards will be made available to all civic staff.

4.3 B.C. Coalition of People with Disabilities Report:

G. Wong reported that C. Talbot has made available a report from the B.C. Coalition of People with Disabilities regarding recommendations around accessible parking for people with disabilities. The Coalition is requesting a letter of endorsement from the Committee.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will attach a copy of the recommendations to the Minutes and ask for members' comments at the next Committee Meeting.

5. Next Meeting:

Thursday, June 24, 1993 at 7:00 p.m.
Coquitlam Public Library - Board Room

6. Adjournment:

8:30 p.m.

DRAFT

TO: Honourable Minister Elizabeth Cull
Health Minister

**RE: THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF THE SPINAL CORD
INJURY UNIT AT SHAUGHNESSY HOSPITAL**

The City of Coquitlam Council is aware of the proposal developed by your office to move the Spinal Cord Injury Unit from Shaughnessy Hospital to Vancouver General Hospital. The plan was to proceed quickly.

Coquitlam citizens are amongst those newly injured in B.C. who use this facility. Over its 15 years of operation, the facility has become widely known in North America as a state-of-the-art resource for the very seriously injured, with its excellent results. It differs from other Shaughnessy sources, as it is extremely specialized, (i.e. serves spinal cord injured only), and it is centralized, being the only resource of its kind in the province. The history of Vancouver General Hospital in treating spinal cord injuries in the past was not positive.

The concern that Council has is that Coquitlam citizens may find that a relocation (preceeded by a disruptive move) may result in a lower quality service with poor results for our citizens as well as other B.C. residents. We know that the present service works well in its present location, but we do not know whether any changes such as those proposed, will benefit users of the service.

We would appreciate a reply updating us on any relevant developments and addressing our concern on the question of whether any benefit is achieved by making changes.

Yours sincerely,

The Mayor's Committee on People with Disabilities
City of Coquitlam Council

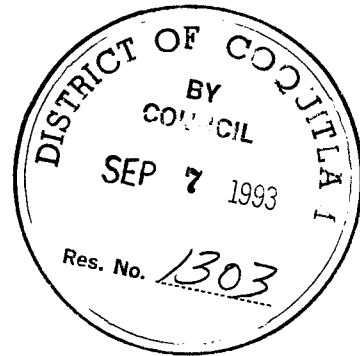


Mayor L. Sekora

MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 1993 - 7:00 P.M.
COQUITLAM PUBLIC LIBRARY - BOARD ROOM

504

Present: L. Hauser - Temporary Chair
L. Hodge
C. Johnston
A. Nelson
M. Smith
G. Wong



Absent: Councillor B. Robinson, Chair
Councillor W. LeClair
D. Douglas
C. Talbot

Guests: Don Chapman, Director of Student Services

1. Agenda Approved
2. Minutes of May 27, 1993 Approved
3. Business Arising:

Please Note: G. Wong extended apologies to the Committee from Councillors Robinson and LeClair. Their attendance was required at a public meeting. Councillor Robinson appointed L. Hauser to temporarily chair the meeting.

3.1 Update on Promotions Committee:

G. Wong reported that D. Douglas was unable to attend the meeting and extended her apologies. G. Wong will be following up with the brochure regarding its printing and distribution.

3.2 Update on Accessibility of Civic Buildings:

G. Wong reported that a memo regarding wheelchair access at Blue Mountain Park has been sent to the Parks Administrator, B. Elliott, and that changes be included in the 1994 Capital Program. She also reported that a memo regarding the bylaw for wheelchair washrooms at the fire stations has been sent to T. Arthur of Permits and Licences. The checklist will be updated to include any new changes.

3.3 Update on Building Code for Townhouses and Condominiums:

Councillor Robinson was not in attendance to speak about the building code. L. Hauser asked that the matter be deferred to the next Committee meeting.

3.4 Update on Shaughnessy Closure (Letter of Concern):

M. Smith reported that a draft copy of the Committee's concern regarding the Shaughnessy Hospital closure was sent to each Committee member. The Committee approved the draft and are now awaiting approval from Councillor Robinson.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will forward the Shaughnessy Hospital letter to Councillor Robinson for approval.

3.5 Traffic Signage for People Who Are Deaf:

G. Wong reported that the Engineering Department has yet to respond to the memo regarding traffic signage for people who are deaf. She will contact T. Murphy from the Engineering Department for further information.

3.6 Update on New Leisure Pool:

G. Wong reported that she will be in contact with Geri Briggs-Simpson of Chimo Achievement Centre and the C.N.I.B. to inquire about equipment needs and lighting requirements for people with visual impairments, respectively. The Committee recommended that Angela Arandelovic, the Pool Manager with Stan Stronge Pool, be invited to tour the new leisure pool before its completion.

3.7 B.C. Coalition of People with Disabilities Report:

G. Wong reported that the B.C. Coalition of People with Disabilities are requesting a letter of support regarding recommendations made for disabled parking. The Committee gave its approval and also wished that the following concerns be highlighted: the misuse of disabled parking placards and the lengthy process of registering for temporary placards.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will write a letter of support on behalf of the Committee regarding the recommendations made for disabled parking.

4. New Business:

4.1 Student Services - School District No. 43:

Don Chapman, Director of Student Services, spoke about the services offered by his department. The services are based upon the following belief system:

- support system is part of one system
- cooperation / collaboration
- services should follow the child
- parents are partners
- accountability is important
- diversity is a strength
- early intervention and prevention should be a focus

Funding is allotted on a per student basis, and the amount is based upon the disability. School District No. 43 is rated low on the scale with respect to funding from the province. Staff in Student Services provide support services to teachers and parents, and work closely with community and government agencies to better the needs of each child. The Department has moved away from the concept of integration and instead refer to the concept of inclusion because of its deeper meaning. Inclusion involves a sense of belonging and acceptance in the community.

L. Hauser thanked D. Chapman for giving such a thorough and informative presentation.

4.2 Future Committee Meetings:

G. Wong reported that starting in September, Committee meetings will be held on the first Thursday of every month. The meetings are scheduled as follows:

September 2
October 7
November 4
December 2

4.3 Lack of Curb Cuts:

A. Nelson reported on behalf of Chimo Achievement Centre about problems encountered by the members in other cities when accessing sidewalks. Some members have experienced difficulties maneuvering around when curb cuts are absent from the sidewalk. The Committee suggested that the member contact the Traffic Department or Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities in that city.

4.4 New Committee Name:

C. Johnston put forward a suggestion that the Committee change its present name to Accessibility. L. Hauser recommended that this item be deferred to the next Committee meeting.

5. Next Meeting:

Thursday, September 2, 1993 at 7:00 p.m.
Coquitlam Public Library - Board Room

6. Adjournment:

8:30 p.m.

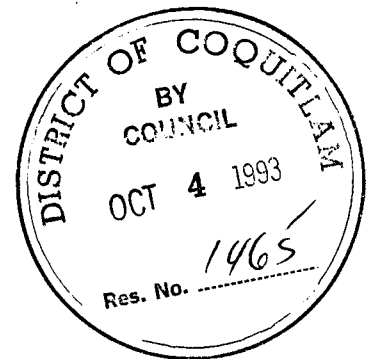


506

Mayor L. Sekora

**MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1993 - 7:00 P.M.
COQUITLAM PUBLIC LIBRARY - BOARD ROOM**

Present: Councillor B. Robinson, Chairperson
C. Dishaw
L. Hodge
L. Hauser
C. Johnston
A. Nelson
M. Smith
C. Talbot
G. Wong



Absent: Councillor B. LeClair
D. Douglas

1. Agenda Approved
2. Minutes of June 24, 1993 Approved
3. Business Arising:

3.1 Update on Promotions Committee:

G. Wong reported that the Committee brochure has been completed and is ready for public distribution. The brochure was handed out to each member and will be distributed along with the disabled parking card.

