

NO: **R123** COUNCIL DATE: **July 13, 2009**

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council** **DATE: July 9, 2009**

FROM: **Deputy City Manager** **FILE: 0510-20**
Executive Director, SFU Surrey

SUBJECT: **Status Report - Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Surrey and Simon Fraser University (Surrey Campus)**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council receive this report as information.

BACKGROUND

The City of Surrey and Simon Fraser University (SFU) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in April 2008 (see Appendix II). This report is intended to assist in fulfilling the communication commitments in Section 3 of the MOU. The MOU recognizes that the City and SFU have a number of common goals toward which the parties can advance more quickly through working together.

DISCUSSION

The attached Appendix I provides a summary of the various collaborations on which the City of Surrey and SFU are jointly working. This list of projects is a demonstration of the significant number of common interests between the two parties.

The City of Surrey is currently developing plans to relocate City Hall to City Centre. Those plans include space for SFU to expand their Surrey campus. SFU has reached the capacity of its Surrey campus with a current student population of 4,200. The parties will continue to advocate for additional capital and operating funding from the Province of British Columbia on behalf of SFU Surrey to assist in ensuring that it continues to grow to reach its full potential and to become an even stronger presence in Surrey City Centre. The City is working with SFU in relation to an application for capital funding from the federal government under the universities component of the Economic Stimulus Fund.

CONCLUSION

The City of Surrey and SFU continue to look for opportunities to work together to further the collective interests of both parties. The City recognizes the enormous importance of SFU in relation to building a strong City Centre, providing an environment attractive to business, ensuring local opportunities of higher education for the community, and supporting the development and diversification of Surrey's economy.



Joanne Curry
Executive Director, SFU Surrey

Dan Bottrill
Deputy City Manager

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Appendices

- Appendix I Summary of City of Surrey/SFU Collaborations
- Appendix II Corporate Report R057

APPENDIX 1



City of Surrey/SFU Collaborations



Applied Research and Knowledge Transfer Projects	Other Partners and Funders
<p>Community Engagement for Crime Prevention One year project to facilitate expertise and exchange of knowledge in areas of property crime and youth. <i>Completed with final report provided.</i> City Contact: <i>Dan Bottrill, Deputy City Manager</i> SFU Contact: <i>Justine Bizzocchi, Technology Manager</i></p>	<p><i>Canadian Council on Learning (\$50K)</i> <i>SFU in-kind (\$31K)</i> <i>Kwantlen Polytechnic University (co-researcher)</i></p>
<p>Regional Economic Summit Overall coordination of white paper process and participation on organizing committee. Funding of white paper by Catherine Murray, “Edge Cities: Competitive and Collaborative Creative Economy Strategies” and identification of other SFU authors, Gordon Price, “A Survey of Surrey” and Sean Markey, “Addressing Poverty and Competitiveness through Place-based Development in Surrey”. Sponsorship of Conference. SFU Panelists/Moderators included Warren Gill and SFU Dean of Business, Danny Shapiro.</p>	<p><i>Surrey Board of Trade (co-organizer of Summit)</i> <i>SFU (\$13K)</i></p>
<p>Vertical Farming and Rooftop Greenhouses The City is working with Simon Fraser University in undertaking a feasibility study of vertical farming and rooftop greenhouses. Ms. Georgina Rodriguez, a post graduate student and Dr. Zamir Punja, Professor of Biological Sciences, at SFU are the principals conducting the study and related analysis. Representatives from the Horticultural and Pest Management Programs at Kwantlen Polytechnic University have also been invited to participate in the study. <i>New project underway.</i> City Contact: <i>Dan Bottrill</i> SFU Contact: <i>Dr. Punja, Professor, SFU Dept. of Biological Sciences.</i></p>	<p><i>Kwantlen Polytechnic University (potential symposium organizer)</i></p>
<p>Health District Vision for Surrey The report will identify the opportunities for and necessary components of a health cluster/district in Downtown Surrey that leverages the expansion of health sciences programs, research, and services of SFU and the FHA to encourage further public and private investment and job creation in Surrey. Collaboration of City of Surrey and Surrey Board of Trade. Funding for student intern provide by SFU. <i>Underway.</i> City Contact: <i>Donna Jones and Mary Ann Smith, Economic Development</i> SFU Contact: <i>Joanne Curry and Michal Fedeles</i></p>	<p><i>Surrey Board of Trade (Industry Committee leading project which includes Kwantlen Polytechnic University as a member)</i> <i>SFU (\$4.2K)</i></p>

