



Regular Council Meeting

Monday, December 14, 2009

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Council Chambers
Richmond City Hall

Present: Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie
Councillor Linda Barnes
Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt
Councillor Greg Halsey-Brandt
Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt
Councillor Ken Johnston
Councillor Bill McNulty
Councillor Harold Steves

Director, City Clerk's Office – David Weber

Absent: Councillor Derek Dang

Call to Order: Mayor Brodie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

RES NO. ITEM

MINUTES

R09/21-1 1. It was moved and seconded
*That the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on Monday,
November 23, 2009, be adopted as circulated.*

CARRIED



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RES NO. ITEM

AGENDA ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

R09/21-2 It was moved and seconded
That "Richmond Zoning Bylaw 8500, Amendment Bylaw 8554" be added to the Council Agenda under 'Bylaws for Adoption'.

CARRIED

2. ANNUAL ADDRESS BY MAYOR MALCOLM D. BRODIE

Mayor Brodie gave his Annual Address, a copy of which is attached as Schedule 1 and forms part of these minutes.

3. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS TO EXTERNAL REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

R09/21-3 It was moved and seconded
That Councillor Linda Barnes be appointed as the Council representative to the Greater Vancouver Regional Labour Relations Bureau, and that Councillor Greg Halsey-Brandt be appointed as the alternate, until December 5, 2011.

CARRIED

R09/21-4 It was moved and seconded
That Councillor Linda Barnes be appointed as the Council representative to the BC Aviation Council, and that Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt be appointed as the alternate, until December 13, 2010.

CARRIED

R09/21-5 It was moved and seconded
That Councillor Linda Barnes be appointed as the Council representative to the Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Committee, and that Councillor Derek Dang be appointed as the alternate, until December 13, 2010.

CARRIED



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4. NAMING OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND THEIR COMPOSITION BY THE MAYOR (in accordance with the *Community Charter*)

Mayor Brodie announced the following Standing Committees and their membership:

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Cllr. Derek Dang (*Chair*)
Cllr. Ken Johnston (*Vice Chair*)
Cllr. Evelina Halsey-Brandt
Cllr. Greg Halsey-Brandt
Cllr. Bill McNulty

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mayor Malcolm Brodie (*Chair*)
Cllr. Bill McNulty (*Vice Chair*)
All members of Council

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Mayor Malcolm Brodie (*Chair*)
All members of Council

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Cllr. Harold Steves (*Chair*)
Cllr. Evelina Halsey-Brandt (*Vice Chair*)
Cllr. Sue Halsey-Brandt
Cllr. Ken Johnston
Cllr. Bill McNulty



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PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Cllr. Bill McNulty (*Chair*)
- Cllr. Greg Halsey-Brandt (*Vice-Chair*)
- Cllr. Linda Barnes
- Cllr. Sue Halsey-Brandt
- Cllr. Harold Steves

PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

- Cllr. Linda Barnes (*Chair*)
- Cllr. Sue Halsey-Brandt (*Vice Chair*)
- Cllr. Derek Dang
- Cllr. Ken Johnston
- Cllr. Harold Steves

5. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL (AND THEIR ALTERNATES) AS THE LIAISONS TO CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS

R09/21-6

It was moved and seconded

That the following Council liaisons (and where applicable, their alternates) be appointed until December 13, 2010:

- (a) Advisory Committee on the Environment – ***Councillor Derek Dang;***
- (b) Agricultural Advisory Committee – ***Councillor Harold Steves;***
- (c) BC Healthy Communities Coalition Steering Committee – ***Councillor Linda Barnes;***
- (d) Council/School Board Liaison Committee – ***Councillors Greg Halsey-Brandt and Linda Barnes;***
- (e) Economic Advisory Committee – ***Councillors Derek Dang and Ken Johnston;***
- (f) Heritage Commission – ***Councillor Greg Halsey-Brandt;***