3.2 Update on Building Code for Townhouses and Condominiums:

Councillor Robinson reported that the information has not been obtained and will be brought back to the group upon its availability. Discussion then ensued about the lack of accessible housing for people with disabilities. M. Smith brought to the Committee's attention about Westwood Plateau and the lack of accessible units. Councillor Robinson commented that plots of land have been set aside in the area for social housing but the interest is not there for development.

W

3.3 New Committee Name:

C. Johnston proposed that the Committee be renamed Accessibility.

MOVED BY C. JOHNSTON
SECONDED BY C. TALBOT

That discussion take place about the proposed new name. Committee members believed that the current name reflects what we do and is in line with what other organizations are called.

MOVED BY C. JOHNSTON
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR ROBINSON

That the Committee be renamed Accessibility.

DEFEATED

3.4 Five Year Capital Budget Meeting with Parks Department:

G. Wong reported that she was invited by the Parks Department to provide input into the Park's Five Year Capital Budget. She brought forward the idea of an accessible playground for children of all ability levels to use. The Parks Department agreed and are planning for its development in 1996. Beforehand, it was suggested that a playground planning committee be created to pursue funding sources and to work closely with the Parks Department in terms of the design. This committee would be a separate entity from the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities. L. Hauser expressed an interest in joining the playground planning committee.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will work in conjunction with the Parks Department in forming a playground planning committee and will recommend that L. Hauser be invited to join.

3.5 Coquitlam Centre Correspondence:

Councillor Robinson reported that a resident from the community brought to his attention about the absence of automated doors at the Coquitlam Shopping Centre. He then wrote a letter to bring the matter to the shopping mall's attention. The Mall Manager responded back and informed the Committee that the shopping mall anticipates the installation of automated doors at the north and south entrance once the budget has been approved. C. Talbot recommended that the Coquitlam Shopping Centre apply for next year's Access Award. Councillor Robinson also added that the Westminster Credit Union has an accessible bank machine and can also apply for the Access Award.

3.6 Walter Ohirko Correspondence:

Councillor Robinson asked that the correspondence from Walter Ohirko dated July 26, 1993 be received.

3.7 Shaughnessy Closure Correspondence:

Councillor Robinson reported that the Minister of Health, Elizabeth Cull, responded to the Committee's letter of inquiry dated July 7, 1993. In summary, Ms. Cull stressed the commitment to retain all aspects of the Spinal Cord Injury Unit and other associated programs that will be provided by Vancouver General Hospital.

3.8 Disabled Sailing Correspondence:

Councillor Robinson reported that the Disabled Sailing Association of B.C. invited him to witness the first ever solo sail by a high-level quadriplegic in late August. Unfortunately, he was away on vacation and therefore, unable to attend. He asked that G. Wong respond to the letter on his behalf.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will write a letter to the Disabled Sailing Association of B.C. on behalf of Councillor Robinson.

3.9 Social Planning Committee - Terms of Reference:

Councillor Robinson presented a copy of the terms of reference from the Social Planning Committee. Since they were in draft form, he asked G. Wong to check with the Clerk's Office for the most up-to-date copy.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will check with the Clerk's Office for the most up-to-date copy of the terms of reference from the Social Planning Committee.

3.10 Coquitlam Comment Card:

Councillor Robinson reported that he completed a comment card on G. Wong and T. Arthur for the contributions that they have made to the Committee. The card was forwarded to N. Cook, City Manager.

3.11 Miller Park Playground:

G. Wong and L. Hauser presented a video tape of the new Miller Park Playground to the Committee. Some residents in the community have had questions about its accessibility. Councillor Robinson recommended that representatives from the Miller Park Playground Committee be invited to attend a future Committee meeting. The Committee could also inquire about the new additions.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will write a letter to the Miller Park Playground Committee on behalf of the Committee to invite a representative(s) to attend a future Committee meeting.

3.12 Future Speakers and Format:

G. Wong asked the Committee how they would like to format future meetings. The Committee would like to invite guests for the first hour when the need arises.

3.13 Lawn Bowling Procedures:

G. Wong reported that a group from Chimo Achievement Centre tried a game of lawn bowling on August 19th with assistance from members of the lawn bowling club and J. Plasteras, the greenskeeper. Though the afternoon was hot and playing time was therefore short, the players enjoyed the game immensely. The task now is to develop playing procedures in conjunction with the lawn bowling club. L. Hauser expressed an interest in assisting with this task. Councillor Robinson recommended that a letter of appreciation be sent to J. Plasteras for his valuable assistance in setting up the greens for wheelchair participation.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will consult with the lawn bowling club to develop playing procedures for wheelchair participation and that L. Hauser will assist with the task. That G. Wong will write a letter of appreciation to J. Plasteras on behalf of the Committee to thank him for his assistance in setting up the greens for wheelchair participation.

3.14 Temporary Parking Placard:

C. Johnston wanted to inquire about the application process for the use of a temporary parking placard. When he applied for such a card, the process time was lengthy. C. Talbot recommended that an inquiry be made to SPARC about this matter.

Committee Action:

That G. Wong will contact SPARC to inquire about the application for a temporary parking placard and the time it takes to process such a card.

4. New Business:

4.1 International Day for People with Disabilities:

M. Smith reported that the United Nations declared December 3rd as International Day for People with Disabilities. She will bring information about this event to the next meeting.

4.2 Health Fair:

C. Johnston reported that the Cancer Society informed him about an upcoming Health Fair to be held at Lougheed Mall on September 22-24.

4.3 Leave of Absence:

G. Wong reported that she will be taking a two month leave of absence from the department beginning in October. C. Dishaw will be replacing her and attending future Committee meetings on her behalf.

5. Next Meeting:

Thursday, October 7, 1993 at 7:00 p.m.
Coquitlam Public Library - Board Room

6. Adjournment:

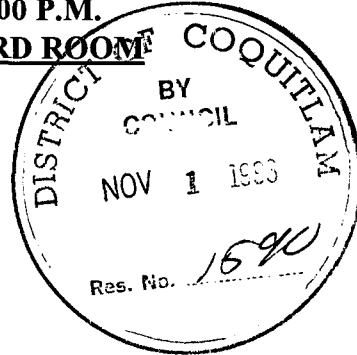
8:30 p.m.



Mayor L. Sekora

504

**MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1993 - 7:00 P.M.
COQUITLAM PUBLIC LIBRARY - BOARD ROOM**



Present: Councillor B. Robinson, Chairperson
Councillor B. LeClair
C. Dishaw
L. Hodge
L. Hauser
C. Johnston
M. Smith
C. Talbot

Absent: D. Douglas
A. Nelson

Guest: E. Benndorf

1. Agenda Approved
2. Minutes of September 2, 1993 Approved as Amended
3. Business Arising:

3.1 Update on Playground Planning Committee:

L. Hauser reported that the formation of the Playground Committee will be deferred until G. Wong returns in December.

3.2 Update on Lawn Bowling Procedures:

L. Hauser reported that she has not yet met with the Lawn Bowling group. L. Hauser and C. Dishaw will be meeting with the Lawn Bowling group to go over the procedures for the use of the Lawn Bowling Green.

Committee Action:

L. Hauser and C. Dishaw will consult with the Lawn Bowling club to develop playing procedures for wheelchair participation.

3.3 Update on Temporary Parking Placard:

C. Johnston reported from SPARC regarding temporary disabled parking permits. Permits can take 2-3 weeks for processing due to staffing and number of permits being processed. C. Johnston contacted the City Manager in Coquitlam regarding the feasibility of the Permits and Licensing Department taking on the task of issuing temporary parking permits. The City Manager will be contacting C. Johnston with a reply regarding the permits.