Committee Participation and Student Interaction	Participant
<p>Committees: SFU Surrey Advisory Council SFU India Advisory Council</p> <p>Surrey Mayor's Committee on 2010 Olympics</p> <p>Vibrant Surrey</p> <p>Surrey Arts and Culture Committee</p> <p>Meeting Participation and Stakeholder Consultations: Citizen's Advisory Committee for Surrey City Centre Plan Update Sustainability Strategy Employment Lands Strategy and Economic Development Strategy Transportation Strategy Surrey International Partnering Opportunities</p> <p>Class Project and Speaker Interaction: Urban Studies Design Charettes at Central City: Options</p> <p>Presentation to Explorations 110: Organising Society</p> <p>Class Project: Sustainable Community Development 301 class designed a social marketing strategy for Surrey's Sustainability Charter.</p> <p>Class Project: Development of interface and content for video component for Bear Creek park Public Artwork, Lingua Aqua Sound Thinking Audio Art Symposium organized and hosted by the Surrey Art Gallery</p> <p>Cultural Capitals of Canada Inspired Speaker Series: Jeff Derksens's Gentrification and the Global Dream City</p>	<p>Murray Dinwoodie Barinder Rasode</p> <p>Joanne Curry</p> <p>Sean Markey (SFU) Received \$400K From J. W. McConnell Foundation matched by United Way, Coast Capital and Vancity.</p> <p>New Committee, details in progress.</p> <p>SFU: Joanne Curry SFU: Joanne Curry SFU: Joanne Curry SFU: Lee Gavel, Joanne Curry SFU: Mehran Kiai, Joanne Curry</p> <p>City: Judy Mcleod, Mark Allison</p> <p>City: Dan Neilson</p> <p>SFU: Sean Markey City: Mark Allison</p> <p>SFU faculty; Michael Filimowicz, Phillippe Pasquier City: Sandra Dent, Liane Davison SFU Speaker: Phillippe Pasquier</p> <p>City: Kelsey Swanson, Dan Nielsen</p>
Industry Support and Economic Development	
<p>Fraser Valley Technology Network The City of Surrey's Economic Department and SFU support this network of SME companies by organizing and financing educational and networking events.</p> <p>City Centre Economic Development Team The team will be focused on scanning for and sharing information on business and investment leads, providing market outreach to raise awareness of City Centre as a prime location to invest and bring business</p>	<p>City: Donna Jones SFU: Joanne Curry Other members: SCDC, Surrey Board of Trade, Blackwood Properties, DSBIA</p>

Venue and Sponsorships for City of Surrey Events	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surrey Winterfest 2008 • Environmental Extravaganza film series organized by the Green Ideas Network and the City of Surrey • Public Open Houses for the Surrey City Center Plan Update • City meetings on request • Digital Art Teen Summer Camp, hosted at SFU School of Interactive Art and Technology, as part of the Surrey Art Gallery's Glocal project • Surrey City Orchestra performance at SFU • Student fitness membership at group rate • Gymnasium space group rent rate • North Surrey Recreation Centre/SFU Summer Camp Partnership – share instructor costs and marketing • Women's Hockey Program in development 	<p><i>City: Bryan Tasaka</i> <i>SFU: Sandra Moro</i></p> <p><i>City: Colleen Gillespie</i> <i>SFU: Sandra Moro</i></p> <p><i>City: George Fujii</i> <i>City: Dan Bottrill</i></p> <p><i>City: Liane Davison</i> <i>SFU: Sandra Moro</i></p> <p><i>City: Sheila McKinnon</i> <i>SFU: Joanne Curry</i></p> <p><i>City: Lorie Bowie</i> <i>SFU: Marc Pope</i></p> <p><i>City: Lorie Bowie</i> <i>SFU: Marc Pope</i></p> <p><i>City: Lorie Bowie</i> <i>SFU: Marc Pope</i></p> <p><i>City: Chris Gain</i> <i>SFU: Joanne Curry</i></p>
Central City Build Out and University Expansion	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor's letter of support for SFU submitted expansion proposal (<i>June, 2008</i>) • Facilitation of King George Developments student housing project (<i>ongoing</i>) • The City is working with SFU in relation to an application for capital funding from the federal government under the universities component of the Economic Stimulus Fund (<i>May, 2009</i>) 	
Potential Future Initiatives for City Involvement	
<p>Mental Health & Addictions Endowed Lecture Series/Annual Summit</p> <p>The purpose of this lecture series or annual summit, aimed at the professional health community and held at SFU Surrey, is to showcase the latest, innovative and most promising approaches to addressing mental health and addiction and its effects on society, communities, and families. Annual series.</p>	<p>SFU Surrey Firefighters The Haddad Family</p>
<p>Urban Sustainability Lecture Series</p> <p>Annual public lecture series managed by SFU's Urban Studies.</p>	<p>Fraser Valley Real Estate Board Real Estate Foundation of BC</p>