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- (g) Richmond Athletic Commission – *Councillor Harold Steves;*
- (h) Richmond Centre for Disability – *Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt;*
- (i) Richmond Chamber of Commerce – *Councillor Bill McNulty;*
- (j) Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee – *Councillor Linda Barnes;*
- (k) Richmond Family & Youth Court Committee – *Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt;*
- (l) Richmond Farmers' Institute – *Councillor Harold Steves;*
- (m) Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee – *Councillor Bill McNulty;*
- (n) Richmond Parking Advisory Committee – *Councillor Derek Dang;*
- (o) Richmond Public Art Commission – *Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt;*
- (p) Richmond Safe Communities Alliance – *Councillor Greg Halsey-Brandt;*
- (q) Richmond Sister City Committee – *Councillor Linda Barnes;*
- (r) Richmond Sports Council – *Councillor Bill McNulty;*
- (s) Richmond Traffic and Transportation Advisory Committee – *Councillor Ken Johnston;*
- (t) Seniors Advisory Committee – *Councillor Greg Halsey-Brandt;*
- (u) Spirit of BC Richmond Community Committee – *Councillor Ken Johnston;*
- (v) Tourism Richmond Association – *Councillor Ken Johnston;* and
- (w) Vancouver Coastal Health/Richmond Health Services Local Governance Liaison Group – *Councillor Greg Halsey-Brandt.*

CARRIED



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6. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AS LIAISONS TO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

R09/21-7

It was moved and seconded

That the following Council liaisons be appointed until December 13, 2010:

- (a) Arenas Community Association – *Councillor Bill McNulty;*
- (b) City Centre Community Association – *Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt;*
- (c) East Richmond Community Association – *Councillor Greg Halsey-Brandt;*
- (d) Hamilton Community Association – *Councillor Ken Johnston;*
- (e) Richmond Art Gallery Association – *Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt;*
- (f) Richmond Fitness and Wellness Association – *Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt;*
- (g) Sea Island Community Association – *Councillor Harold Steves;*
- (h) South Arm Community Association – *Councillor Derek Dang;*
- (i) Thompson Community Association – *Councillor Linda Barnes;* and
- (j) West Richmond Community Association – *Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt.*

CARRIED

7. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AS THE LIAISONS TO VARIOUS BOARDS

R09/21-8

It was moved and seconded

That the following Council liaisons (and where applicable, their alternates) be appointed until December 13, 2010:

- (a) Aquatic Services Board – *Councillor Bill McNulty;*
- (b) Child Care Development Board – *Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt;*



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- (c) Museum Society Board – *Councillor Greg Halsey-Brandt*;
- (d) Richmond Gateway Theatre Board – *Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt*;
- (e) Richmond Public Library Board – *Councillors Linda Barnes, and Derek Dang (alternate)*; and
- (f) Steveston Harbour Authority Board – *Councillors Harold Steves, and Linda Barnes (alternate)*.

CARRIED

8. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AS LIAISONS TO VARIOUS SOCIETIES

R09/21-9

It was moved and seconded

That the following Council liaisons be appointed until December 13, 2010:

- (a) Britannia Heritage Shipyard Society – *Councillor Harold Steves*;
- (b) Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society – *Councillor Linda Barnes*;
- (c) London Heritage Farm Society – *Councillor Greg Halsey-Brandt*;
- (d) Minoru Seniors Society – *Councillor Derek Dang*;
- (e) Richmond Nature Park Society – *Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt*;
- (f) Steveston Community Society – *Councillor Bill McNulty*; and
- (g) Steveston Historical Society – *Councillor Linda Barnes*.

CARRIED

9. APPOINTMENT OF PARCEL TAX ROLL REVIEW PANEL FOR LOCAL AREA SERVICES

R09/21-10

It was moved and seconded

That the members of the Public Works & Transportation Committee be appointed as the Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel for Local Area Services until December 13, 2010.

CARRIED



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10. APPOINTMENT OF ACTING MAYORS FROM DECEMBER 14, 2009 TO DECEMBER 13, 2010

R09/21-11

It was moved and seconded

That the following Acting Mayors be appointed until December 13, 2010:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <i>December 15, 2009 – January 31, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Harold Steves</i> |
| <i>February 1 – February 11, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Derek Dang</i> |
| <i>February 12, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Harold Steves</i> |
| <i>February 13, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Derek Dang</i> |
| <i>February 14, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Evelina Halsey-Brandt</i> |
| <i>February 15, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Linda Barnes</i> |
| <i>February 16, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Ken Johnston</i> |
| <i>February 17, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Bill McNulty</i> |
| <i>February 18, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Greg Halsey-Brandt</i> |
| <i>February 19, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Harold Steves</i> |
| <i>February 20, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Sue Halsey-Brandt</i> |
| <i>February 21, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Derek Dang</i> |
| <i>February 22, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Evelina Halsey-Brandt</i> |
| <i>February 23, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Linda Barnes</i> |
| <i>February 24, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Ken Johnston</i> |
| <i>February 25, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Bill McNulty</i> |
| <i>February 26, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Greg Halsey-Brandt</i> |
| <i>February 27, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Sue Halsey-Brandt</i> |
| <i>February 28, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Bill McNulty</i> |
| <i>March 1 – March 31, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Derek Dang</i> |
| <i>April 1 – May 15, 2010</i> | <i>Cllr. Evelina Halsey-Brandt</i> |



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CONSENT AGENDA

- R09/21-14 14. It was moved and seconded
 That Items 15 through 23 be adopted by general consent.