3.4 Update on International Day for People with Disabilities:

M. Smith reported that December 3rd is International Day of Disabled Persons. M. Smith provided an information kit produced by Disability Awareness in Action to educate and promote organizations about the rights of disabled people everywhere. The information kit and the International Day are in response to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Resolution 1993/29 of 5 March 1993.

Committee Action:

C. Dishaw to send a Declaration to the Mayor's Office regarding December 3rd being "International Day of Disabled Persons".

3.5 Update on Signage for People Who are Deaf:

C. Dishaw reported for G. Wong that Tim Murphy from the City Engineering Department did not want to have traffic signs that were disability specific. The Department would rather go with signs that read "Caution". Suggestion was made that contact be made with organizations that advocate for the deaf to get feedback about signage.

Committee Action:

C. Dishaw will contact organizations for the deaf for their feedback on traffic signs for the deaf.

4. New Business:

4.1 Guest: Ella Benndorf re: Environmental Illness:

E. Benndorf attended the meeting on behalf of a friend who suffers from Environmental Illness.

4.2 Letter from Margaret Dunkley in Tumbler Ridge:

M. Smith shared a letter requesting information about the Mayor's Committee with People with Disabilities. Margaret Dunkley of Tumbler Ridge is looking to form the Committee in her community.

Committee Action:

Committee to send information to Tumbler Ridge.

4.3 Meeting with Leisure and Parks:

M. Smith reported on her meeting with Leisure and Parks staff. The City is planning for accessible parks.

Committee Action:

Committee to send letter to Dave Palidwor, the Parks Design Technician, in appreciation.

4.4 Pool Tour:

C. Dishaw asked if the Committee would be interested in going through the new pool complex before completion to ensure accessibility and suggest any changes. C. Dishaw requested to contact Angela Arandelovic from G.F. Strong to attend tour.

4.5 B.C. Coalition for the Disabled:

M. Smith reported on meeting with B.C. Coalition for the Disabled. Letter of support to be sent regarding checklist for building requirements for Persons with Disabilities from the British Columbia Building Code, Section 3.7.

Committee Action:

M. Smith to send letter of support regarding Section 3.7 of the Building Code.

4.6 Work Experience for Students with Disabilities:

L. Hodge reported on shortage of work experience placements in the School District for children with disabilities.

Committee Action:

Councillor Robinson to inquire about work experience placements in the City.

5. Next Meeting:

Thursday, November 4, 1993 at 7:00 p.m.
Coquitlam Public Library - Board Room

6. Adjournment:

8:20 p.m.

CITY OF

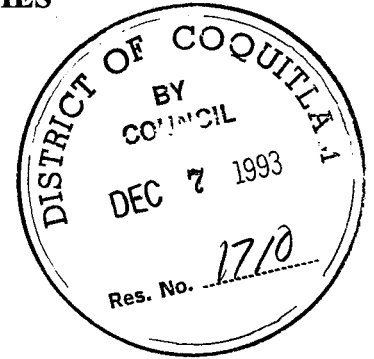
COQUITLAM



Mayor L. Sekora

505

**MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1993 - 7:00 P.M.
COQUITLAM PUBLIC LIBRARY - BOARD ROOM**



Present: C. Dishaw
L. Hodge
L. Hauser
C. Johnston
A. Nelson
M. Smith
D. Douglas

Absent: Councillor B. Robinson
Councillor B. LeClair
C. Talbot

Guest: K. Knittle

1. Agenda Approved
2. Minutes of October 7, 1993 Approved as Amended

2.2 Guest: Kim Knittle Representing the Miller Park Playground Committee:

K. Knittle attended the meeting to address the concerns that the Committee had about the playground not being accessible at Miller Park School. K. Knittle shared the concerns of the Committee and acknowledged that the playground was inaccessible. The Playground Committee is going to raise more money to complete the project and make the playground more accessible, by building a ramp up to the equipment at a cost of \$15,000.

A handwritten signature, likely of Kim Knittle, in dark ink.

3. Business Arising:

3.1 Update on Lawn Bowling Procedures:

C. Dishaw informed the Committee that the Lawn Bowling Club was in the midst of an executive election in their sports group but they would get in touch with the Mayor's Committee at a later date.

3.2 Temporary Parking Permits:

C. Johnston read a letter sent to him by the City Manager from the Director of Permits and Licences. The letter indicates that Permits and Licences could issue the Disabled Person's Temporary Parking Permits.

Moved by C. Johnston
Seconded by D. Douglas

The Committee recommends:

COUNCIL

ACTION: That Council establish a Disabled Person's Temporary Parking Permits Program similar to SPARC to be operated by the Permits and Licences Dept.

3.3 Update on Traffic Signs for People Who Are Deaf:

C. Dishaw read a letter sent from the Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing which indicated that they are in favour of the "Deaf Child Playing" signs when "the wishes of the parents are taken into consideration". WIDHH sent the initial letter inquiring about the signs to the B.C. Deaf Children Society and the Greater Vancouver Association of the Deaf. A letter of reply was sent from the GVRD who requested that we get feedback from their Board of Directors who meet November 26, 1993.

3.4 Update on Town Centre Pool Tour:

On October 25, 1993, L. Hauser, C. Dishaw, C. Johnston and A. Arandelovic, Pool Supervisor at G.F. Strong, toured the new City Centre Aquatic Complex. Concerns were made regarding the public wheelchair accessible washroom in the lobby being too small. The space between the sink and toilet may not give enough room for the transfer from a chair to the toilet. The accessible change room benches will not be long enough for a person to change lying down on the bench and therefore, they would have to change on the floor. The Committee was disappointed to discover these major deficiencies, considering the number of meetings the Committee had with the Pool Manager, Steve Borthwick, and the Architect, Vic Davies.

The Committee recommends:

**COUNCIL
ACTION:**

That Council needs to immediately, due to time restraints, rectify the design concerns proposed by the Committee regarding accessibility of the facility.

Committee Action:

C. Dishaw to contact the City Centre Aquatic Manager to attend the next Committee Meeting.

4. New Business:

4.1 R.R.A.P. Grants:

The R.R.A.P. grants of low interest loans for people on low income to do renovations enabling them to remain in their homes will be discontinued in December 1993.

Committee Action:

That a letter be written to the B.C. Housing Coalition that the Committee is in favour of the grants and would like to see the program continue. M. Smith to draft letter.

4.2 Letter to Councillor Eunice Parker:

M. Smith requested that appreciation be given to Councillor Eunice Parker for her efforts in the past on the Committee. Further discussion for next meeting.

4.3 N.A.A.W. Grants:

C. Dishaw brought to the attention of the Committee the B.C. 21 Grant. The Grant is available to organizations that are non-profit and are applying for one time capital projects.

4.4 City Traffic Signs:

Discussion around the placement of signs around schools and playgrounds. Signs indicate when to slow down but not when it is safe to resume speed.

4.5 Accessibility of Centennial Track on Poirier:

L. Hodge brought to the attention of the Committee that a parent who called the City to complain that the Centennial Track was not accessible by wheelchair was told to go to Town Centre to use their track. Discussion that the issue of accessibility of Centennial Track was of concern. If someone needs to access the track because it is closer to their home they should have access.

Committee Action:

C. Dishaw to contact Leisure and Parks Services regarding the accessibility of the track to people in wheelchairs.

5. Next Meeting:

Thursday, December 2, 1993 at 7:00 p.m.
Coquitlam Public Library - Board Room

6. Adjournment:

8:00 p.m.

