



**City of Richmond**

**Report to Committee**

**To:** Planning Committee  
**From:** Terry Crowe  
Manager, Policy Planning

*To Planning - Mar 18, 2003*

**Date:** January 30, 2003

**File:** 0100-20-ACEN1-01

**Re: ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT (ACE) 2002 ANNUAL REPORT AND 2003 WORK PROGRAM**

**Staff Recommendation**

That Council approve the ACE 2003 work program subject to the City's budget review process.

Terry Crowe  
Manager, Policy Planning

Att.

**FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY**

**CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER**

## Staff Report

### Origin

Pursuant to the Terms of Reference for Council's Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE), this report provides:

- an annual report on the Committee's activities for 2002, and;
- a proposed 2003 work program which is submitted for Council's review and approval.

### Findings Of Fact

Attached to this report is a covering memo from the ACE co-chairs for 2002 who have highlighted the Committee's work over the past year in fulfilling its advisory role and responsibilities to Council (**Attachment 1**). Also attached is a summary table highlighting the accomplishments of ACE as it undertook its 2002 work program which was approved by Council in February 2002 (**Attachment 2**). The Committee's Terms of Reference require that ACE's proposed work program for 2003 be reviewed and approved by Council subject to the City's 2003 budget process (**Attachment 3**).

### Financial Impact

For 2002:

ACE undertook its 2002 work program within its budget allocation for the year:

- \$2,500.00 for ongoing committee operations and administration

For 2003:

The City's proposed 2003 Budget provides financial resources in the amount of \$2,000 to support ACE's ongoing operation and administration.

### Conclusion

ACE continues to provide a valuable advisory role to both Council and staff. The Committee's work program and activities continue to support the City's environmental management policy and program goals and objectives. The City has benefited greatly from the many hours of volunteer commitment, dedication and effort of ACE's members who share a wide range of professional, technical and community expertise and interest in environmental issues. Staff recommend that Council approve the 2003 ACE Work Program and give favourable consideration to the proposed 2003 budget.



Rob Innes  
Planner

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## Memorandum

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**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** 2002 Co-Chairs  
 Advisory Committee on the Environment  
**Date:** January 10, 2003  
**File:** 0100-20-ACEN1-01

**Re:** **ACE Progress Report- 2002 and Proposed Work Program-2003**

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### ACE Progress Report-2002

Attached please find our progress report on work undertaken this year. We are grateful to Rob Innes and other members of staff for their professional efforts and personal interest throughout the year that has made much of this work possible.

The most significant item is the update to Richmond's State of the Environment Report (SOE) which was issued in December 2001. ACE continues to analyse this report and use it as the basis of our outreach program to the community. We hope that Council takes its findings into consideration in their overall planning for Richmond, and in any revisions to the Official Community Plan (OCP).

The other item of most interest to ACE members is Shady Island (Steveston Island) and our hopes that Richmond may acquire all or parts of that island by free crown grant for municipal parks purposes. This would do much to protect the important fish and bird habitat on the island for future generations.

ACE provided advice on a range of issues that included the Agricultural Viability Study, the environmental considerations of drainage ditches and sloughs, the Kyoto Protocol and contaminated material disposal.

### ACE Proposed Work Program-2003

We are pleased to offer our proposed work program for 2003 which has been developed by our Committee as a whole and in consultation with staff. We look forward to being able to provide Council with comments and advice on these and any other environmental issues that may arise.

*Priorities:* In addition to working towards protection of Shady Island, we want to give priority to analysis of results of the last SOE update. The trends detailed therein may be extrapolated to 2004 and 2007 to obtain a picture of what Richmond's environment will be like (good and bad) if present environmental and other practices are continued. We hope this will provide Council with ideas for strategic interventions to maintain and /or increase Richmond's livability, and perhaps save money.

A significant difference between the program for 2003 and that put forward for 2002 is the increased focus on task value and deliverables. We have an excellent team on the committee this year with a wide variety of technical and scientific skills, along with detailed knowledge of the environmental needs of our community. ACE members take a deep interest in environmental matters and will speak with knowledge on issues and provide advice as requested.