CARRIED

15. COMMITTEE MINUTES

That the minutes of:

- (1) *the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday, December 7, 2009;*
- (2) *the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday, November 24, 2009;*
- (3) *the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday, December 8, 2009;*
- (4) *the Council/Board Liaison Committee meeting held on Wednesday, November 18, 2009;*

be received for information.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

16. KOTO IZAKAYA RESTAURANT COMPANY LTD. UNIT 101 – 8171 ALEXANDRA RD - FOOD PRIMARY LIQUOR LICENCE AMENDMENT

(File Ref. No. 12-8275-30-035) (REDMS No. 2756901)

That the application by Koto Izakaya Restaurant Company Ltd., doing business as Koto Izakaya Sushi & Robata, to permanently extend the hours of liquor service from 9:00 a.m. to Midnight, Monday to Sunday to 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 am., Monday to Sunday, be supported and that a letter be sent to the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch advising that:

- (1) *Council supports the proposed amendment having considered the prescribed criteria (set out in Section 53(4) of the Liquor Control and Licensing Regulations) and comments as follows:*



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- (a) *That the potential for noise in the area if the application is approved was considered.*
 - (b) *That the application for extended liquor service hours will not pose a significant negative impact on the community based on the lack of responses received from the residents and businesses in the area.*
 - (c) *That the application for extended liquor service should not result in the establishment being operated contrary to its primary purpose.*
- (2) *As the operation of a licensed establishment might affect nearby residents and businesses, the City gathered the views of the residents and businesses as follows:*
- (a) *As per City Policy, residents, property owners and businesses within a 100 metre radius of the subject property were contacted by letter detailing the application and were provided with instruction on how community comments or concerns could be submitted.*
 - (b) *In addition, signage was posted at the subject property and three public notices were published in a local newspaper. This signage and notice provided information on the application and instruction on how community comments or concerns could be submitted.*
- (3) *Council's comments considered the views of the residents and businesses as follows:*
- (a) *The only response to the public notifications was an email dated November 4, 2009, from a nearby business owner. Based on the lack of any responses from residents in the nearby area, Council considers that the application is acceptable to the majority of the residents.*

ADOPTED ON CONSENT



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17. TEMPORARY REQUESTS FOR EXTENDED HOURS OF SERVICE FOR LIQUOR PRIMARY LICENCES

(File Ref. No.: 12-8275-05) (REDMS No. 2766086)

That Council provide a no objection comment to LCLB on the temporary increase of hours to liquor service on the Liquor Primary Licences held by Stanley's Lounge, Plaza Premium Lounge and Vancouver Airport Hilton as the increase in hours and temporary seating at the Vancouver Airport Hilton will not have an impact on residential areas and traffic and noise in the areas will not be adversely affected.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

18. 2010 GAMES CITY OLYMPIC HOSTING AND PROTOCOL PROGRAM UPDATE

(File Ref. No.: 01-0450-03) (REDMS No. 2773895)

That the 2010 Games City Olympic Hosting and Protocol Program Update (as outlined in the Staff Report dated December 2, 2009 from the Manager, Community Relations and Protocol and the Senior Program Manager of CPMG), be approved.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

19. SOUTH ARM COMMUNITY PARK VISION AND MASTER PLAN

(File Ref. No.: 06-2345-20-SARM1) (REDMS No. 2718415, 2659773)

That:

- (1) *the draft South Arm Community Park Vision and Development Plan be endorsed.***
- (2) *staff begin discussions with Richmond School District No. 38 regarding the feasibility of the draft Park Vision and Development Plan, as well as the replacement timetables for Whiteside Elementary and McRoberts Secondary schools.***

ADOPTED ON CONSENT



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20. **APPLICATION BY NKS ENTERPRISES FOR REZONING AT 8571 HEATHER STREET FROM SINGLE DETACHED (RS1/B) TO SINGLE DETACHED (RS2/A)**

(File Ref. No.: 12-8060-20-8435, RZ 08-438376) (REDMS No. 2502170, 2743827)

That Bylaw No. 8435, for the rezoning of 8571 Heather Street from “Single Detached (RS1/B)” to “Single Detached (RS2/A)”, be introduced and given first reading.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