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COQUITLAM

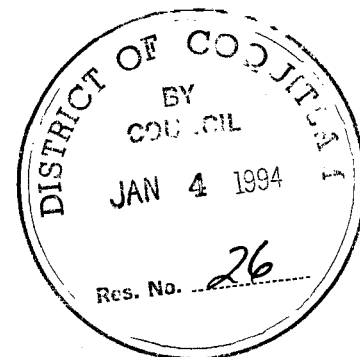


Mayor L. Sekora

**MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1993 - 7:00 P.M.
COQUITLAM PUBLIC LIBRARY - BOARD ROOM**

504

Present: Councillor B. Robinson, Chairperson
C. Dishaw
L. Hauser
C. Johnston
A. Nelson
M. Smith



Absent: Councillor B. LeClair
C. Talbot
L. Hodge
D. Douglas

Guest: S. Borthwick

1. Agenda Approved
2. Minutes of November 4, 1993 Approved
3. Guest: Steve Borthwick, City Centre Aquatic Complex:

S. Borthwick addressed questions, submitted by C. Dishaw, that were raised from the tour of the City Centre Aquatic Complex. The Committee gave additional comments and questions to S. Borthwick.

Motion made that the doors at the new City Centre Aquatic Complex have motion sensors rather than the push button automatic doors.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "MS".

Moved by L. Hauser
Seconded by M. Smith

COUNCIL

ACTION:

The Committee strongly recommends that the new City Centre Aquatic Complex use motion sensors to open doors rather than the push button automatic doors.

See Res 28/94

Committee Action:

C. Dishaw to compile recommendations made by the Committee with suggested dimensions to be submitted to Steve Borthwick.

4. Business Arising:

4.1 Update on Traffic Signs for People Who are Deaf:

C. Dishaw reported that Western Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing were in favour of the "Deaf Children Playing" signs.

Motion that the Committee is in favour of traffic signs for "Deaf Children Playing" where parents request the signs.

Moved by L. Hauser
Seconded by C. Johnson

Committee Action:

C. Dishaw to send information from the Organizations for the Deaf to Tim Murphy of the Engineering Department.

4.2 Update on Accessibility of Centennial Track:

C. Dishaw reported that with the changes in Leisure and Parks Services, information regarding the accessibility of the track has been given to the Acting Director of Parks and Environmental Services. G. Wong will follow up.

Res. 29/94

4.3 Update on Letter to Eunice Parker:

M. Smith reported that she had consulted with Councillor B. Robinson regarding recognizing Councillor E. Parker's contributions to the Committee. The Committee will express their appreciation at the Volunteer Recognition Dinner in February.

5. New Business:

5.1 Accessibility of the Sports Centre Rink:

C. Dishaw reported that she had calls from the community wishing to use the rink with the sledges or in their wheelchairs. The Sports Centre told C. Dishaw that sledges and wheelchairs cannot go on the ice during public skate time and would have to book ice time. G. Wong to follow up.

5.2 New Committee Chairperson:

Councillor B. Robinson informed the Committee that he would not be sitting on the Committee in January and that he had submitted the current members' names to be placed on the Committee for 1994. C. Johnston expressed his and the Committee's thanks to Councillor B. Robinson for his assistance on the Committee.

6. Next Meeting:

Thursday, January 6, 1994 at 7:00 p.m.
Coquitlam Public Library - Board Room

7. Adjournment:

8:55 p.m.



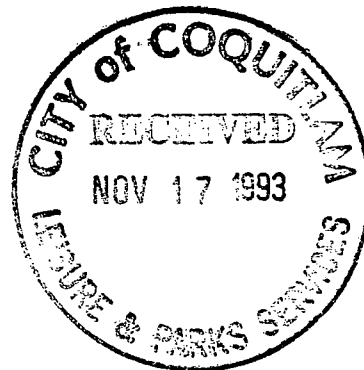
total communication
deaf children's society
of british columbia

3644 Slocan Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V5M 3E8

Telephone (604) 435-9447
TDD/TTY (604) 435-9433
Fax (604) 436-1856

November 10, 1993

Charlene Dishaw
Coquitlam Leisure and Parks Services
633 Poirier Street
Coquitlam, B.C.
V3J 6A9



Dear Ms. Dishaw:

A copy of your letter to Trevor Thomas at the Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing regarding the use of "Deaf Child Playing Signs" was forwarded to me for comment.

Our organization is in full support of the use of such signs to warn motorists that Deaf children are in the area. As I am sure you are already aware, a number of these signs have been erected in various municipalities in the lower mainland at the request of the parents of Deaf children. Deaf children do not react to the sounding of a horn or the revving of a motor in the ways that drivers would expect and anticipate. It is important they be aware and use caution in those areas.

I am enclosing some excerpts from one of our newsletters. I hope they are helpful.

Sincerely,

Cheryl D. Collins
Executive Director

CDC\

in affiliation with



deaf children's society

NEWSLETTER

May/June 1993

Vol. 9 No.5



Brenda & Darren Moore

Patrick & Peggy McCarthy

Road Signs Installed in Port Coquitlam

It took Peggy McCarthy almost a year to finally convince the city of Port Coquitlam to erect "*Deaf Children*" road signs in her home area. She has a 2 1/2 year old son who is too young to understand safety rules.

Peggy first heard of such road signs from families who live in the Comox area at the 1991 Summer Parent-Deaf Child Learning Vacation Experience Camp. She decided to do the same. In October 1991, she wrote a letter to the City of Port Coquitlam for placement of a "*Deaf Children At Play*" sign near her home. The Public Works Committee responded by stating that according to the manual of **Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Canada**, "*Deaf Children At Play*" signs are not accepted as road signs in Canada. However, the Committee did agree to install "*Children At Play*" signs in the area. She was not satisfied.

In June of 1992, she then made a formal request to the Five Star Committee (or a Special Needs Committee) in her municipality. The Committee is a small group of city workers including 2 Alderman and a Parks & Recreation representative. Its primary goal on a limited budget is to implement things for special needs residents such as cutting curbs for wheelchairs. The Committee brought her request to the city hall and went to bat for her. Later in September, the city hall notified her request had been accepted and "*Deaf Children*" signs were put up.

She said that for any parents who are interested in obtaining such signage for their area, contact your alderman. Each municipality works differently, and they may or may not have a committee that serves special needs such as Five Star Committee or Special Needs Committee.

Peggy was not alone when it came to requesting road signs installed in her area. Other parents fought for them also. See articles on road signs elsewhere in this newsletter!



A Deaf Child's Prayer

Vibrations (The Canadian Hearing Society), Vol. 7 No. 8, December 1978

*Though I am deaf, I plainly see
When a face in anger shouts at me.
Though true it is I do not hear
All notes of kindness to me are clear.*

*I have the sense of open eyes,
Few friends or foes can be surprised
I know them fairly through and through
Not by what they say, but by what they do.*

Author Unknown

Deaf Child Area Traffic Signs

American Society for Deaf Children, 1992 - No.4

Dear Friends,

My name is William Camp. I am the father of a deaf child. We are also members of the ASDC and local parent groups. My son is ten years old and attends the Arizona School for the Deaf (ASDB) and Blind. The parents of ASDB's Parent Faculty Association are undertaking a project in which I am in charge of correspondence.

Our family travels throughout the U.S. and have visited states where the state, county or city use signs warning motorists of neighborhoods where deaf children reside. The signs simply state "Deaf Child Area." We feel these signs are important in cautioning drivers that children live in the area who may not have the ability to respond to conventional motor vehicle warning methods.

As parents of deaf children, we felt a need for these signs, so some of us requested the signs of our county traffic officials. To make a long story short, we finally got the signs posted. Other parents became aware of our signs and made similar requests; however, these parents were denied placement and subsequently, the signs were removed from our road. We were told by authorities that the signs never should have been placed and would be removed in order to "start us all off from ground zero."

We have had a preliminary meeting with Pima County, and the city of Tucson. At this meeting, we were given the letter which appears to be the main reason "Deaf Child Area" signs aren't being provided to our families. Some headway was made, however, as it was agreed that the city, county and Parent Faculty Association would work together to gather information needed to make an educated decision.

