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Metrotown makes it big

Metrotown has been given a \$100 million shot in the arm. "It's a go," said a jubilant Mayor Bill Lewarne.

The see-saw story of Burnaby's town centre development was on the
By LESLIE GILLET
upswing Thursday after Manufacturers Life Insurance Co. of Toronto announced it is taking a major financing role in Cal Investments' shopping

centre planned for the south side of Kingsway and incorporating the existing Sears store.

While the extent of Manufacturers' backing was not revealed, Lewarne said the assurance the \$100 million project is going ahead is "just great."

Construction is expected to begin in May and the project is to be completed by the fall of 1986.

"We're extremely pleased," Lewarne said Thursday. "It will really

help the overall growth in Metrotown."

The development will also swell the tax role with much needed funds, Lewarne said. "There are lots of benefits for us. Perhaps we can now reassess some of the cuts we've had to make, bring back some firefighters, put back some parks programs."

Cal Investments development will take up 25 acres and the resulting mall will have more than 780,000

square feet of retail and office space. There will be two major department stores and about 200 smaller retail outlets. By comparison, the Lougheed Mall takes up approximately 500,000 square feet.

"It's going to be an attractive centre," Lewarne said. It will have three storeys, a pyramidal skylight in the centre, and a provision to connect it to the shopping centre proposed for next door by Daon Developments, he said.

Burnaby has been working with Cal Investments for four to five months now to prepare the project for a public hearing to be held in the near future, Lewarne said.

The sudden arrival on the scene of Edmonton's Triple Five Corp. of plans to build a \$325 million megamall on the Dominion Bridge site caused some worry, the mayor said.

"There was some concern by various backers and retailers," he

said. "However, we were able to convince them we are serious about Metrotown and council is unanimous in its opposition to (Triple Five)."

Daon Developments spokesman Don Milliken said his company's project, considered one of the cornerstones of Metrotown, is still in the works.

"We plan on opening in late 1987," he said.

SCRAMBLE FOR SURVIVAL



Kyle Lewarne, Melanie Selby-Brown and Masako Kuwata decorates survivors.

Eggstraspecial experience

So... You take 28 of your regular-type eggs, see, and you drop them off the roof of a 40-foot building. What do you get? Scrambled eggs?

Well, if you happen to be a Grade 5/6 class at Lakeview Elementary School, you get at least 18 of them floating lazily through the air to land with nary a scratch.

"Usually, we have better luck," said teacher Pat Gilmore. "This time, 10 didn't make it."

"The best ones were the ones that came down with parachutes."

Is that what they're teaching kids these

days? Are they going to learn how to pull rabbits out of hats next? Not quite, Gilmore said.

An Eggstraspecial Day at the school last week had the children learn about eggs in a rather unusual way. The laws of physics got a workout as students put together contraptions that would ensure safe landings for their fragile cargo.

After a scrambled egg lunch (what else?), the students learned an ancient art form — egg painting.

And just think. If Humpty Dumpty had been near Lakeview school last week, the whole course of history might have changed.

Sting dings ring

New Westminster and Burnaby police wrapped up a six-month undercover sting operation early on the morning of March 27 with 13 arrests in Burnaby, New Westminster and Surrey.

A total of 20 people have been charged with 106 criminal offences involving breaking and entering, theft and possession of stolen property. Seven suspects are still being sought by police.

The people charged were not from a single group, police said, but probably belonged to several separate rings.

The arrests were the result of an undercover operation wherein police undercover agents posed as dealers in stolen goods.

Police said the sting was aimed primarily at fencing rings that operate above the street-level petty criminal. It was focused in the New Westminster and Burnaby areas although it did expand to adjoining municipalities.

The value of stolen property recovered by the operation is estimated at \$175,000, most of it from residential, automobile and commercial break-ins.

The Wednesday morning arrests resulted in the recovery by police of an additional \$10,000 in property and will probably result in additional charges against some of the 20 people.

A partial list of recovered property includes nine vehicles ranging from a 1967 passenger car to two new pickup trucks, video cassette recorders, televisions, stereo equipment, sewing machines, camera equipment, auto tape decks and parts, power tools and 1,200 pounds of dog food.

Three additional people, not directly involved with the sting operation, were arrested during the course of it on drug-related charges.

The operation started last October when police successfully infiltrated the criminal underworld with two undercover operatives.

Charged were Paul Walter Kostyrski, 21, New Westminster; Brian Merrill Burchell, 23, Burnaby; Robert Cebuliak, 48, Surrey; Robert Allen Dyer, 22, no fixed address; Raymond Paul Folks, 21, New Westminster; Paul Vincent Marken, 19, New Westminster; William Moroz, 39, New Westminster; Ian Victor Neale, 41, New Westminster; Douglas Gerald Pearson, 22, New Westminster; Bruce Allan Simon, 20, Burnaby; and Dean Murray Williams, 22, Burnaby.

Mercier named Citizen of Year

Summer Games work honored

David Mercier, former Burnaby mayor, has been chosen Outstanding Burnaby Citizen of the Year for his work as chairman of the Burnaby 1984 Summer Games Society.

Mercier was presented with the Kushiro Cup at the municipal appreciation dinner last Friday.

"This is a surprise," Mercier said earlier in the week. "It's a real honor but it should be shared by the 12 members of the board, as well as many, many volunteers."

"Without the really excellent talent and dedication of those people, it just would not have been possible."

"I'll have to get copies of the cup made for the other members of the board," he said.

According to Mayor Bill Lewarne, that's exactly what's going to be done. "After the recipients are named,"

then for the hours and hours they put in," Lewarne said.

"It's really difficult to pull such a large community together. They did a super job. We had volunteers coming out of our ears. It was the best games ever."

Provincial government representatives who have seen quite a few Summer Games tell other communities to go and talk to Burnaby if they want to learn how to do it well, Lewarne said.

Three other Burnaby citizens were honored for their contributions to the community.

Keith Stanton, a school principal who sits on many committees and is "extremely organized," received the

Mercier, an alderman for six years and mayor in 1980 and 1981, said working on the Summer Games in July, 1984, took a lot of time and effort but "it was actually more fun than being mayor."

The board worked on the games for more than a year, he said. "We were quite ignorant of the workload when we started in May of 1983. We thought it would be quite a lot of fun and not a heavy time commitment."

Mercier groaned, then laughed. "Then we started finding out the myriad of details that had to be attended to. By then, we were at the point of no return."

When March 1984 rolled around



said. "The day after the games were over, it was a fantastic letdown. Nobody called, nobody wanted anything. You go from pandemonium to complete quiet."

Mercier said he regards the award more as representing 20 years of involvement in the community, from soccer coach right through to alderman and mayor.

There are no grand plans for the near future as far as community or political involvement is concerned, he said. "The odds are I won't be too active for a while. I'm enjoying the business I'm involved in and my kids are nine, 11 and 16 years old, so I want to spend time with them."

Mercier is majority shareholder in Backer Resources, an investment company.

When informed of the news by BUE-

Guard shot

A gunman shot a security man in the back and made off with a bag of cash from the Woodward's department store in New Westminster around 2 p.m. on Friday.

The victim, a security guard for Wells Fargo, was shot as he was doing a pickup errand at the store.

The guard was wearing a bullet-proof vest and managed to recover enough to chase the suspect out of the store through a roof exit.

The gunman was seen fleeing the area in a red van bearing Washington state license plates, police said.

New Westminster Police Sgt. A. Hulme said the guard was sent to hospital for observation. Police