21. **CITY OF RICHMOND RECOMMENDATIONS: METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY**

(File Ref. No.: 01-0157-20-RGST1) (REDMS No. 2773926, 2769830)

- (1) *That the Recommendations contained in Attachments 3, 5 and 6 of the staff report from the General Manager Planning and Development, entitled: City of Richmond Recommendations: Metro Vancouver Regional Growth Strategy, dated December 3, 2009, be approved and forwarded to the Metro Vancouver Board for incorporation into the next draft of the Regional Growth Strategy, on the basis that the RGS Industrial and Employment Lands designations will not be legal, until Richmond reviews its Official Community Plan and a new Regional Context Statement is approved; and*
- (2) *That Metro Vancouver consult with the property owners of the Riverside Industrial Park (area between Highway 99, Shell Road, Steveston Highway and the Fraser River) with regard to the proposed RGS Industrial designation over their entire area, that this consultation be to the standards deemed acceptable to the City of Richmond, and that MV involve City of Richmond staff throughout the process.*

ADOPTED ON CONSENT



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22. BYLAW 8561 TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN 7100 SCHEDULE 1, AIRCRAFT NOISE SENSITIVE DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND MAP AND SCHEDULE 2.11A (WEST CAMBIE AREA PLAN)

(File Ref. No.: 12-8060-20-8561)REDMS No. 2766929, 2767360)

(1) That Bylaw No. 8561 proposing an amendment to:

(a) the Official Community Plan (Bylaw 7100) Schedule 1, Section 5.4 Noise Management:

(i) by removing the single-hatched areas of the OCP Aircraft Noise Sensitive Development map;

(ii) by adding 80/100 Lancaster Crescent to the ANSD map as Area 2;

(iii) by clarifying the air cooling system standards and techniques, in Note 4 of the OCP Aircraft Noise Sensitive Development Table;

(b) the Official Community Plan (Bylaw 7100) Schedule 2.11A (West Cambie Area Plan), Section 8.1.6 to clarify the air cooling system standards and techniques for new construction in the Alexandra area of West Cambie,

be introduced and given first reading.

(2) That Bylaw No. 8561, in accordance with the City Policy on Consultation during an OCP Amendment, be referred to the Vancouver International Airport Authority (VIAA) for comment before January 13, 2010.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

23. ROAD CLOSURE AND REMOVAL OF ROAD DEDICATION BYLAW 8544 – PORTION OF 5TH AVENUE AT STEVESTON HIGHWAY

(File Ref. No.: 12-8060-20-8544/Vol 01, 06-2290-20-109-004/Vol 01) (REDMS No. 2744083)

That:

(1) the Road Closure and Removal of Road Dedication Bylaw 8544 be introduced and given 1st, 2nd and 3rd readings;

(2) the required notice of road closure and the intent to dispose of it be advertised prior to final adoption;



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- (3) *staff be authorized to file a certifying statement executed by the Corporate Officer at Land Title Office cancelling the right of resumption pursuant to the Resumption of Highways Regulation; and*
- (4) *staff be authorized to take all necessary steps to complete this matter and the Manager, Real Estate Services be authorized to execute all required documentation.*

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

**CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS REMOVED FROM THE
CONSENT AGENDA**

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

The following advisory committee appointments were announced:

Richmond Museum Society

- Two-year term: Sreedevi Kuttamkulangara and Joe Da Silva.

Richmond Aquatic Services Board

- One-year term: Andy Nimmo.
- Two-year term: Harminder Gill, Winson Wan, Rosemary Nickerson, and Roger Watts.

Richmond Gateway Theatre Society

- Two-year term: Keith Liedtke and E. Michael O'Brien.

Child Care Development Advisory Committee

- Two-year term: Sushma Wadwania.



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BYLAWS FOR ADOPTION

R09/21-15

It was moved and seconded

That the following bylaws be adopted:

Miscellaneous Amendments Arising From Richmond Zoning Bylaw 8500, Amendment Bylaw No. 8542

Traffic Bylaw No. 5870, Amendment Bylaw No. 8555

Waterworks and Water Rates Bylaw 5637, Amendment Bylaw No. 8548

Drainage, Dyke and Sanitary Sewer System Bylaw 7551, Amendment Bylaw No. 8549

Solid Waste & Recycling Regulation Bylaw 6803, Amendment Bylaw No. 8550

Zoning & Development Bylaw No. 5300, Amendment Bylaw No. 8455 (3051 Catalina Crescent, RZ 08-434507)

Richmond Zoning Bylaw 8500, Amendment Bylaw No. 8554

CARRIED

In accordance with section 100 of the *Community Charter*, Councillor Barnes declared herself to be in a potential conflict of interest as she owns property in the area and left the meeting (8:30 p.m.).