We are contacting you (ASDC) in an attempt to obtain the stand and viewpoint of your organization. Please provide us with any information that may be of assistance to us. It is our feeling that the signs provide a warning to motorists of uncommon situations in a particular area where a child may not respond to a car horn or emergency sirens. We would appreciate any information that would assist our endeavors. Thank you for your support and time.

Following is the letter from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration:

Dear Mr. Nassi (of the Traffic Engineering Division in Tucson):

Thank you for your telephone request of Sept. 15 and your letter dated Sept. 17 for guidance concerning the sign message "Deaf Child Area."

The "Deaf Child Area" sign is not a standard highway sign and is not addressed in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Although the sign is not specifically prohibited in the MUTCD, its use is not recommended for the following reasons. Experience has shown that the message gives a false sense of security to parents and their children. The "Deaf Child Area" sign has the tendency to condition children to relax their behavior and become less observant of traffic situations. The deaf child may assume that not only is he or she protected in their immediate neighborhood but also in other areas as well. This could lead to a potentially hazardous situation. For this reason, we believe that it is more appropriate to teach all children, including the hearing impaired, the proper behavior in traffic situations.

Another reason why we do not recommend the use of this sign is because it would breed disregard from motorists who may not actually see any children in the area of the sign. Consequently, the next time the motorist may simply ignore the sign. If there is an unusual or potential safety problem with children riding bicycles or crossing the street, then the standard Bicycle Warning Sign or Pedestrian Crossing Sign may provide a better and more specific warning message.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this information to you and hope that it helps explain why the "Deaf Child Area" sign is not recommended for use on public roadways.

Sincerely yours,

*Harry B. Skinner
Chief, Traffic Control Division Office of
Highway Safety*

Traffic Signs a Concern to Parents

American Society for Deaf Children, 1993-No. 1

Dear Editor (ASDC),

I was disappointed upon reading the article in **The Endeavor** 1992-No. 4 titled "Deaf Child Area Traffic Signs." My six-year-old is profoundly hearing impaired and for the two years, there have been signs near our house saying "Deaf Children Near." It's not the best wording, but at least there are signs.

My husband led the fight to get those signs posted. When he first called our city traffic department, he was told that it sounded like a good idea and the gentleman would clear it with the "boss." Well, the "boss" was not so agreeable. He said if the city put up a sign here, they would have to do the same all over town wherever a handicapped child lived. My husband then used one of the cable TV phone-in shows to talk to the senior person and got the same answer in public. Only because we knew someone on the directing board of citizens were we able to get the signs installed.

To hear that the (Federal) traffic engineer is actually quoting code to prevent such a sign is scary to me. I hope mine won't disappear now. In response to some of his arguments . . . Yes, our deaf children should be taught not to run into the street just like all children are taught. However, it is the rare child who never forgets the rule. The deaf child won't hear the horn or screeching brakes that would warn other children. Nor can they hear the approach of the car speeding up the street instead of driving at a normal pace. On my street, that makes a big difference because we are on a curve and can only see normal traffic.

I would like to encourage Mr. Camp in his pursuit of traffic warnings. My only suggestion is to find out who Mr. Skinner reports to and try to have a conversation with that individual or body. Good Luck!

Sincerely,

Nancy H. Eddy
Novato, CA



U.S. Department of Transportation Responds

Note: ASDC Executive Director Sandy Harvey wrote to the U.S. Department of Transportation in support of parents who desire warning signs in their neighborhoods. Following is their response.

Dear Ms. Harvey:

Thank you for your letter of Nov. 2 concerning the Deaf Child Area sign.

As indicated in our September 24 letter, use of the subject sign is not specifically prohibited in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Section 2C-40 of the MUTCD provides for the design of warning signs for special conditions other than those specified in the MUTCD, provided that word messages and not symbols are used. It is a state or local highway agency's responsibility to select and install appropriate traffic signs along the streets and roads within its jurisdiction.

We indicated that the sign is not recommended based on some of the experiences of state and local traffic engineers who have discussed this issue at various professional forums and transportation related activities. We are not aware of any conducted research study nor did we intend to imply this in our previous letter. We suggest you feel free to contact some of the state or local highway agencies in your surrounding area to get a better idea of their specific experiences from a traffic engineering standpoint regarding the Deaf Child Area Sign.

We hope the above information is helpful. Again, thank you for writing to us.

Sincerely yours,

*Harry B. Skinner, Chief, Traffic
Control Division Office of Highway
Safety*



Alaska Parents Want Road Sign

American Society for Deaf Children, 1993-No. 1

The newsletter of the Alaska Alliance for Deaf Children (AADC), an ASDC affiliate, reports that the Southeast Regional Director of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has offered a compromise to AADC's request for "Deaf Children May Be Present" signs. This compromise would permit signs on state residential or low speed roads, but not on higher speed roads.

AADC has been working on behalf of a family in southeast Alaska who requested a deaf child sign on their road. They at first got the run-around by various state and local officials who denied their requests. AADC contacted the Southeast Regional Director for DOT&PF, Jonathan Scribner. Scribner gave AADC president, Tim Weiss, a number of vague and illogical excuses. Finally, Weiss requested that Scribner submit his reasoning in writing.

A month passed without response from the DOT&PF when Weiss suggested the family enlist their local senator or state representative to assist. Soon Senator Eliason's office was making calls and researching the issue.

Eliason's office polled transportation departments in 11 states and found that six allow deaf children signs and five refuse to do so.

In Alaska, DOT&PF found that only Anchorage and Juneau city governments install such signs, exclusively in residential areas.

While not advisable . . . the fact is . . . that children play in the streets.

Chief Engineer, Roger Allington, provided the most reasoned research for the department on the issue. His research showed the following:

"Deaf people with normal eyesight are therefore able to enter and cross arterials and collector roads in the same manner as those people with normal hearing capabilities . . . While not advisable, and in some areas illegal, the fact is that on low volume streets in residential subdivisions, children play in the streets, including recreational bicycle riding that is inconsistent with the normal rules of the road for bicycles. In these situations it is highly probable that the first indication of a conflicting motor vehicle presence may be the sound of that motor vehicle. In those instances, the deaf child is definitely at a disadvantage. Consequently, there may be a need for special warning signs on low volume residential subdivision streets to alert the motorist to an unanticipated condition that could have collision potential. The unanticipated condition is the failure of the deaf child to take evasive maneuvers to avoid a motorist when the motorist believes the child should hear the motor vehicle."

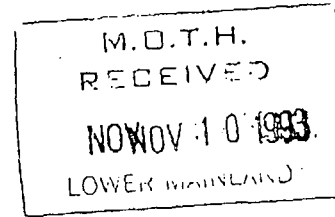
The proposal to install such signs on request in residential, low-speed roads, still does not allow a sign to be placed on the road of the family placing the request. AADC has determined that the department's proposal meets the requirements required by regulations for the Americans with Disabilities Act, which states that "safety requirements (must be) based on real risks, not speculated . . ."

AADC has accepted the compromise by DOT&PF.

Ohio

Silent News, March 1993

The mother of a deaf toddler hopes community pressure will persuade Union Township trustees to change their minds and erect a sign on her street alerting Butler County motorists that a deaf child is present. Theresa Painter's request for the sign has been turned down by the township. So Painter has gathered the signatures of 94 neighbors on a petition she gave to the trustees Jan. 26. "They'll put up a deer crossing sign to protect your car from damage, but they won't put up a deaf child sign to protect my son's life," said Painter, whose 2-year-old son, Brady, was born deaf. Trustees said they do not have the authority to put up such a sign, but an official of the Ohio Dept. of Transportation disagreed. "There is no specific ban," said the official.

