



**To:** Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services  
Committee

**From:** Kate Sparrow  
Director, Recreation & Cultural Services

**Re:** **Minoru Chapel Rental Fees**

**Date:** November 17, 2005

**File:**

**Staff Recommendation**

That Council approve an increase in the rental fees for Minoru Chapel from \$350 for 75 minutes to \$500 for 90 minutes.

Kate Sparrow  
Director, Recreation & Cultural Services  
(4129)

<b>FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY</b>		
<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b> <i>[Signature]</i>		
<b>REVIEWED BY TAG</b>	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>[Signature]</i>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>REVIEWED BY CAO</b>	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>[Signature]</i>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

## Staff Report

### Origin

Minoru Chapel, which seats 120 guests, is currently rented for \$350 for 75 minutes, a rate that has been in place for over two years. A recent assessment of the market and complaints of rushed booking times and parking issues have lead to the proposed increase in both time and fees. It is necessary for Council to approve fees for City owned facilities such as Minoru Chapel as per the *Community Charter* S.B.C. c.26, section 194.

### Analysis

There are a number of publicly and privately owned wedding/memorial venues in the Lower Mainland, however, few are established within heritage buildings or chapels.

These venues range from \$200 per day for a 1940s heritage hall, seating 150 guests, located at Peace Arch Provincial Park to \$4400 for full wedding and reception services for 75 guests offered at Robson Manor in New Westminster, a 1935 heritage house located on ½ acre. Fantasy Garden World is not booking for 2006 but their 2005 rental rate for a garden wedding for 120 guests is \$460.

The most equivalent venue is a replica Chapel located at Burnaby Village Museum that seats 80 guests. The 2006 fee is \$378 for a 75 minute rental.

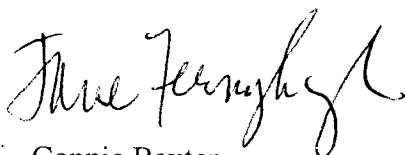
In addition to proposing a fee increase, an increase in the amount of time per booking is also proposed. This would alleviate the ongoing issues of overlapping bookings, insufficient time to clean the facility between rentals and parking issues.

### Financial Impact

There is no financial cost to the City. In fact, with increased fees and improved service more revenue will be returned to the City.

### Conclusion

To improve service at Minoru Chapel, additional time per booking will allow for a more positive experience for visitors. The proposed increase in fees is in keeping with current market rates while providing a reasonable increase to help cover the cost of doing business.



per : Connie Baxter  
Supervisor, Richmond Museum and Heritage Services  
(6475)

CB:cb