R09/21-16

It was moved and seconded

That Zoning & Development Bylaw No. 5300, Amendment Bylaw No. 8508 (4311 Garry Street, RZ 09-461562) be adopted.

CARRIED

Councillor Barnes re-entered the meeting (8:31 p.m.).



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RES NO. ITEM

R09/21-17 It was moved and seconded
*Zoning & Development Bylaw No. 5300, Amendment Bylaw No. 8515
(5580, 5600 and 5620 Moncton Street; RZ 08-425926)*

CARRIED
Opposed: Cllr. Barnes

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT PANEL

R09/21-18 24. It was moved and seconded
(1) That the minutes and the Chair's report for the Development Permit Panel meeting held on Wednesday, November 25, 2009, be received for information.
(2) That the recommendations of the Panel to authorize the issuance of:
(a) a Development Permit (DP 09-469892) for the property at 5580, 5600, and 5620 Moncton Street; and
(b) a Development Permit (DP 09-494545) for the property at 4000 No. 3 Road;
be endorsed, and the Permits so issued.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

R09/21-19 It was moved and seconded
That the meeting adjourn (8:40 p.m.).

CARRIED



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RES NO. ITEM

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Monday, December 14, 2009.

Mayor (Malcolm D. Brodie)

Corporate Officer (David Weber)

Annual Address
By Mayor Malcolm Brodie
December 14, 2009

Tonight we reflect on an incredible year in Richmond's history. After a 50 year hiatus, we all celebrated the opening of the Canada Line, which reconnected rail service between Vancouver, the Airport and Richmond. Late in 2008, we also opened the Richmond Olympic Oval to international acclaim and welcomed the community to enjoy its offerings. City Council then continued to look far into the future when we approved our new City Centre Area Plan, began the renewal process for our Official Community Plan, and expanded our facilities to better serve the community.

Richmond City Council eagerly anticipates the year which lies ahead. It promises to be a year like no other. In mere weeks, Richmond will welcome the world when we play a central role in hosting the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. This once in-a-lifetime experience has already produced tremendous community legacies.

Yet, the Richmond Olympic Oval is only one component of our Games experience. The excitement will intensify on February 9th when the Olympic Torch Relay winds its way through our streets. That evening in Minoru Park, the community is invited to a spectacular cauldron-lighting ceremony, enhanced by exciting live entertainment and fireworks.

Each day of the Games, everyone is invited to Richmond's own celebration site – the O Zone. This will be a free, family-oriented festival offering something for every taste – from the fun and excitement of live performances on our Main Stage to Olympic simulcasts on the big screens – from ice sculptures like we saw at Winterfest to fascinating exhibitions from around the world – from Holland Heineken House to displays by other cities and regions of our Province – from roving entertainers to a Lunar New Year Celebration. Each Richmond resident can have an authentic and positive Olympic experience. Tribute must be paid to Tourism Richmond, our partner which contributed \$2 million toward the O Zone. This generous grant will provide long-term legacies for the City.

During the Games, Richmond will be alive with other spectacular sights and festivities. Watch for the Richmond Revealed program which creates a series of visual spectacles highlighting for the world special aspects of our industry and heritage. As a centrepiece, the Middle Arm of the Fraser River will feature millions of cranberries, Richmond's signature agricultural crop. These berries will depict the Olympic rings in an integrated expression of art and commerce.

Already in process is one of most important legacies of the Games. And this will come as no surprise, as you have often heard me speak of our incredible volunteers. Working closely with Volunteer Richmond, the City is organizing a huge group of dedicated volunteers who have already devoted thousands of hours of service at various community events. The success of the O Zone will be in the hands of these volunteers. Post-Games, they will be encouraged to continue their support.

While preparations for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games have drawn much attention, your City has greatly enhanced its overall services. For instance, I will speak about the following:

1. Richmond Olympic Oval and the Canada Line;
2. Implementation of our Arts and Cultural Strategy;
3. Emerging as a Sport-Hosting Centre;
4. Strong commitment to community safety;
5. Our success in securing millions of dollars of external funding; and
6. Awards bestowed on Richmond.

1. OPENING OF RICHMOND OLYMPIC OVAL

The opening of the Oval was celebrated just over one year ago. In the ensuing period, it has exceeded all expectations as a community sport, recreation, wellness and cultural facility. It has become a centre for high performance sport as well as an iconic architectural masterpiece dedicated to sustainable building practices.