**McElhanney**

10 November 1993
Our File: 402 01063

Ministry of Transportation & Highways
Suite 200
1065 Columbia Street
New Westminster, B.C.
V3M 6H7

Attention: Mr. Grant Smith

Dear Sir:

Lougheed Highway Underpass Modifications @ Gauthier Avenue, Coquitlam, B.C. - Feasibility Study

At your request we have reviewed the feasibility of modifications to the north end of the existing underpass at the above locations and present the following report (see attached Sketches):

1. Existing Conditions

The existing underpass is 31m in length and was built in 1977. Lougheed Highway is at grade with the existing ground at the north end of the structure and in fill at the south end. The underpass has a 10m long set of stairs at the north end and daylight with the existing grade at the south end.

The existing lighting is inadequate as there are dark zones even in the daytime inside the tunnel. Some light fixture covers have been removed probably due to vandalism.

The south end of the stairway is within 3.0m of the shoulder of Lougheed Highway and there is little or no protection to stop an "out-of-control" vehicle from impacting the stairway walls and endangering pedestrians. A similar situation exists for vehicles travelling south on Gauthier Avenue.

There is no sidewalk connecting the north end of the stairway with any designated pedestrian walkway. Pedestrians must walk on the Gauthier Avenue pavement (poor condition) to gain access to the underpass. A similar situation exists at the south end of the underpass where no sidewalks exist on Gauthier Avenue either. Fortunately, Gauthier Avenue dead-ends at the underpass.

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An existing 200mm diameter sanitary sewer crosses under the stairway at the first landing from the tunnel floor and it appears that the stairway was designed to accommodate the existing sewer.

2. Existing Problem

It is our understanding that numerous complaints have been received in the past regarding the following issues with respect to this underpass:

- Poor lighting inside the tunnel.
- A pedestrian entering the tunnel from the north end cannot see any potentially dangerous person inside the tunnel until the pedestrian is at the tunnel entrance. This situation is perceived to be threatening since there is no easy escape route except back up the stairs.
- The stairway is narrow (2.5m) and the confinement is threatening when confronted by a dangerous person.
- No sidewalk adjoining the north end of the stairway.
- Inadequate lighting in the vicinity of the stairway.
- No protection inside the stairway from an "out-of-control" vehicle impacting the stairway from Loughheed Highway.

3. Investigation

We performed minimal surveys to determine the existing grades in the area surrounding the north and south underpass ends. Since the main source of complaints appeared to be related to the north end and inside the tunnel, we concentrated our efforts in this area.

To accommodate wheelchair access, current design standards do not encourage stairs into an underpass. We thus investigated the removal of the stairs and the installation of a ramp with maximum 12% grades. We also attempted to produce a more open area in the vicinity of the north end of the underpass to give pedestrians a better sense of security. This was achieved through use of a short section of 1%

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ramp just prior to the tunnel to allow pedestrians a "chance" to see into the tunnel from a distance to be forewarned of any impending danger.

In preparing the alternatives, we were cognisant of the fact that the adjacent properties to the west obtain their vehicular access from Gauthier Avenue.

4. Modification Alternatives

The following alternatives were investigated:

A. Modification Alternative 1 - Straight Ramp

To intersect the existing grade which slopes away from the stairway at approximately 3%, a straight ramp 52m in length at maximum grade of 12% is required.

i) Estimated Construction Cost

- Estimated construction cost is \$90,000. This cost includes replacing the existing lights in the tunnel with a higher wattage fixture (see cost breakdown in Appendix).

ii) Advantages

- Minimal property impact on the City of Coquitlam owned lot immediately to the east of the ramp.

ii) Disadvantages

- Construction of this ramp would sever the existing Bernatchery Street right-of-way as shown on the attached Sketch.
- Bernatchery Street provides road access from the existing laneway east of Gauthier Street so alternate access may have to be provided.
- Due to a conflict between the ramp and the existing 4m deep sanitary sewer, a relocation is required.

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B. Modification Alternative 2 - Winding Ramp

To avoid the Bernatchery Street right-of-way, a winding ramp 66m in length at maximum grade of 12% is required.

i) Estimated Construction Cost

- Estimated construction cost is \$100,000. This cost includes replacing the existing lights in the tunnel with higher wattage fixtures (see cost breakdown in Appendix).

ii) Advantages

- The Bernatchery Street access from the existing laneways is not compromised.

iii) Disadvantages

- Severe impact on the City of Coquitlam lot to the east of the existing stairway.
- Sanitary sewer relocation is required.

5. Recommendation

We recommend Modification Alternative 2 for the following reasons:

- a) The impact on existing road rights-of-way is less severe.
- b) If landscaped and lighted adequately, the entrance could be an attractive amenity to area.

It should be pointed out that the above construction costs are based on schematic information only and thus we have added a 20% contingency factor. Several substitutions could be made to reduce the construction cost significantly including the following:

- Lock-Blocks instead of reinforced concrete for the retaining structure.
- Asphalt sidewalk instead of concrete.

continued





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- Utilize used MOTH concrete barriers on Gauthier and Bernatchery Streets.

The above substitutions can be discussed if this project goes forward into the design stage. Although there would be cost savings with these alternatives, aesthetically the Lock-Blocks would not "blend" into the reinforced concrete scheme at the south end of the underpass.

We trust you will find this analysis useful in your future discussions. Please advise me if there is any further information that you require.

Yours very truly,

McELHANNEY ENGINEERING SERVICES LTD.

