



Corporate *NO: R002*

Report *COUNCIL DATE: January 6, 2003*

REGULAR			
TO:	Mayor & Council	DATE:	02 January 2003
FROM:	Chief Librarian	FILE:	
SUBJECT:	Library Recognized for Best Practices		

BACKGROUND

Surrey Public Library is pleased to be one of the recipients of Industry Canada's Best Practices Awards for 2002, as one of three public libraries in British Columbia and 19 across the country that were recognized. Industry Canada created its Best Practices Awards in 1997 to recognize the achievements of public libraries in e-learning and to encourage further innovation. These awards come under the auspices of Industry Canada's LibraryNet initiative which encourages public libraries to use information and communication technologies to better serve their communities. "This year's recipients are shining examples of Canadian innovation at work," said Industry Minister Alan Rock in announcing the awards.

Surrey Public Library was recognized in the "Community Partnerships" category for its "Community Connections" website, the result of an initiative developed by the City's Social Planning Committee to improve information sharing amongst residents, community organizations and government agencies. Since its launch, the website has continued to grow as new organizations have developed a web presence and the Library staff have added their links to the directory. The website also received a City of Surrey Social Planning Award in 2001. A copy of the letter and citation signed by the Minister is attached for the information of Council.

CONCLUSION

Surrey Public Library is committed to providing "a world of information in the heart of the community" and this award is much appreciated recognition of the Library's success in meeting the needs of its community for information, whether in print or on the Internet.

Chief Librarian