Broadcasters call the Oval the "Crown Jewel", the "Signature Venue" and even the "Sexiest Venue" for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. It has been enthusiastically embraced by our residents:

- Well over 250,000 people have visited while nearly 100,000 have skated on the long-track ice, including many thousands of Richmond students;
- The Oval played host to a broad mix of sports and community events in addition to speed skating, from table tennis to futsal to wheelchair basketball, and much more; and
- Dignitaries including Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Prince Albert of Monaco were among the many who visited. Their Majesties, the Emperor and Empress of Japan, were joined for their celebration by hundreds of distinguished guests from Richmond's vibrant Japanese-Canadian community.

OPENING OF CANADA LINE

As one of British Columbia's largest infrastructure projects ever, the long-awaited Canada Line opened three months early. By rail, the journey between the heart of Richmond or the airport and downtown Vancouver now takes less than 25 minutes.

To better integrate the Canada Line into the City Centre, Richmond and our partners heavily invested to improve the No. 3 Road streetscape. Soon to be completed, the street will come to life with new bikeways, improved pedestrian access, public plazas, new bus malls, public art, enhanced landscaping and street furniture.

New development along the transit corridor will be further integrated to create a more liveable and walkable area. Sustainable residential and commercial growth will transform our City Centre. It will also help to establish Richmond internationally as a distinct city and a critical link in the Pacific Gateway.

2. ARTS AND CULTURE

An ambitious series of new initiatives was launched in 2009, as Council implemented the City's Arts & Cultural Strategy.

Richmond's first annual Arts Awards were given out this past spring. The program attracted nominations among six categories to recognize both well-established institutions plus rising stars in our vibrant arts community.

The first annual Richmond Winter Festival of the Arts took place at a number of venues. Highlights include the first annual Children's Arts Festival and saw the ever-popular Winterfest Weekend successfully relocated to the Olympic Oval.

In October, Richmond was the site of the Xiamen Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra's first performance in North America. Xiamen has formally agreed to be our Friendship City in China, as has Qingdao. The Orchestra introduced Canadian audiences to the majesty of Chinese symphonic music conducted by one of China's most celebrated conductors, Zheng Xiaoying. Organized by our Sister City Committee, the performance reminded us of the many cultural benefits in having closer relationships with cities elsewhere in the world.

City Council also invested heavily in public art. For instance, we approved a series of artwork programs at the Oval under the auspices of the Vancouver 2010 Venues' Aboriginal Art Program. Created by an aboriginal artist, a contemporary structure of glass and cedar measuring over six metres tall and carved with First Nations' imagery, is one of the beautiful works of art now on site. Other projects include a traditional First Nations' welcoming artwork for the River Road entrance, as well as a custom Inuit tapestry which hangs inside. Soon, a mentorship program for a cross-cultural group of Richmond youth led by an aboriginal artist will be started.

Elsewhere, other interesting public art projects were unveiled this year:

- The Steveston Legacy statue, adjacent to the Gulf of Georgia Cannery is a life-size bronze sculpture of three cannery workers. Many partners contributed to this project.
- To remind us of the former racetrack, a life-size bronze statue of the racehorse Minoru, for which Minoru Park is named, was also unveiled. The statue was generously commissioned by the Milan and Maureen Ilich Foundation.
- Through the Cultural Biennale program, City Council approved the display of a number of public art installations created by artists from around the globe. The artworks will further enliven our urban landscape over the next year.

3. SPORT HOSTING

The City advanced another important initiative by approving a preliminary Sport Hosting Strategy funded in conjunction with Tourism Richmond.

To establish itself as a significant destination, Richmond hosted a range of sporting events throughout 2009. Many championships were held at the Oval. They include the World and Canadian Single Distance Speed Skating Championships, as well as wheelchair basketball and rugby, badminton, table tennis and fencing.

Richmond also hosted the 2009 BC Seniors Games. This community-led initiative was a collaboration of various groups. 28 sports and 3 demonstration sports were guided by over 1,200 volunteers. These Games attracted almost 3,700 athletes, making this Richmond's largest sports event ever.

Our local sports groups played a key hosting role for many other events. For instance, we hosted the Boys National All-Star Soccer Championships. And the rocks were really rolling at

our Curling Centre as the Richmond Centre for Disability hosted the Second Annual International Wheelchair Curling Bonspiel.

All of these initiatives proved that Richmond's facilities, volunteer base, and community spirit are second to none. We will have real success with sport hosting.