Gordon Kibble, Co Chair

Eric Sykes, Co Chair

Att

January 31, 2003

1

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2002-Status Report

Project	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables	ACE Accomplishments and Comments
<p><b>Public Outreach &amp; Education</b></p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State of the Environment Outreach</li> <li>• Explore Partnerships with other agencies and schools to enhance awareness and facilitate completion of environmentally beneficial projects</li> <li>• Environment Week – June 2002</li> <li>• Steveston Salmon Festival</li> </ul>	<p>Builds environmental awareness, commitment and capacity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community awareness of environmental trends and issues; report on 2001 SOE results</li> <li>• Publicize results; seek input on indicators for future updates</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Raise awareness/participate: June 2002</li> <li>• Raise awareness/participate in booth/display: July 2002</li> <li>• Presentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issued in December 2001 and widely distributed</li> <li>• Presentation to seniors, school board, participation in Waste Recycling Week event</li> <li>• Ongoing</li> <li>• ACE display booth/attendance</li> <li>• Not Done</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Projects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend and contribute to regional and local environmental workshops</li> </ul>	<p>Build environmental awareness, commitment to environmental programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise awareness</li> <li>• Reports to ACE on meetings and workshops attended; included in Committee minutes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACE representative attended FREMP workshop on Estuary Management Plan</li> </ul>

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2002-Status Report

Project	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables	ACE Accomplishments and Comments
<p><u>Monitor Environmental Initiatives among all levels of Government</u></p>			
<p>Fraser Basin Council (FBC) activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Builds environmental awareness</li> <li>• Opportunities for city /community input</li> <li>• Potential for inter-governmental partnerships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek FBC involvement on issues affecting Richmond (especially related to federal funding opportunities). For example:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agassiz debris trap(ensuring continued funding) - helps keep Fraser River clear of debris</li> <li>• Shearboom (Steveston)- needs repair</li> <li>• Water training structures-Steveston-to help keep channel clear- needs funding and adoption</li> <li>• Potential assistance with "Eastern Tip" dyke proposal</li> <li>• Earthquake preparedness (province wide)</li> <li>• Maintenance of Steveston Harbour</li> <li>• Assistance in Shady Island initiative</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Attend symposium - March 14, 2002</li> <li>• Monitor livability indicators project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not done</li> <li>• ACE representatives attended FBC symposium in spring 2002</li> <li>• ACE preparing display for January 2003 FBC conference on sustainability</li> </ul>
<p>Georgia Basin Ecosystem Initiative (GBEI)(Environment Canada)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Builds awareness</li> <li>• Opportunities for city /community input</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request presentation to ACE by GBEI staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not done</li> </ul>
<p>Provincial Streamside Protection Regulations</p>	<p>Monitor implementation of regulations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine legislative activity</li> <li>• Provide perspectives to assist City in implementing any new regulations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing</li> <li>• Presentation by staff-initial feedback by ACE</li> </ul>

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2002-Status Report

Project	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables	ACE Accomplishments and Comments
City's Drainage Master Plan	Monitor progress/provide environmental perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review draft plan</li> <li>Review Best Management Practices guide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ACE perspectives on drainage submitted to City</li> </ul>
GVRD Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Livable Region Strategic Plan Review</li> <li>Transportation Plan (Rapid Transit)</li> <li>GVRD Liquid Waste Management Plan</li> </ul>	Monitor progress/provide input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor processes</li> <li>Review reports and comment</li> <li>Tour Iona Treatment Plant; make recommendation on upgrade from primary treatment only – Spring 2002</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>
Terra Nova Northwest Quadrant Biophysical Inventory	Monitor progress/provide ACE perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor progress</li> <li>Presentation by Parks staff- February 2002</li> <li>Provide input as requested</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentations by consultants and staff</li> </ul>
Comment on any changes to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NFPA Master Plan</li> <li>Fraser Port Authority Master Plan</li> <li>FREMP-Estuary Management Plan</li> </ul> <b>Major Projects</b>	Monitor the implementation of these plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide comments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No activity by ACE</li> </ul>
Agricultural Viability Strategy	Integrate environmental and agricultural concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review reports and comment: March 2002</li> <li>Monitor progress</li> <li>Representation on Agricultural Advisory Committee</li> <li>Need more information on implications of the siting of greenhouses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation by staff</li> <li>ACE provided comments</li> <li>ACE member selected for proposed Agricultural Advisory Committee</li> </ul>
2001 State of the Environment Report	Environmental management tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation to Planning Committee/Council and School District Board</li> <li>Community outreach starting in Spring 2002</li> <li>Extrapolate results from present to 2004 and 2007 with recommendations to Council</li> <li>Develop basis for action and further analysis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Issued in December 2001; widely distributed</li> <li>Analysis of indicators ongoing; summarizing priorities for presentation to Council</li> </ul>