Demand from South of the Fraser High School Graduates:

Demand from high school students for admittance to SFU Surrey in programs such as Science is far outstripping the capacity of the campus. As a result, students entering SFU Surrey in Science must have higher average high school grades than SFU's Burnaby campus program. The percentage of first year students from Surrey has increased rapidly since 2002. In 2007, half of the first year student body are from Surrey and over 60% are from the South of the Fraser area.

Enrolment in University by South of the Fraser High School Graduates:

Currently, high school graduates in the South of the Fraser area progress on to university (post secondary) education at a lower rate than high school graduates in other Lower Mainland cities. A 2004 Statistics Canada study showed that decreased distance to university is associated with higher university attendance. On this basis, it is important that the Surrey campus of SFU have sufficient capacity to encourage Surrey high school graduates to proceed on to post secondary education and not be dissuaded by the need to travel long distances to the next nearest university that has available capacity.

Building a Strong City Centre:

The City of Surrey recognizes the high value to the City of having a research university within its boundaries, particularly with a reputation as outstanding as SFU's reputation. The City also recognizes the importance of SFU's presence in the on-going growth and development of the Surrey City Centre area. The profile of the university and the activity that SFU's Surrey campus, including the attraction of international students, generates act to encourage all types (i.e., business, residential, recreational, etc.) of investment in Surrey's City Centre. The University has been an important meeting space for the community and has provided free public lectures and summer camps for children to connect with residents. The City recognizes that the physical growth of the university (i.e., the buildings that will be built to accommodate an expanded student population) will add to the positive ambience of Surrey City Centre and will assist in making it a vibrant and attractive environment. SFU will continue to contribute positively to the civic pride that Surrey citizens hold with respect to the Surrey City Centre as it matures.

Education and Research Important to Businesses:

Business owners view proximity to a university as a positive attribute in determining the location for their businesses for a variety of reasons. A well-educated local workforce tends to make recruitment of employees less difficult. The research conducted by the university can often be leveraged by local businesses into improved or new products that can result in better returns on investment. In addition, employees often want to live near a university so that they can continue their education on a part time basis while they continue to work or so that their children can attend university while continuing to live at home.

Potential For Joint Facilities:

The City and SFU have some common facilities where joint development and operation would provide additional efficiencies and effectiveness for both parties. These facilities include such things as libraries and recreational facilities. It is recognized that some research around where and how such facilities could be constructed and operated to the mutual advantage of the City and SFU is appropriate.

DISCUSSION

To formally recognize the mutual benefits of working together, City staff and senior officials of SFU have drafted the MOU that is attached as Appendix A to this report. The MOU articulates the common goals of the parties (Part 1.) and charts a course of work for the parties over the next 24 months to achieve the goals (Part 2.).

The draft MOU was considered at the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee. The committee endorsed the wording of the MOU and recommended that it be forwarded to Council for favourable consideration. At its meeting on March 31, 2008, City Council agreed to hear a delegation from SFU regarding SFU's commitment to the goals, work program and communications documented in the MOU.