4. COMMUNITY SAFETY

This year, City Council maintained its priority on community safety to ensure Richmond's enviable record of crime reduction is continued. Council approved funding for extra RCMP officers who will bolster the police presence around the new Canada Line. We repeatedly spoke out about the wisdom of early installation of fare gates on the Line and that has become part of Translink's plan.

To provide effective service for future generations, the City recently purchased a state-of-the art headquarters for our police detachment. The building, now used for Olympic security, should be ready for detachment occupancy in 2012. Council will ensure continuing police presence in the City Centre following the move.

Richmond Fire Rescue Department also continued its stellar record for meeting the needs of the community. New Fire Chief John McGowan, as well as Deputy Chiefs Tim Wilkinson and Jim Wishlove, were appointed. We are confident of their future success. Another successful recruitment was conducted, thus continuing to increase diversity in the workforce while maintaining high operational standards.

The City also continues with its plans for reconstruction and renovation of all the firehalls.

OTHER MILESTONES

Some of the many other recent service and infrastructure achievements are particularly worthy of note.

Richmond City Council recently endorsed the expansion of our Hamilton Community Centre upon receiving financial assistance from senior levels of government. This will triple its size and allow for a significant increase in the number of programs and services for a growing area.

The Britannia Shipyard celebrated the official opening of the Historic Zone in May. Each of the five buildings in this unique waterfront setting explore the history of Steveston society and community.

"Redefining Living on the Edge" is the name of a new Waterfront Strategy adopted by Council. It envisions that "Richmond will be a community that celebrates its rich past and recognizes the full potential of its island legacy – a dynamic, productive and sustainable world class waterfront".

Adjacent to the Middle Arm, the Hollybridge Promenade now features cherry trees, roadway lighting, decorative paving and seating. This project was partially funded through a generous donation by the David and Dorothy Lam Foundation.

Council also approved the innovative Steveston Village Conservation Program to preserve important building facades. For Steveston Village, it identifies many buildings for conservation based on their significant heritage value, as well as new design guidelines for the others.

5. ALTERNATIVE FUNDING

To reduce the local financial burden while adding to infrastructure, our City constantly seeks funding partners to support projects and programs. We were remarkably successful this year. Our successes include:

- The creation of the new Nelson Road-Highway 91 interchange to relieve the tremendous pressure from truck traffic on Westminster Highway. The City will fund less than 10% of the almost \$25 million total project cost thanks to contributions from other governments and partner agencies.
- Extension of Lansdowne Road from Gilbert to Hollybridge Way. The City received \$1.3 million from the federal and provincial governments for this project. It relieves congestion and provides a link to the Canada Line, City Centre and the Garden City Lands. It also showcased two pilot projects to promote sustainability – using underground heat to defrost the sidewalk as highlighted on CTV news and LED technology for the street lights.
- Canada, BC and the City approved joint investments for water mains, sewer improvements, and pump stations. Other projects are the upgrades to recover energy at Steveston and South Arm Community Centres through new solar panels. Senior government funding exceeds \$11 million for these important programs.

And there were many more partnerships – a unique, accessible playground on the Middle Arm – a new seniors' fitness circuit and accessible play area at Hugh Boyd Park – and more. These and many other significant grants amply demonstrate why Richmond should work closely with senior levels of government and our many other interested partners. The enormous positive impact on our community provides a cost-effective legacy for the future.

6. AWARDS

One benchmark to measure the City's record of excellence lies in the many awards received this year, including:

- The BC Recreation and Parks Association Environmental Leadership Award for Terra Nova Rural Park: This award recognized that the park is dedicated to agricultural heritage preservation, education and conservation. The UBCM also recognized the unique features of the Park by presenting the City with an award for Leadership & Innovation in Environmental Excellence.
- An initiative between the City and Vancouver Coastal Health won a Program Excellence Award for the innovative UBCM pilot program *Decreasing Barriers, Increasing Wellness*: This important set of seniors' outreach programs will return isolated seniors into City programs and services.
- Our Garden City Park Play Environment won a National Merit Award in the category of Design from the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects.
- For the sixth consecutive year, Richmond received the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting. Our award-winning 2007 Annual Report was designed, written, and economically produced exclusively by City staff.

Widely recognized as the most spectacular venue of the 2010 Olympic Winter Games, the Oval has received numerous awards.

Fast and Epp Structural Engineers received a Gold award in the prestigious Institution of Structural Engineers 2009 Awards, plus honourable mention in Sustainability. To win its Gold award, the Oval edged out prestigious competition, such as the Bird's Nest Stadium in Beijing.

