



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To Community Safety - June 14, 2006

To: Community Safety Committee

Date: May 31, 2005

From: Jim Hancock
Fire Chief

File: 0090-01

Re: Richmond Firefighters - Habitat for Humanity Canada

Staff Recommendation

That the Richmond Firefighters Habitat for Humanity Canada Team be supported by the City of Richmond with services in kind as detailed in the report.


J Hancock
Fire Chief

Att.

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY		
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER		
<hr/>		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>DW</i>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>GD</i>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

Richmond firefighters have formed a project team in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity Canada to assist in the relief efforts for the tsunami-ravaged area of Sri Lanka.

Analysis

The firefighters of Richmond have undertaken an inspiring project to travel to Sri Lanka for two – three weeks in February of 2006 to assist in the relief efforts in the areas hit hardest by the tsunami. In Sri Lanka alone there are now over one million homeless people. As time passes this tragic event becomes more and more a thing of the past. However, for those who live in the affected countries it is a constant, daily reality.

The project team would like to make a positive and lasting difference in the lives of those who have suffered and continue to suffer from the devastation left behind in December 2004. This project will build homes for families in dire need of shelter.

The project team is fundraising to the amount of approximately \$100,000 in order to take this project on through Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit organization whose volunteers have built more than a 175,000 around the world. This team is looking for support in this endeavour for such things as photocopying, telephone, the production centre as well as some staff time (no overtime of course.) Occasionally, a Fire Department non-emergency vehicle will be required to attend off-site meetings and for fundraising.

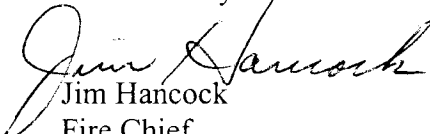
Financial Impact

It is anticipated that the cost of services in kind as listed above will be between \$3,000 - \$8,000. There will be no impact on service delivery to the community as time will be taken either as vacation or through shift reliefs.

Conclusion

The benefits of this project will not only make a lasting difference in the lives of the Sri Lankan people, but it will also provide another “first” for the City of Richmond, not only in BC but across Canada, as the Richmond team will be the first group of Canadian firefighters to travel to Sri Lanka.

This project gives the City of Richmond an opportunity to reach beyond our borders and provide hope to people half way around the world. The team also hopes to go beyond the scope of Habitat for Humanity by building a children’s playground complete with a dedication plaque from the City of Richmond.


Jim Hancock
Fire Chief
(2700)



**RICHMOND FIREFIGHTERS
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: Richmond Firefighters Building Homes in Sri Lanka – Tsunami Relief Through Habitat for Humanity

The firefighters of Richmond have taken on an inspiring project to travel to Sri Lanka in February of 2006 to assist in the relief efforts in the areas hit hardest by the tsunami. In Sri Lanka alone there are now over 1 million homeless people. As time passes this tragic event becomes more and more a thing of the past. However, for those who live in the affected countries it is a daily reality.

We want to make a positive and lasting difference in the lives of those who have suffered and continue to suffer from the devastation left behind in December 2004. This project will build homes for families in dire need of shelter.

We are taking this project on through Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit organization whose volunteers have built more than 175,000 homes around the world. We are looking for your support in this endeavour. Your sponsorship is a valuable contribution to our efforts.

Yours truly,

Jim Hancock
Fire Chief

Thank you on behalf of the following members who will be travelling to Sri Lanka:

Fire Chief Jim Hancock	Fire Fighter Lorenzo Arcari	Fire Fighter Darryl Wellsted
Captain Miles Attewell	Fire Fighter Tom Johnson	Fire Prevention – Tom Beaupre
Captain John Laursen	Fire Fighter Art Lewis	Fire Prevention – Dave Clou
Captain Reg Pepler	Fire Fighter Gerald Metcalfe	Training – Kirby Graeme
Lieutenant Fred Klomp	Fire Fighter Kelly Moss	Administration – Amar Gottenbos
Lieutenant Doug Scott		



**Richmond Firefighters
Habitat for Humanity Canada
Corporate Sponsorship Opportunity**

The theme of this project is making a “difference in the world through partnership”. It is about bringing together committed individuals from local and international, private and public organizations to create new possibilities for homeless families around the world.

