

VOLUME 2/5: H.D. WILSON, COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS, AMENDMENTS,  
ETC. - CITY OF VANCOUVER.

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CITY OF VANCOUVER  
RESOLUTION FORM

Moved by Alderman \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by Alderman \_\_\_\_\_

That WHEREAS the concentration of approximately 25,000 residents of Japanese racial origin on Canada's Pacific Coast constitutes a potential reservoir of volunteer aid to our enemy, Japan, in the event of raids or an invasion by the armed forces of that nation;

AND WHEREAS citizens of Canada's Pacific Coast look upon this enemy alien population as a potential menace and feel that in the interest of National security, their removal to central parts of Canada is desirable, where a just and reasonable care for their livelihood be provided by the Federal Government;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Vancouver City Council representing the citizens of Canada's largest Pacific Coast City implores the Federal Government to remove all residents of Japanese racial origin to areas of Canada well-removed from the Pacific Coast, and that their removal be under such conditions as will provide them with the essentials of a reasonable livelihood; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED That we beseech the authorities to re-establish the Committee dealing with the Japanese, comprising Mayor F. Hume, Col. A. W. Sparling, D.S.O., and Col. McGregor McIntosh; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED That our opinion, as recorded in this Resolution, be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada and all British Columbia Members of Parliament.

Dated

February 16th

1942

Voting Yeas

Nays

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COPY OF RESOLUTION PASSED BY VANCOUVER CITY  
COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 20TH, 1942

Moved by Alderman Geo. Buscombe,  
Seconded by Alderman H.L. Corey,

THAT WHEREAS prior to the outbreak of the present war the presence in Vancouver of persons of the Japanese race was a constant source of irritation; owing among other things to unfair labor and business practices;

AND WHEREAS the experience of the last few decades has shown that assimilation of the two races is impossible; and that the Japanese standard of living is lower than that of the Canadian people;

AND WHEREAS as a necessary result of the action of the Imperial Japanese Government in making war upon our Empire, the Japanese population of Vancouver is being removed from the Coast of this Province;

AND WHEREAS the dislocations caused by the removal of Japanese from the fishing, lumbering, agricultural and other industries will be adjusted so that when peace comes we shall find that our own people are regularly carrying on all the activities which had formerly fallen into the hands of the Japanese;

AND WHEREAS it would be most unwise at a time when our own returned men will be seeking re-establishment in civil life to permit the Japanese to return and repeat the process of infiltration into business and industry which had become such a source of irritation during the years immediately prior to the war;

AND WHEREAS for many years it will be impossible for persons of the Japanese race to expect sympathetic consideration from our people and in their own interest it will be better for them to join their own countrymen in Japan;

AND WHEREAS the other Provinces of Canada have shown a disinclination to assume any portion of the burden of our present Japanese problem;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council do petition the Government of Canada to take in hand as one of its postwar problems the question of the repatriation of all Japanese-born persons resident in Canada; and the setting up of a tribunal to enquire into the loyalty of all Canadian-born persons of the Japanese race, with power to order the removal to Japan of any whose loyalty to this country is not definitely established; and that the continued residence in Canada of Canadian-born Japanese be contingent upon the setting up of such tribunal and a fair distribution of their numbers among all the Provinces of Canada; and that such proportion shall be maintained;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada and other Members of his Cabinet, as well as to all Members of Parliament representing British Columbia constituencies.

- Carried.

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CITY OF VANCOUVER  
PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS, 1938

2. The "Vancouver Incorporation Act, 1921," being chapter 55 of the Statutes of British Columbia, 1921, (Second Session), is amended by inserting therein the following as section 10A: Enacts s. 10A

15 "10A. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act  
the Council may from time to time provide by by-law for the  
holding of an advanced poll or advanced polls for the convenience  
of voters who expect to be absent from the City on polling day.  
Such advanced poll or polls shall be opened by the Returning  
Officer at the City Hall and shall be kept open during such hours  
20 on each of the days Saturday, Monday and Tuesday following  
the day of nomination as shall be fixed in the by-law. The persons  
who shall be permitted to vote at the advanced poll or polls  
shall be those only who are duly qualified voters and who shall  
sign a statement that it is their expectation that they will be  
25 absent from the City on polling day. During the intervals  
between the times for polling as fixed by the said by-law the  
ballot-boxes shall remain unopened in the custody of the Returning  
Officer and shall be kept sealed by him so that no ballots can  
be inserted therein. The Returning Officer shall take precautions  
30 to see that persons who vote at any advanced poll shall be  
prevented from voting again on polling day. Upon the adding  
together of the votes referred to in subsection (25) of section 14  
of this Act, the Returning Officer shall include the votes cast at  
the advanced poll or polls."