D.A. Fraser, P.Eng.
Vancouver Region Engineering

DAF:xcs
Enclosures

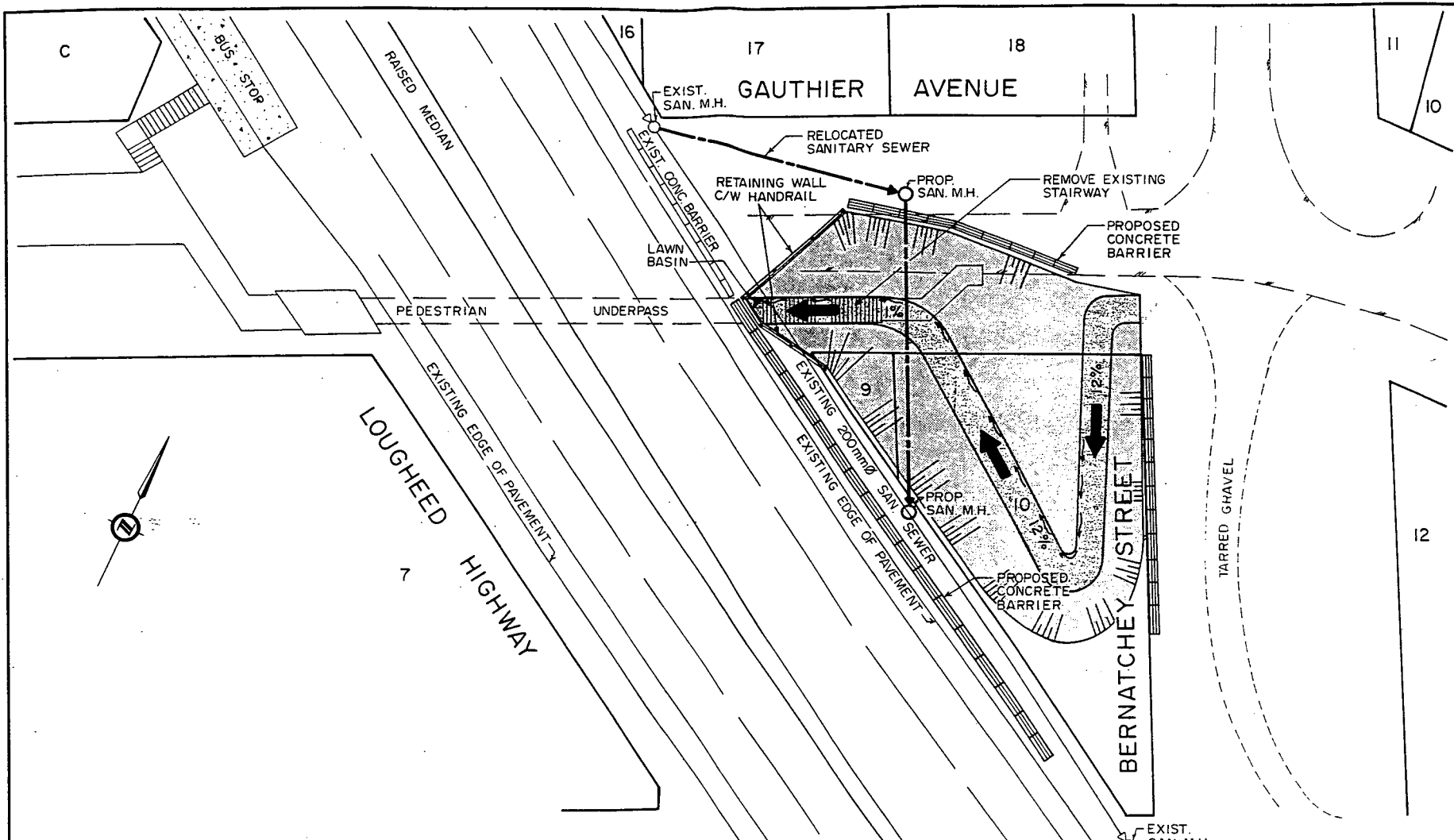


ALTERNATIVE 1 (Straight Ramp)

DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
1. Removal of Existing Stairway and Retaining Walls	L.S.	1.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000
2. Excavation	m3	770.00	\$12.00	\$9,240
3. Concrete Ramp c/w Swale	m2	130.00	\$35.00	\$4,550
4. Sanitary Serwer Relocation	m	47.00	\$350.00	\$16,450
5. Storm Drainage Catch Basin	each	1.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000
6. Concrete Barriers	m	90.00	\$70.00	\$6,300
7. Retaining Wall	m3	40.00	\$500.00	\$20,000
8. Wall Railing	m	22.00	\$100.00	\$2,200
9. Ramp Handrail	m	52.00	\$50.00	\$2,600
10. Street Lighting	each	1.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500
11. Lighting inside Underpass	each	9.00	\$400.00	\$3,600
12. Topsoil / Seed	m2	400.00	\$2.50	\$1,000
SUBTOTAL:				\$74,440
CONTINGENCY (20%):				\$15,560
TOTAL ALTERNATIVE 1:				\$90,000

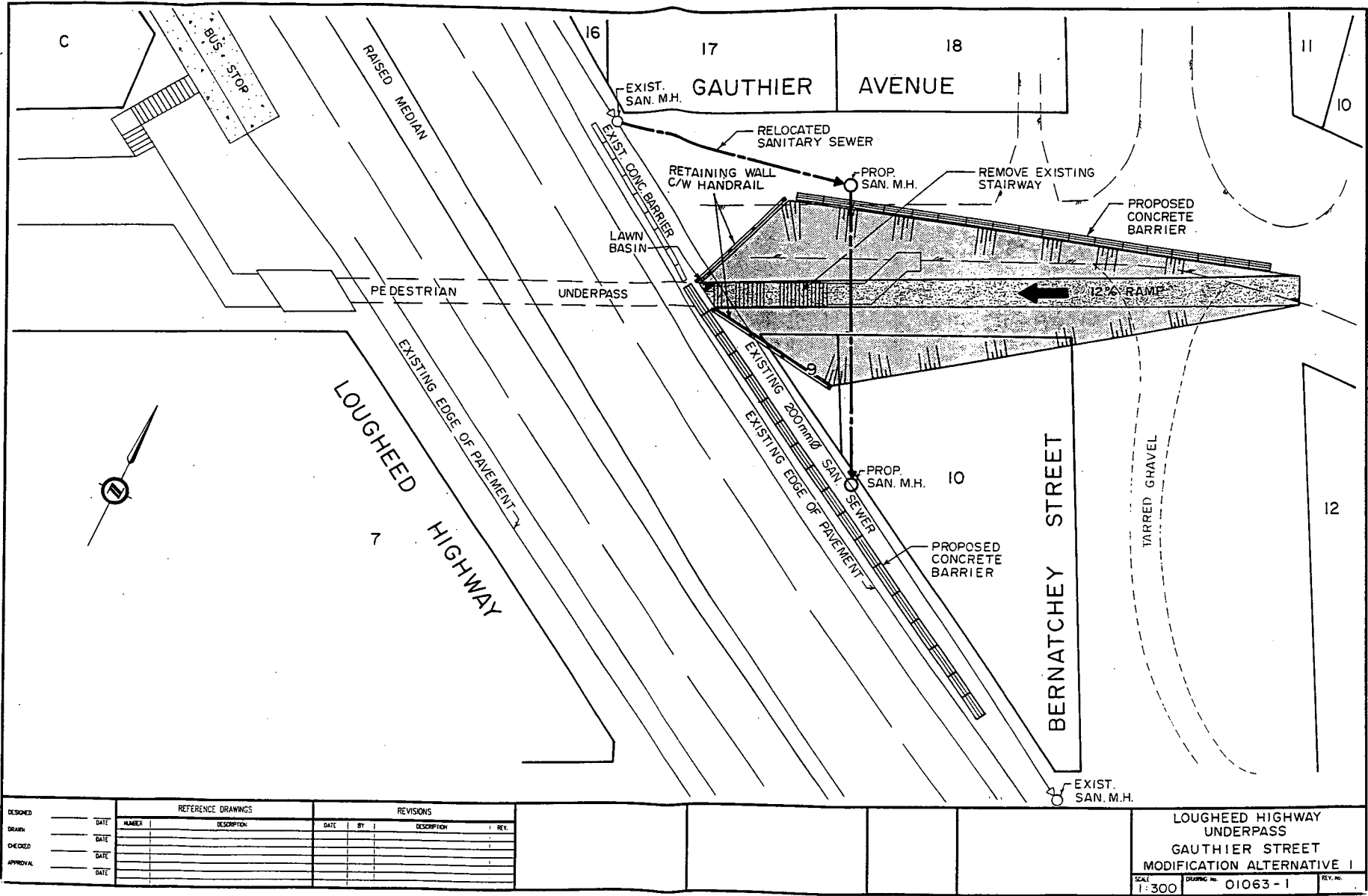
ALTERNATIVE 2 (Winding Ramp)

DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
1. Removal of Existing Stairway and Retaining Walls	L.S.	1.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000
2. Excavation	m3	1,200.00	\$12.00	\$14,400
3. Concrete Ramp c/w Swale	m2	165.00	\$35.00	\$5,775
4. Sanitary Serwer Relocation	m	47.00	\$350.00	\$16,450
5. Storm Drainage Catch Basin	each	1.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000
6. Concrete Barriers	m	100.00	\$70.00	\$7,000
7. Retaining Wall	m3	35.00	\$500.00	\$17,500
8. Wall Railing	m	18.00	\$100.00	\$1,800
9. Ramp Handrail	m	66.00	\$50.00	\$3,300
10. Street Lighting	each	2.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,000
11. Lighting inside Underpass	each	9.00	\$400.00	\$3,600
12. Topsoil / Seed	m2	1,000.00	\$2.50	\$2,500
SUBTOTAL:				\$83,325
CONTINGENCY (20%):				\$16,675
TOTAL ALTERNATIVE 2:				\$100,000



DESIGNED	DATE	REFERENCE DRAWINGS			REVISIONS		
		NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION	REV.
DRAWN	DATE						
CHECKED	DATE						
APPROVAL	DATE						

LOUGHEED HIGHWAY
 UNDERPASS
 GAUTHIER STREET
 MODIFICATION ALTERNATIVE 2
 SCALE 1:300 DRAWING No. 01063-2 REV. No.



