

To: Mayor and Council

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

From: Councillor Bill McNulty

Re: Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Delivery System

A few months ago, City Council launched a process to improve the way the people of Richmond are delivered the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services they pay for through their taxes and user fees.

It appears that our process to consult and include all stakeholders has been difficult. I would like to make a proposal to try to get back on track to deal with the issues, and have the process move forward in a positive way.

My recommendation is that we establish a Community Working Group (Task Force) to put into place a planning framework and proposed service delivery system that embraces community involvement.

That Working Group should consist of representatives from this Council, from the existing Community Associations, from other key community groups, and from the community at large.

The terms of reference would need to be drafted by the City.

The Task Force should be given the time it needs and have access to City resources to tackle this issue with enthusiasm and a positive approach. I am hoping the Working Group will go about its work diligently and recognize the need for us to embrace change soon, but I want them to have the time they need. I expect that 6 months will be adequate.

We cannot drag out this process; the community is changing and changing fast. Let us take time to make proper, informed decisions and reach a conclusion that is favourable for all groups.

Concurrently, the City has initiated the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Master Plan process. This plan addresses the City's Parks, Recreation and Cultural service, facilities and policy requirements for the next 10 years. The Master Plan work in underway and will continue until fall 2003. It would make sense that the work of the Working Group be combined with the Master Planning process and become a part of the final report.

Therefore, I would like to move the following motions:

1. That Richmond City Council establish a Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Renewal Community Working Group consisting of the following volunteer representatives:
 - Three representatives nominated by the Council of Community Associations;
 - One representative nominated by the Richmond Sports Council;

- One representative nominated by the Richmond Chinese Community Society;
 - One representative nominated by the Richmond Heritage Commission;
 - One representative nominated by the Child Care Development Board;
 - One representative nominated by the Community Arts Council;
 - One representative nominated by Intercultural Relations Committee;
 - One representative nominated by the Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee;
 - One representative nominated by the Seniors Advisory Council;
 - Two Council representatives;
 - Two community members at large.
2. That the Working Group's Terms of Reference are to make recommendations to Council on the Master Plan and the renewal of the parks, recreation, and cultural services delivery system adhering to the guiding principles for the service delivery system adopted by Council, with specific recommendations on:
- a framework for a new Recreation service delivery system that identifies weakness in the current system and necessary improvements including a community involvement model including the roles of the volunteer, an implementation strategy for the new model and the financial impact.
3. That the City commit funds related to managing and supporting the process for up to \$50,000.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill McNulty, Councillor