

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session, Tuesday, November 26, 2019

1. The Burnaby Children's Charter

A Children's Charter is a tool that helps communities, schools, or organizations embed the principles of the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child* into their work. A Children's Charter tells us what children need to grow up healthy and happy. It helps us think about and protect the rights of children. A charter is used to amplify the voices of young people, mobilize action, and support the development of action tools including children and youth strategies.

The Burnaby Children's Community Table is a collaborative group of community service providers that serve Burnaby children and families. The table includes representatives from the City of Burnaby; Fraser Health; Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services; the Burnaby Public Library; Ministry for Children and Family Development; the Burnaby School District; Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education; the United Way of the Lower Mainland; not-for-profits and community based organizations.

The Burnaby Children's Community Table consulted with community on the needs and resources required to develop a Burnaby Children's Charter. They also worked in partnership with Equitas to create tools that were play and art-based to support children to exercise their right to be heard. The voices of children are the foundation of the Burnaby Children's Charter.

Everyone in the Burnaby community has a responsibility to support and protect the rights of children. To do this we have to know about children's rights and actively support these rights. The Burnaby Children's Charter will give us a child's view for a city that supports and promotes Burnaby children's rights and responsibilities.

In order to move the Charter forward, The Burnaby Children's Community Table would like stakeholders to endorse the Charter and to promise to support its use and implementation throughout the City. When an individual or organization endorses the Burnaby Charter, it means that they approve, support or sustain it.

This evening Sheri Brattston, Burnaby School District Coordinator Community Services, Kamala Sproule, Early Childhood Development Table Community Coordinator, and Taylor Morton, Program Officer BC, Equitas International Centre for Human Rights, will describe the rationale and process leading to the development of the Burnaby Children's Charter. Stefano Bousquet, a grade 7 student from Sperling Elementary, and Jonas Ribeiro, in grade 6 and his sister Nadia, in grade 4, both from Taylor Park Elementary, will share their voices on the Burnaby Children's Charter.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education endorse the Burnaby Children's Charter.