Many other awards recognized the Oval's innovative architecture, use of wood, green building practices, steel design, sustainability and news worthiness.

Looking ahead, let's focus on a number of ongoing key priorities, the foundation for which was provided this year. These include 5 areas:

1. Completing the Oval's post-Games conversion;
2. Updating our Official Community Plan;
3. Moving forward in social planning;
4. Richmond's approach to global economic challenges; and
5. Working to ensure Richmond remains a sustainable community.

1. RICHMOND OLYMPIC OVAL CONVERSION

Once the Games conclude, the City will immediately finish the conversion to the Oval's long-term use. Council envisions a complete range of sports medicine and wellness services, a large fitness centre – triple its current size – and a multi-functional space to accommodate ice, track and court users. These will be augmented by the Oval's state-of-the-art indoor rowing tank, as well as studio space for group fitness, yoga and cycling. With its wide variety of programs and amenities, the Oval will offer something for all members of the community.

2. OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN

Now underway is the update to Richmond's Official Community Plan. It is entitled "My Sustainable Community" and will guide our civic vision until 2041. A special focus will be on the pillars of community sustainability throughout that period. Key to the review will be extensive public consultation and input.

To assist the update, a number of major studies will examine special issues. For instance, we need to determine how we can meet greenhouse gas reduction targets. The City must also ensure it has a suitable inventory of employment lands, while we preserve our agricultural and residential areas.

The City Centre Area Plan, a key component of the revised OCP, has already been completed. The new Plan enables Council to manage job and resident growth in the City Centre over the next century.

3. SOCIAL PLANNING

City Council has long struggled to assess the social services needed in order to maintain a liveable City. With uncertain and often-reduced support from senior levels of government, many groups strive to maintain current levels of service and cannot plan for the future. Clearly, many of these social services fall within the responsibility of senior levels of government. When this responsibility is not met, it falls to local government to work with various Richmond groups.

To that end, City Council has approved preparation of a civic 10-Year Social Planning Strategy. The objectives include:

- Identify social planning priorities for City attention between now and 2020;
- Clarify the role of the City and other stakeholders in addressing particular social planning topics; and
- Provide a foundation for a more coordinated and sustainable approach for further social planning.

4. ECONOMY

The world economy is still recovering from last year's meltdown. While general economic projections are better leading into 2010, the City has encountered many challenges.

City revenues have significantly dropped because of the economic and development activity downturn. Although we were able to cushion the impact this year, it is likely to impact our City's 2010 budget more dramatically. We will be challenged to maintain City services at current levels and provide for increases in our civic costs, while we minimize property tax increases. City Council will be vigilant in examining our costs as we seek efficiencies and alternative revenues.

The economic impetus provided by factors such as the Canada Line, the Olympics and the recently-announced Approved Destination Status Agreement with China, should all bolster our business sector in 2010. Council will always ensure that the City is well-positioned to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

5. SUSTAINABILITY

To ensure Richmond remains one of the world's most liveable cities, our Council has made sustainability a priority. For instance, a fundamental component of sustainability is the provision of affordable housing. Council always seeks ways to expand our affordable housing units. Though the City is prepared to support vital new projects, we need committed partners in senior government and elsewhere to move ahead.

An ongoing pressure for many of our residents is finding suitable child care. As with affordable housing, the expansion of child care is a key part of the development process. Through rezoning, many new child care spaces are expected.

Environmentally, Council has taken a number of steps to promote sustainability including:

- Adopting a new bylaw limiting cosmetic pesticide use;
- Expanding community gardens; and
- Further reducing our energy consumption.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, 2009 has been a memorable, award-winning year in Richmond. Though much of the current civic discussion revolves around the Canada Line, the Richmond Olympic Oval, and plans for the unforgettable 2010 Olympic Winter Games in February, those are simply the most visible aspects of Council's initiatives.

Our City has adopted a wide array of strategies to ensure that our quality of life improves, notwithstanding growth and other challenges. We always review our plans, sometimes looking out many decades to focus on components of a sustainable City. Richmond learns from past accomplishments and challenges as we plan for the future. We form mutually-beneficial partnerships to expand our range of facilities. City Council works with its community partners, dedicated staff, tireless volunteers, our strong business sector and residents to better provide a liveable City. All members of City Council and I, as your Mayor, feel privileged to play an active role in guiding Richmond into the coming years. Our future remains exciting, challenging and filled with opportunity for all those fortunate to have chosen Richmond as their place to live, work, play or learn.