In addition to articulating the goals and charting a course of work for the next 24 months for the City and SFU in relation to the future of the university as an important component of a vibrant City Centre, the MOU also documents an intended strategy for communications between the City and SFU (Part 3.) as the work contemplated by the MOU is undertaken. As a minimum, an annual report will be provided to City Council and SFU's senior executive and formal presentations will be made on a semi-annual basis to the City's Intergovernmental Affairs Committee. The report and presentations will provide an opportunity to review priorities and issues, assess the success of joint strategies and discuss new partnership opportunities. Additional reports and communications will be provided on an "as needed" basis.

CONCLUSION

There are significant benefits to both the City and SFU, in working together toward the achievement of certain goals related to the future of SFU and the future of the City (and particularly City Centre) as articulated in this report and the attached MOU. On this basis, it is recommended that City Council authorize the Mayor to sign, on behalf of the City of Surrey, the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Surrey and Simon Fraser University that is attached as Appendix "A" to this report.

Murray Dinwoodie
City Manager

Attachment – Appendix "A"

APPENDIX “A”

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF SURREY AND SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

1. The City of Surrey (the "City") and Simon Fraser University ("SFU"), also referenced as “the partners”, have a number of mutual goals for the growth of Surrey City Centre and the development of the Surrey campus of SFU. These include the following:

1.1 The partners are both landowners and major tenants in the City Centre and are working to achieve the goal of a thriving, mixed-use City Centre in Surrey with office, retail, institutional, recreational and residential developments of an appropriate scale, density and quality. The partners agree that further expansion of the SFU Surrey campus in City Centre is clearly consistent with achieving this goal;

The partners acknowledge that the expansion of SFU will assist in the City’s goal to retain and grow businesses in Surrey and attract new businesses to Surrey and Surrey’s City Centre. As a major research university SFU educates the highly skilled personnel essential for economic and social development and acts as an innovation accelerator through its research and commercialization activities.

2. In support of the above goals, the partners will work together over the next 24 months to accomplish the following:
 - 2.1 *The next stage of expansion for the Surrey SFU campus will expand teaching, research, and community outreach in biotechnology, science and the health sciences as well as enable further growth of programs in business and the arts and social sciences.*
 - 2.2 *The partners will work together to expedite the further expansion of the Surrey SFU campus including the construction of a Science and Technology Building as soon as possible. In support of this objective, the City will assist SFU in communicating to the provincial and federal government the importance to Surrey and the South Fraser region of additional undergraduate and graduate programs in Science and Health Sciences as well as an enhanced research capacity for the South Fraser;*
 - 2.3 *With the City’s Development Corporation, the partners will explore opportunities to leverage the partners land holdings in City Centre and further expansion of SFU and the City of Surrey existing and future facilities to attract other quality tenants to the City Centre and where any opportunity demonstrates viability, to take appropriate actions to bring the opportunity to fruition;*
 - 2.4 *Through the City’s Economic Development Office, and through SFU’s University/Industry Liaison Office and Office of Continuing Studies, the partners will develop initiatives targeted at retaining and growing Surrey businesses and attracting new businesses to Surrey and the South Fraser; and*
 - 2.5 *The partners will explore joint opportunities for the development and use of recreation and library facilities and for the support of athletics.*

3 To assist in ensuring on-going communication and the sharing of plans and activities, the partners agree to the following liaison mechanisms:

3.1 The City Manager and Executive Director of the Surrey Campus will provide an annual report of activities and accomplishments to each of City Council and SFU's senior executive;

3.2 SFU will make a formal presentation to the City's Intergovernmental Affairs Committee twice per annum. This will provide an opportunity to review priorities and issues, assess the success of joint strategies and projects, and discuss new partnership opportunities; and

3.3 The partners will provide other reports and communications to City Council, the City's Intergovernmental Affairs Committee and others where such reports and communications are considered necessary or expedient in relation to accomplishing the objectives of this MOU.

These liaison mechanisms are in addition to active existing collaboration between SFU's Surrey Campus administration, SFU's Chief Facilities Officer/SFU Architect, the City Manager's Office, the City's Economic Development Division, the City's Planning and Development Department and, the City's Parks, Recreation and Culture Department.

Dated this 14th day of April, 2008.

Signed on behalf of the City of Surrey by:

Dianne L. Watts
Mayor

Signed on behalf of Simon Fraser University by:

Michael Stevenson
President and Vice-Chancellor