Attention: Mayor and Council

Presenter: Emese Szucs, Manager of Accessibility
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Requested Meeting Date: April 20th, 2010

Presentation Length: 5 – 10 minutes

Briefing Note

Background:
SPARC BC (Social Planning and Research Council of BC) is a provincial organization with a mission of working with communities in building a just and healthy society for all. SPARC BC conducts public education and advocacy on priority issues identified by a provincial Board of Directors and volunteer committees.

Our programs contribute to the goals of fostering the social and economic well being of individuals and communities in BC and include: research and consulting services, the parking permit program for people with disabilities, our community development education program, and the community social planning network.

Access Awareness Day 2010
The Accessible Community Bylaws

SPARC BC is committed to promoting accessible and inclusive communities which allow all members of our diverse society to fully participate in community life. SPARC BC’s annual Access Awareness Day campaign provides an opportunity to educate the community and general public about the importance of improving access for everyone in BC communities.

We are gearing up for our 13th annual province wide Access Awareness Day which will take place on June 5th, 2010. This year’s campaign is focused on the Accessible Community Bylaws Guide, which was launched at UBCM in Fall 2009. This guide is a practical ‘how-to’ tool which outlines model accessibility bylaws that communities can use to enhance the accessibility of the community – from park trails, to public facilities, to sidewalks and streets. Our aim is to increase awareness of the model accessibility bylaws and to encourage communities to support the adoption of the accessible bylaws.

Once again UBCM endorses SPARC BC’s efforts of creating greater awareness on community accessibility.

We require the use of a laptop and a projector for the presentation.

We hope that you will join us in celebrating Access Awareness Day, on June 5th, 2010. We welcome your support of our activities in your community, and we would like to thank you for making it possible to connect with you as we work to achieve our goals.

Outcome:
• Council members receive information package on Access Awareness Day
• Gain support of Council members in promoting and supporting accessibility in their local businesses and community