2. This section will enable the Council to provide for the opening of a polling booth at the City Hall for a day or two in advance of the election day for the convenience of voters who expect to be out of the City on that day, e.g. commercial travellers, railroad and steamboat men, etc. All other B.C. Municipalities now have this privilege under the Municipal Elections Act and reports from Winnipeg indicate that it works very well there.

Re-enacts s. 71, s. 71.  
3. Said chapter 55 is further amended by striking out subsection (1) of section 71 and substituting therefor the following: s

"71. (1) From the proceeds of such sale the Collector shall receive for and to the use of the City the sum of the following amounts, which said sum shall be the upset price and shall be the lowest amount for which the land may be sold:

(a) the total amount of delinquent taxes and local improvement assessments and all other charges appearing on the roll in respect to which such property is subject to sale under the provisions of this Act; provided, however, that the Council may also by by-law authorize the Collector to include in said last named amount, taxes and local improvement or special assessments or other charges which have become delinquent subsequent to the date of delinquency of the taxes in respect of which such property is subject to sale for taxes as aforesaid: 10

(b) the amount of interest due to date on the amount referred to in clause (a): 20

(c) an amount equal to three per cent. of the total of the foregoing, or if such amount should be less than three dollars, then a minimum of three dollars: 15

(d) the amount of five dollars to cover the charges of the Land Registry Office." 25

3. This merely recasts and clarifies the old section without making any change in its intent.



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Amends s. 102.

4. Section 103 of said chapter 55 is amended by striking out of the first and second lines the words "after the revision of the assessment roll and," and is further amended by striking out of the fourth line the words "assessment roll" and substituting therefor the words 30 "records kept by the Assessor."

4. This is intended to bring the civic voters list more nearly up to date. Under the old section the list is made up from the "assessment roll" and works out as follows:

The Assessor's staff makes a list of owners as they appear in the Land Registry records on November 20th. The assessment roll containing that list is not finally passed by the Court of Revision until March of the following year. The City Clerk begins to prepare the voters' list from this assessment roll and is required to complete it by August 1st. After notice is published for four weeks a Revising Judge takes the list in hand in October. Thereafter the list is printed and ready for use sometime in November.

It will be seen from the above that an election in December is held on a list taken from the Land Registry Office records in November of the previous year. In other words the list is thirteen months old when it is first used. The amendment will get away from this freezing of the list in November 20th of each year. The Assessor gets a return from the Land Registry Office weekly as to changes on ownership and inserts such changes in his records, and in future the City Clerk can include such changes in the voters' list right up to July 31st. So also changes of tenancy may be taken into the list at a much later date if this amendment is passed.

Enacts s. 118A.

5. Said chapter 55 is further amended by inserting therein the following as section 118A:

"118A. Up to the time of printing the voters' list as required by section 118 hereof, the voters' list or lists referred 35 to therein may be comprised of a system of cards so arranged as to exhibit all the information required by this Act in respect of such list or lists. The list as printed shall be used at any election which is held prior to the printing of a new list."

5. This needs no explanation.

Enacts  
D.S. (1a). s. 133.

6. Section 133 of said chapter 55 is amended by inserting after 40 subsection (1) the following as subsection (1a):

"(1a) The Council may by the said by-law provide for the holding of an advanced poll similar to that provided for in section 10A hereof."

6. This enables advanced polls to be held when money by-laws are to be voted on.

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7. Section 133 of said chapter 55 is further amended by striking out subsection (2) and substituting therefor the following: Re-enacts  
S.S. (2), s. 131

"(2) Prior to the day fixed for taking the votes of the electors on the proposed by-law the Council shall publish a copy thereof in two issues of some daily newspaper published in the City."

7. This reduces the number of publications of money by-laws prior to their submission. Last year the School By-law with 5 publications cost \$500.00 to advertise. The Municipal Act requires only one publication.

