



NOTICE OF MEETING

CIVIC ASSET NAMING COMMITTEE

AGENDA

DATE: Monday, May 6, 2013

TIME: 5:00 pm

PLACE: Town Hall - Room 115
Main Floor - City Hall

PLEASE NOTE:

- *If you are unable to attend this meeting, please advise Laura Kazakoff at 604.871.6353 or e-mail laura.kazakoff@vancouver.ca*
 - *Agendas and Minutes are available on the City of Vancouver civic agencies' web site at: <http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/civicaencies/civicindex.htm>*
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Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held Monday, February 4, 2013, to be approved.

1. Naming in the News

Les Mobbs, City Archivist, will provide a brief verbal report.

2. Review of Proposed Name Submitted by Public - Adam Burhoe

The Committee to review the following attachments to determine if the submission is to be added to the Civic Asset Name Reserve List.

- Letter dated February 13, 2013, from Mike Thomson, Surveyor General of BC
- Letter dated March 14, 2013, from Chuck Salmon, Secretary Registrar, Association of BC Land Surveyors

3. Civic Asset Naming Request

(a) Request for Naming of Four Public Streets in River District (also known as East Fraserlands)

The Committee first discussed this matter at its meeting on February 4, 2013, and postponed decision pending further discussion at a working session of the Committee.

4. Correspondence

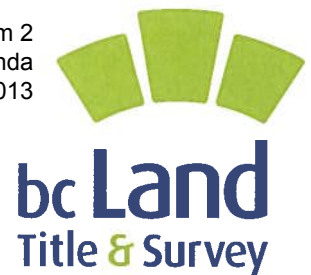
A folder of received correspondence will be circulated at the meeting.

5. New Business

Next Meeting:

Monday, September 9 at 5:00 pm

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February 13, 2013

Mr. Peter Judd, P.Eng.
City Engineer
Engineering Services
City of Vancouver
320-507 West Broadway
Vancouver BC V5Z 0B4

Dear Peter:

Re: Adam Arnott Webster Burhoe, BCLS #279 LM #34 - 1914-2013

Adam Burhoe, BCLS, a former City Surveyor passed away at 98 on February 9, 2013. Adam was born July 2, 1914, and while it would be trite to say that when Adam was born they broke the mold, it would be fair to say that the mold was only used once.

Adam was a special individual for the land surveying community, as described below, but the purpose of this note is to remind the City of the contributions that Adam made to the City over his career. A strong force in the growth of the City, Adam was a unique, special individual that usually got his way.

As I understand the story, Adam became a City employee in 1929, soon after his father passed away. He was 15 at the time and had a mother and at least one sister that needed to be supported. As was the custom of the day, the oldest son left school and went to work to support the family. During the depression, the City laid off a large number of workers; the layoffs were not done by seniority, but rather by the number of dependents that one had. With a mother and siblings to look after, Adam retained his job throughout the years of the depression.

In 1945, Adam entered articles with G. F. Fountain, BCLS #245 and LM #25. The 'Fountain Line' remains – to this day - a major planning tool for 'dwelling positioning' along Point Grey Road on the west side of Vancouver. In 1949, some 20 years after entering the work force, Adam was commissioned as a BC land surveyor, commission number 279.

Adam spent most of his career as the Assistant City Surveyor, some 23 years – before becoming City Surveyor for approximately the last 7 years of his career. Adam had a forceful personality and in countless ways assisted with the development and growth of Vancouver over his working career. After retirement, forced at 65 in 1979, Adam remained on contract for approximately 3 years while a young Noel Peters was brought along as City Surveyor.

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If one adds it up you will find Adam was a City employee for 50 years, on contract for 3 and then collected a pension for approximately 33 years. Even accounting for the contracting/pension overlap that is some 83 years that Adam was connected to the City of Vancouver.

(We can certainly do a bit of fact checking through Noel, Gerry Girardin and Jack Larson to get the details straight. Oddly, I think one will find that Fred Wong, BCLS, was technically hired into the 'FTE' spot that Adam had occupied. I know Gerry has some great stories of he and Adam riding the street cars with 'survey equipment' when the City did not have fuel for vehicles).