Habitat for Humanity enjoys an outstanding reputation for delivering on their mandate to provide desperately needed shelter for families around the world. Richmond fire fighters’ commitment and dedication to public service is clearly demonstrated by the overwhelming public support for our organization and humanitarian initiatives such as the ‘Climb for Wishes’. We anticipate broad public interest and support for this new initiative, and extensive interest and coverage by local, regional and national media.

As individuals, we are committing our time, and personal funds, and will “work our tails off” to make this project a success. To this end we are planning activities to raise funds through public donations. However the funds required for a project of this scope are beyond the capacity of car washes, dances, and private donations. It is clear to us that to be successful we require corporate sponsorship.

The high profile this project will receive presents an opportunity for businesses and corporations interested in having their names included as partners in the project. The level of ‘partnership’ and benefits vary with the level of support.

- **Platinum Partner List – \$25,000 and over. Benefits:**
 - List is included on all project letterhead documents and signage
 - Press release/announcement/plaque presentation photo-op
 - Tax receipt from Habitat for Humanity Canada
 - Framed team photo and Letter of Acknowledgement
- **Gold Partner List – \$5000 - \$10,000 and over. Benefits:**
 - List is included on all project letterhead documents
 - Press release/announcement
 - Tax receipt from Habitat for Humanity Canada
 - Team photo and Letter of Acknowledgement
- **Silver Partner List – \$500 and over. Benefits:**
 - List is included on all project letterhead documents
 - Unlimited membership
 - Tax receipt from Habitat for Humanity Canada
 - Team photo

Thank you for considering how you could make a real difference in the world. Regardless of the level of sponsorship you choose, and even if you choose not to participate, we appreciate you making the time to consider this opportunity.



RICHMOND FIRE FIGHTERS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Global Village Building Project - February 2006



Richmond Fire-Rescue members will be travelling to Sri Lanka in partnership with Habitat for Humanity in February 2006. We will be assisting in the building of homes in an area devastated by the tsunami in December 2004. In Sri Lanka there are currently over one million homeless people.

Our “global village” team consists of the City of Richmond’s fire chief, fire suppression, fire prevention and administration staff. We are dedicated to raising funds that will make this trip a very successful one and are committed to making a lasting difference in the lives of the tsunami victims. Your contribution towards this worthwhile cause will help to bring joy and hope to those who have suffered terribly and continue to suffer in the aftermath of the tsunami.

Thank you for your generosity.





Who Is Habitat for Humanity?

Habitat for Humanity International is a nonprofit, nondenominational Christian housing organization dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness worldwide and to making adequate, affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat is founded on the conviction that every man, woman and child should have a simple, decent, affordable place to live in dignity and safety.

Habitat has an open-door policy: All who desire to be a part of this work are



welcome, regardless of religious preference or background. Habitat for Humanity has always had a policy of building with people in need regardless of race, religion, and we welcome volunteers and supporters from all backgrounds

To date, Habitat has built more than 175,000 houses, providing shelter for 900,000 people. Now at work in 100 countries, Habitat is building a house every 26 minutes.



Habitat in Sri Lanka

Current estimates indicate more than 38,195 people were killed in Sri Lanka, with more than 6,000 missing and 15,000 injured. More than 97,000 families have been displaced, 83,000 houses were completely destroyed and 40,000 houses partially destroyed. Over one million people were left homeless.



Habitat for Humanity Sri Lanka plans to build at least 10,000 houses in the tsunami-hit areas. Fourteen districts of the coastal belt were severely affected including those in which Habitat Sri Lanka operates.

Global Village Trips

Habitat Global Village team members work alongside members of the host community, raising awareness of the burden of poverty housing and building decent, affordable housing worldwide. As partners, team members help build a true “global village” of love, homes, communities and hope!

Global Village team members give of themselves as they work alongside home owners and local volunteers of all races, backgrounds and religions.

www.habitat.org