	REFERENCE DRAWINGS		REVISIONS			
	DATE	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION
DESIGNED						
DRAWN						
CHECKED						
APPROVAL						

LOUGHEED HIGHWAY
 UNDERPASS
 GAUTHIER STREET
 MODIFICATION ALTERNATIVE 1
 SCALE: 1" = 300'
 DRAWING NO: 01063-1
 REV. NO.

**Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities:
Required measurements and recommendations for City Centre Aquatic Complex
December 6, 1993**

1. Maximum Gradient for ramps:

Maximum Gradient	Maximum Length	Maximum Landing Intervals	Handrails Required
1 in 16 to 1 in 20	None	12 m	Both Sides
1 in 12 to 1 in 15	None	9 m	Both Sides
1 in 10 and 1 in 11(3)	6 m	-	Both Sides
1 in 8 and 1 in 9	600 mm	-	not required

*Taken from Table 3.7.3.A. of the B.C.B.C. (1984)

The Committee prefers 1 in 20, as this is an incline that the majority of people can manage. Handrails are preferred on both sides of all ramps. The ramp that requires the wheelchair user go around a corner may be too sharp to navigate.

2. Width of ramps, in reference to the ramps entering directly into the leisure pool and ramps leading to the leisure pool:

Where ramps are required to provide interior and exterior access, they shall have a minimum uninterrupted width of 1500 mm, with the exception of ramps with a maximum gradient of 1 -10 or 1 - 11 shall have an uninterrupted width of 915mm +/- 25mm between handrails,(B.C.B.C.3.7.3.3 (1)(a), (1984).

The ramp leading into the pool could be half of this width as the expected traffic through this space will only be one chair, (750 mm).

3. Automatic doors:

The automatic doors with the red button are often damaged or stolen, therefore making the building inaccessible to people who use wheelchairs. If a patron of the pool presses the button and a wheelchair users goes through the open door after the person preceding them, the wheelchair user could get trapped in the door. The motion sensor doors are preferred as they are less visible and are less prone to damage and replacement,(i.e. Dogwood, Newton Senior Centre). The resulting costs from repairs to the button type opener compared to the low maintenance of the motion sensor type of opener would result in the sensor doors to be more cost efficient.

4. Bench heights and width:

Benches should be a minimum of 70 cm wide ,55 cm high and 185 cm long. Resolite matting should be purchased to be placed on the bench for greater comfort to the wheelchair user. These recommendations were given by Angela Arandelovic, Pool Manager of the Stan Stronge Pool.

5. Size of the Wheelchair Accessible Washroom in the Lobby:

The room should have a minimum floor space of 4 m with no dimension less than 1750 mm with fixtures located to provide maximum maneuverability for persons in wheelchairs (B.C.B.C. 3.7.3.21 (9)(a)1984). The space between the sink and toilet should be a minimum of 1.02m (B.C.B.C. 3.7.51. - washroom accessories, 1992). The door must open out in to the lobby to allow maximum space in the washroom for a wheelchair and the possibility of a caregiver in attendance. The toilet height preferred would be mounted with the top of the rim either 455 mm +/- 25mm above the finished floor, with the centre line of the fixture 455 mm +/- from the side wall carrying the grab bar (B.C.B.C. 3.7.21.(9)(i)(iv) 1984). The committee recommends that the toilet be mounted 55cm from the floor. Other requirements of the washroom are that where a tank type toilet is provided, the lid should be bolted down. The wash basin should be located 815 mm +/- 25 mm above the finished floor and have a vertical clearance of a minimum 715 mm under the apron, and a clear area under the wash basin minimum 660 mm high to a point 250 mm back from the front face of the apron. The pipes should be insulated where they may constitute a burn hazard to persons in wheelchairs. The faucets should be of a lever or other design that are operable with a clasped fist by force not exceeding 13 N, and do not have spring-loaded turning handles.

The doors to the washrooms and all doors should be of the lever type design throughout the building to ensure that all doors are accessible to everyone. A person with limited dexterity in their hands (arthritis, multiple sclerosis, stroke) will be using all public doors and not just those to accessible washrooms and change rooms.

Note: The wheelchair accessible washroom in the family change room seemed to be fine for size and accessibility.

6. Signs:

Signs shall be located so as to be easily read and understood, easily seen by a person in a wheelchair and have a glare-free surface, (B.C.B.C. 3.7.3.18 (4)(a-c), 1984). For people with visual impairments raised signs are preferred, . Most local sign shops advertise engraved signs which would serve the same purpose.

7. Wheelchair accessible Change Rooms:

To provide a minimum space for a chair to turn around (360 degrees), the space must be a minimum of 1500 mm. The space needed in a toilet compartment should be a minimum of 1500 mm. wide by 1500 mm deep. This figure may be used for the minimum floor space in the change area between the benches (B.C.B.C. 3.7.21(2)(a) 1984). This floor space is the minimum space that will allow two chairs in the change room, but will not allow for much movement or the space for an attendant in the change room. The shower compartment must be minimum of 1500 mm wide by 900 mm deep with a minimum of 1500 mm wide entrance in addition to the change area (B.C.B.C. 3.7.3.21. (11)(a)1984).

Grab bars need to be provided in the shower stalls and near the benches to allow people to pull themselves from their chair to the bench and to support themselves in the shower. A shower chair is recommended that permits lateral transfer from a wheelchair to a portable or wall-mounted folding seat located 55mm above the finished shower floor on a side wall, (B.C.B.C 3.7.3.21(11)(d)(i), 1984).

The doors to these change rooms could open into the hallway providing there is a sign on the inside of the door warning the occupant to open the door slowly in case there are people in the hallway. There should be an indicator on the outside of the door to indicate whether or not the change room is occupied when the door is closed.

8. Public Pay phone:

The preference for a public pay phone would be one that is side mounted, allows for a person in a chair to get close to the phone and low enough for a person to place a coin into the phone and retrieve the coin should it be returned. The Committee recommends a volume button for the hearing impaired and raised button numbers or engraved numbers for the visually impaired.

9. Designated area for wheelchairs:

People who use wheelchairs will feel insecure without their chair. Wheelchair users need to have a space to safely leave their chairs on the deck, preferably where it is visible to the user.

10. Drinking Fountains:

There needs to be at least one drinking fountain provided, where drinking fountains are being located, that has a spout opening not less than 750 mm nor more than 900 mm above the finished floor. The fountain should have a lever or push-bar controls operable by a force not exceeding 13N, located either on the front or on both sides. Where the drinking fountain is located in an alcove the alcove shall be not less than 800 mm wide, and the fountain shall be of a surface-mounted type. (B.C.B.C. 3.7.3.25 (1-2), 1984).

11. Warning System:

Inside the change rooms there should be some kind of help button mounted inside the family change rooms that would alert lifeguard to potential emergencies such as a heart attack or someone falling out of their chair and being unable to get up off of the floor. Inquiries have been made to three local pools, Newton Wave Pool, W.C. Blair Pool in Langley and Maple Ridge, regarding the warning systems at their pools in the family change rooms. All three have no warning systems or help buttons. At Newton Wave Pool the doors on the change rooms are partial doors like the doors in Chimo's change rooms. The other two pools do regular patrols of the change rooms. The suggested placement of an emergency call button would be approximately 60 cm from the floor between the change bench and the shower.

12. Warning Strips at ramps and steps

Yellow strips need to be placed at the beginning of all steps and ramps to warn those with visual impairments.