As a land surveyor, Adam was president of the Association of BC Land Surveyors (ABCLS) in 1969 and from 1971-1984 was the Secretary Registrar. Adam was elected to life membership in 1984 (LM #34) a position he held for 29 years until his passing last Saturday. In 1985, Adam was the 3rd ever recipient of the then – Distinguished Service Award for *especially outstanding service through a very long time commitment of valuable volunteer service to the Association, or a significant contribution to the field of land surveying or Geomatics.*

While Adam's contributions to the ABCLS were special it was as a City employee where he excelled. If the City ever created a Hall of Fame for employees Adam would be a first ballot inductee. I can't imagine having the same employer for 50 years.

I would urge the City to consider finding a way to honour Adam through a vehicle such as the Street Naming Committee, or even the naming of a new pocket park, square or plaza.

I would encourage the City Engineer to champion this message.

Please let me know if I can assist, I would be happy to speak to the Street Naming Committee, to the City Manager or to Council.

Without Adam there will be fewer straight lines in the world.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Thomson, BCLS
Surveyor General of British Columbia

MT:np

cc: Mr. Al Zacharias, BCLS, City Surveyor, City of Vancouver, BC
Ms. Karyn Magnusson, Director, Departmental Services, Engineering Services,
City of Vancouver, BC
Board of Management, Association of BC Land Surveyors, Sidney, BC



**Association of British Columbia
Land Surveyors**
301-2400 Bevan Avenue, Sidney, BC V8L 1W1
Website – www.abcls.ca

Supports Item 2
Telephone: (250) 655-7222
Fax: (250) 655-7223
e-mail: office@abcls.ca

March 14, 2013

Verna Magee Shepherd, Chair
Civic Assets Naming Committee
City of Vancouver
c/o Leslie Mobbs, Director, Records & Archives via email: leslie.mobbs@vancouver.ca

Dear Verna Magee,

Re: Adam Arnott Webster Burhoe, BCLS, LM (Deceased)

On behalf of the Association of BC Land Surveyors (*Association*), I would like to support the proposal put forward by Mike Thomson, BCLS, Surveyor General of BC that a civic asset be named in honour of Adam Burhoe. Adam was commissioned as a BC land surveyor in 1949, served as President of the *Association* in 1969, served as Secretary from 1971 to 1984, elected to Life Membership in 1984 and received the Distinguished Service Award in 1985.

Not only did Adam provide significant service to the *Association* but also his record of employment with the City of Vancouver was exemplary. His work with the city has resulted in a survey structure that is second to none allowing room for development and growth. A challenging task not to be underestimated.

In putting Adam's name forward to your committee, I reflect on other City of Vancouver names of former land surveyors as well as topographic features within the province. To name a few they are:

Hamilton Street – Lauchlan Alexander Hamilton, Dominion Land Surveyor (DLS) and member of the LS Group being land surveyors authorized to practice in BC prior to 1891.

Tracy Road (now East 30th Avenue) – Thomas Henry Tracy, DLS, PLS (Provincial Land Surveyor – a group authorized from 1891 to 1905).

Trutch Street – Sir Joseph William Trutch, member of the LS Group, Surveyor General of the Mainland Colony 1864-1866, Surveyor General of the United Colony of BC 1866-1871 and Lieutenant Governor of BC 1871-1876.

Mount Gerry Andrews located in SE BC – Gerald Smedley Andrews, MBE, OBC, BCLS, Surveyor General 1951-1968

Mount Wheeler – Arthur Oliver Wheeler, DLS, LS Group.

Town of Moberly, BC – Walter Moberly, Explorer and LS Group, Assistant Surveyor General to Trutch in 1865.

These are only examples of place names in BC named after land surveyors. There are many more.



The *Association* would very much like to see a street, park or whatever asset appropriately fitting Adam's career, named after Adam Burhoe and is willing to provide whatever support is necessary to that end.

I understand that the next meeting of the committee is on May 6, 2013. I would be prepared to meet with the committee should that be appropriate or helpful in moving this request forward.

Please contact the undersigned should you wish to have more information or to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,



Chuck Salmon, BCLS
Secretary Registrar

Copy: Alan Zacharias, BCLS, City Surveyor