8. Section 133 of said chapter 55 is further amended by striking out subsection (3) and substituting therefor the following: Re-enacts  
S.S. (3), s. 131

"(3) Appended to each copy so published shall be a notice signed by the City Clerk stating the day, hours, and place or places fixed for voting on the proposed by-law."

8. This follows from the change being made in No. 7.

9. Section 163 of said chapter 55 is amended by striking out of subsection (92) the words "not exceeding one hundred dollars per annum" where they appear in the ninth line thereof. Amends  
S.S. (92), s. 163

9. This removes the maximum of \$100.00 - license fee - on express, railways, gas, telephone, telegraph, electric light, electric power, street railway, steamship, and other public utility companies. Also guarantee and bonding companies and investment and loan societies. It is felt that this \$100.00 maximum license fee is out of line with other and smaller businesses which now pay much more than this fee.

10. Section 163 of said chapter 55 is further amended by inserting therein the following as subsection (105a): Enacts  
S.S. (105a), s. 163

- 20 "(105a) For fixing standards of fitness for human habitation to which all dwellings shall conform; for requiring the owners of dwellings to make the same conform to any of such standards; for prohibiting the use of such dwellings which do not conform to any standard so fixed; for governing and regulating persons in the use and occupancy of dwellings and for  
25 appointing inspectors for the enforcement of the by-law."

10. The City of Toronto has been given the power to fix standards for dwellings and much good in the way of slum clearance has been accomplished. A similar power is asked for Vancouver.

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11. Section 163 of said chapter 55 is further amended by Enacts  
S.S. (137b), s. 163.  
inserting therein the following as subsection (137b):

30     “(137b) For authorizing and enabling the Council from  
time to time by by-law or resolution to delegate to the City  
Engineer or such other official as may be named in the by-law  
or resolution any or all of the powers conferred upon the Council  
by subsection (137a) hereof.”

11. This will enable alterations in  
stop signs, loading zones, etc., to  
be made without having each time to  
amend the by-law.

12. Section 163 of said chapter 55 is further amended by Enacts  
S.S. (141d), s. 163.  
35 inserting therein the following as subsection (141d):

40     “(141d) For authorizing and enabling the Council to  
limit the granting of licenses under any by-law passed pursuant  
to this section so that the number of such licenses of any particular  
class granted to persons of Asiatic extraction shall not exceed  
fifteen per cent. of the whole number of licenses granted to that  
class. Nothing in this subsection contained shall be deemed to  
affect in any way any other power granted by this section.”

12. This section speaks for itself.

Enacts  
S.S. (305a), s. 162.

13. Section 163 of said chapter 55 is further amended by  
inserting therein the following as subsection (305a):

“ (305a) For entering into any agreement with His Majesty in the right of the Dominion with respect to the construction, improvement or maintenance of any private road or way or sewers or watermains thereunder, situate on Granville Island, and for contributing in whole or in part towards the cost thereof; provided however that notwithstanding anything contained in this or any other Act the entering into any such agreement or the expenditure of any money by the City hereunder shall not constitute any such road or way a public street, road, lane, bridge or highway or be deemed to be evidence of dedication or acceptance of the same as such.”

13. The roads on Granville Island are of a special character and are put to rather different uses from those in the rest of the City. Rather than have the City take over their maintenance in the usual way it has been tentatively agreed between the National Harbours Board and the City that the Board should continue as hitherto to look after the maintenance of these roads and that the City should agree to contribute toward the cost thereof. This amendment will in this particular case permit the City to spend money on what are in effect private roads.



Enacts  
S.S. (305b), s. 262.

14. Section 163 of said chapter 55 is further amended by inserting therein the following as subsection (305b):

"(305b) For authorizing and enabling the Council to enter into all agreements into which under the terms of the National Housing Act, 1938, of the Dominion of Canada, or any amendment thereof, it is contemplated that municipalities may enter."

14. Under Part II of the National Housing Act the Dominion Government proposes to advance large sums to provide for the construction of houses capable of being rented to persons in the low income brackets. These advances are made to what are called "Local Housing Authorities" and the Dominion Act provides that the scheme will not be operative in any municipality unless the latter cooperates by agreeing not to tax the property of the borrowing authority at a tax rate of more than 1%, and even that much will have to be foregone either in whole or in part should the authority be unable to keep up its payments to Ottawa in repayment of the loan. This, of course, the municipality cannot now do as under the charter (with some exceptions) the tax burden must bear equally on all property.