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2002-Status Report

Project	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables	ACE Accomplishments and Comments
Shady Island	Identification and protection of sensitive environmental values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major goal/project for ACE for 2002 is to get a Free Crown Grant for all or part of the island for parks purposes.</li> <li>Recommendation to Council to apply to Provincial Government for Free Crown Grant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Map work (location/status of reserves) completed</li> <li>High priority for 2003</li> </ul>
City Environmental Management Strategy (EMS)	Environmental management tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advisory role to staff</li> <li>Identification of issues/priorities and solutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation on EMS outline to ACE</li> <li>ACE provides comments</li> </ul>
<b>Issue Management</b>			
Monitor NFHC Barge Unloading Facility Proposal	Affects significant fish habitat area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site visit only if further development interest is shown; potential site for 2010 Olympic temporary ferry site</li> <li>Monitor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No activity</li> </ul>
Review major development proposals as referred by Council: For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fraser Lands Development</li> <li>Riverport Rezoning Proposal</li> <li>MOT/DFO lands –potential for public, environmentally friendly uses; parks; sports facilities</li> <li>ALR applications</li> </ul>	Provide environmental perspective/advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide comments and input</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided comments on Riverport Rezoning Comments to Council on Kyoto Protocol</li> <li>Presentation by consultants on ESA Update Study/provided input at two stages of process</li> <li>Comments on disposal of contaminated materials; met with proponents</li> <li>City's Spill Response Plan distribute to ACE for comments</li> </ul>
ESA Inventory Update Project	Improves knowledge base of City's environmental assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide input to City project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation by consultants and staff to ACE</li> <li>Provided comment in June 2002 and November 2002</li> </ul>

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2002-Status Report

Project	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables	ACE Accomplishments and Comments
Airport Issues (YVR Environment Advisory Committee and YVR Noise Management Sub committee)	Opportunity to advise and comment on airport issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor; receive quarterly committee reports/updates</li> <li>Presentation by YVRAA staff – tour of YVRAA (Summer 2002)</li> <li>Monitor legal case; review implications to City eg.. sound proofing of public facilities in high impact areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular updates to ACE by committee representative</li> <li>Presentation by YVR Executive and Environmental staff</li> <li>ACE attended airport tour and open house on Northlands Development Plan</li> </ul>
City Transportation Plans	Monitor/ develop understanding of plans; provide environmental perspective as City's Transportation Plans are implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor progress</li> <li>City Transportation Planning staff to present to ACE (Spring 2002)</li> <li>Review issues of traffic/noise in No. 6 Road/Triangle Road issue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation by City Transportation staff on overall transportation plans for Richmond</li> </ul>
Major Public Events of Potential Environmental Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tall Ships</li> <li>Olympic Bid Proposal</li> </ul>	Monitor/provide environmental perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor, provide input to event planning processes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation by Olympics Bid Committee</li> </ul>
Steveston Foreshore	Monitor/ provide environmental perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine if building sites have been checked for environmental contamination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Activity</li> </ul>
Horseshoe Slough Study	Monitor/provide environmental perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide comments and input</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Activity</li> </ul>



January 31, 2003

1

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2003

Project	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables
<p><b>Public Outreach &amp; Education</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State of the Environment Outreach</li> <li>• Environment Week – June 2003</li> </ul>	<p>Builds environmental awareness, commitment and capacity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make presentations to community groups</li> <li>• Participate in fair (display) - June 2003</li> </ul>
<p>Other Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend and contribute to regional and local environmental workshops</li> </ul>	<p>Build environmental awareness, commitment to environmental programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produce summary reports to ACE and Council on meetings and workshops attended</li> </ul>

