

APPENDIX B

Planning and Design Principles for Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) in the City of Burnaby

Principle 1 Link ESAs and Greenspaces into a Network

To reduce the effects of isolation on plant and animal populations, areas should be linked by greenspaces to provide an overall network of ESAs.

Principle 2 Maintain Larger Contiguous Open Spaces

Large natural areas containing significant ecological attributes are particularly valuable because they may serve as refuges for many species and act as gene pools for future generations of plants and animals. Efforts should be made to protect them from development activities within core areas and along their edges.

Principle 3 Preserve Ecological Continuity

Recognize that natural areas that have been relatively undisturbed for a long time, or whose prime use has been conservation, can be valuable for scientific research and represent our natural heritage. Efforts should be made to protect their ecological integrity.

Principle 4 Encourage Protective Zoning of Parklands

Actively promote the retention and restoration of high quality habitats in parklands by discouraging the development of habitat fragments. Develop park use zones and enhance planting.

Principle 5 Achieve a Zero Net Increase in Runoff and Avoid Degradation of Water Flowing into the Three Watersheds.

The disruption of the hydrological component of ecosystems is a major problem faced by urban development particularly by the use of non-porous paving surfaces.

Principle 6 Control Construction Damage to Sites

Efforts should be made to protect retained vegetation during construction to reduce soil erosion, runoff and siltation of natural and artificial watercourses.

Principle 7 Plant Native Species

The use of native species should be actively encouraged in all planting designs because they are best suited to the local climate and are closely linked to the life cycles of many species of wildlife.

Principle 8 Protect Micro-Habitats

In an urban landscape, the protection of micro-habitat or small landscape features that provide food, cover and nesting sites, is important to maintain a thriving wildlife population.

Principle 9 Recognize and Preserve Ecological Functions

Undertake an environmental review for all development or redevelopment proposals within Burnaby's public Green Zone lands to ensure that vital ecological functions are retained or restored.

Principle 10 Set an Example

The City of Burnaby should strive to demonstrate the highest regard for nature conservation initiatives on all its lands and in all of its work.