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**To:** General Purposes Committee **Date:** August 20, 2003  
**From:** Jane Fernyhough **File:**  
Manager of Heritage and Cultural Services  
**Re:** **Appointment of Council Liaison to Steveston Interurban Restoration Society**

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**Staff Recommendation**

That a Councillor be appointed to be the official liaison between the City and the Steveston Interurban Restoration society.

Jane Fernyhough  
Manager of Heritage and Cultural Services  
(4288)

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<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b>
<i>FK Spanow</i>

## Staff Report

### Origin

At a meeting attended by Mayor Brodie, Councillor Steves, members of the Steveston Interurban Restoration Society (SIRS) and staff on July 31, 2003 it was agreed that in order to facilitate accurate information exchange, a Council liaison should be appointed.

### Analysis

Council has appointed a Council member to serve as the official City liaison to many of the community groups with which it has significant interaction and a form of partnership. While the City has contributed a great deal over the past eleven years to the preservation of the tram in Richmond including moving it, housing it and supporting the society, no official Council liaison has been appointed.

After some controversy and misinformation regarding the intent of the City vis-a-vis the tram, it was agreed at a meeting with several directors of the Society that one of the things that could be done to improve communication was the appointment of a Council liaison.

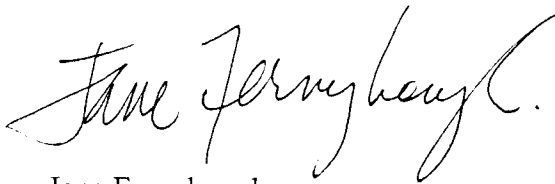
Other initiatives agreed to included staff attending a meeting of the membership to outline City actions and endorsements (August 7, 2003) and the development of a memorandum of understanding outlining roles, expectations and financial interests each party has in the tram.

### Financial Impact

There is no financial impact of appointing a Council liaison.

### Conclusion

Many of the organizations with which the City has a significant relationship have Councillors appointed as official liaisons to aid in the two-way flow of information. The City and SIRS have a significant and long term relationship but there has not been a Council appointed liaison. This appointment should help communication between the organizations.



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