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2003

Project Monitor Environmental Initiatives among all levels of Government	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables
Fraser Basin Council (FBC) activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Builds environmental awareness</li> <li>Opportunities for city /community input</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek FBC involvement in Shady Island initiative</li> <li>Participate with display in January 2003 conference</li> <li>Comment on FBC sustainability indicators report; prepare report to Council and FBC</li> </ul>
Georgia Basin Ecosystem Initiative (GBE)(Environment Canada)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Builds awareness</li> <li>Opportunities for city /community input</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation to ACE by GBEI staff</li> <li>Prepare report from ACE to Council /Administration</li> </ul>
Provincial Streamside Protection Regulations	Monitor implementation of regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide perspectives in writing to assist City in implementing any new regulations</li> </ul>
City's Drainage Master Plan	Monitor progress/provide environmental perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review draft plan; provide written comments to Council and staff</li> <li>Review Best Management Practices guide; provide written comments to Council and staff</li> </ul>
GVRD Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Livable Region Strategic Plan Review</li> <li>Rapid Transit (RT) Planning</li> <li>GVRD Liquid Waste Management Plan</li> </ul>	Monitor progress/provide input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review reports and comment as necessary and requested</li> <li>Presentation by City on RT project; provide written comments to Council and staff</li> <li>Tour Iona Treatment Plant; provide written comments on upgrade from primary treatment only – Spring 2003</li> </ul>
Terra Nova Northwest Quadrant Parks Planning Process	Monitor progress/provide ACE perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation by staff on process in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2003.</li> </ul>

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2003

Project	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables
Comment on any changes to: • NFFA Master Plan • Fraser Port Authority Master Plan • FREMP-Estuary Management Plan <b>Major Projects</b>	Monitor the implementation of these plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide written comments as necessary</li> </ul>
Agricultural Viability Strategy	Integrate environmental and agricultural concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Periodic updates by ACE representative on Agricultural Advisory Committee</li> </ul>
2001 State of the Environment Report	Environmental management tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare and deliver written recommendations on priorities to Council</li> <li>• Develop basis for action and further analysis</li> <li>• Monitor and understand implications of Kyoto Protocol on City's SOE reporting</li> </ul>
Shady Island	Identification and protection of sensitive environmental values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish sub committee to focus on issue; explore options develop action plan</li> <li>• Presentation to Council on recommended approach</li> <li>• Presentation to appropriate Federal and Provincial authorities</li> </ul>
City Environmental Management Strategy	Environmental management tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request brief from City staff on key environmental issues</li> <li>• Provide ACE perspective in writing on identified issues.</li> </ul>
<b>Issue Management</b>		
Monitor NFHC Barge Unloading Facility Proposal including future Eburne site project and ferry operations on the North Arm	Affects significant fish habitat area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site visit only if further development interest is shown</li> </ul>

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2003

Project	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables
Review major development proposals	Provide environmental perspective/advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide written comments and input</li> </ul>
Airport Issues (YVR Environment Advisory Committee and YVR Noise Management Sub committee)	Opportunity to advise and comment on airport issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive quarterly committee reports/updates</li> <li>• Provide written comments/input on YVRAA Noise Management Plan update</li> <li>• Participate in airport tour- Summer 2003.</li> </ul>
City Transportation Plans	Monitor/ develop understanding of plans; provide environmental perspective as City's Transportation Plans are implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor progress</li> </ul>
ESA Inventory Update Project	Monitor progress; provide perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide written response on staff report to Council on ESA Inventory- Spring 2003.</li> </ul>
Waste Disposal and Management	Gain Knowledge of current situation/implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by key stakeholders</li> <li>• Provide written comments to Council /staff</li> </ul>
Pest/Disease Management	Gain knowledge of City's current approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor</li> <li>• Presentation by Chief Medical Officer and other key informants eg. West Nile Virus</li> </ul>