



REPORT TO COUNCIL

**TO:** Richmond City Council  
**FROM:** Councillor Harold Steves, Chair  
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Cttee.  
**DATE:** January 31, 2003  
**FILE:** 2345-20-NPAR2  
**RE:** RICHMOND NATURE PARK WASHROOMS

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The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee, at its meeting held on Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003, considered the attached report, and recommends as follows:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – (Councillor Barnes opposed)

***That:***

- 1. staff provide a detailed cost breakdown for the facility; and,***
- 2. the funds approved as part of the 2003 Capital Budget not be spent at this time.***

Councillor Harold Steves, Chair  
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee

Attach.

VARIANCE

Please note that staff recommended the following:

That the report dated January 16, 2003 from the Manager, Heritage and Cultural Services, be received for information.

## Staff Report

### Origin

At the General Purposes meeting of December 23, 2002 a request was made for information regarding the capital project request for washrooms at the Nature Park. This report provides this information.

### Analysis

A capital project request was submitted to build a freestanding washroom building with water and electricity. Included in this building would be a visitor and interpretation kiosk with a small storage room.

Currently there are no wheelchair accessible washrooms at the Nature Park. The Nature House and the inner boardwalk are wheelchair accessible and are advertised as such. Richmond has an accessibility policy and has been working to ensure that facilities are welcoming to all. Availability of washrooms is an integral part of ensuring a service or facility is accessible.

In addition, the public washrooms that are currently available for public use from the outside are attached to the Kinsmen Pavilion. They are in a bad state of repair. The inside washrooms in the Kinsmen Pavilion are not accessible to those in wheelchairs. The building of new accessible washrooms outside will allow the opportunity for the Kinsmen to renovate and expand the inside washrooms to become wheelchair accessible.

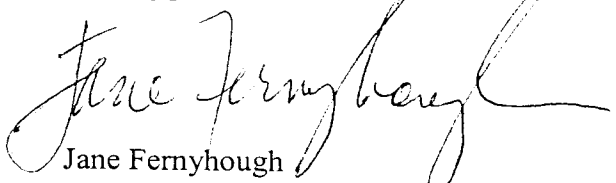
The visitor and interpretation kiosk will establish a defined starting place for the trails and Nature Park features and provide information and interpretation on the natural environment when staff are not available or the Nature House is closed.

### Financial Impact

The budget submission for this project is \$150,000. It was approved as part of the 2003 Capital Budget at the General Purposes meeting on January 20, 2003.

### Conclusion

Over 100,000 people visits were recorded in 2002 as drop in visitors, program participants, school groups and special event attendees. Providing washrooms that are accessible outside and that can be accessed by those with mobility impairments will increase the enjoyment of all visiting public and contributes to the livability of the community for all citizens.



Jane Fernyhough  
Manager of Heritage and Cultural Services

JF:jf