

REFERS TO ITEM #4
PARKS RECREATION + CULTURAL SERVICES
FEBRUARY 27, 2007
Mayor and Councillors COMMITTEE MEETING

MAYOR & COUNCILLOR
CLERK'S OFFICE

SCHEDULE B TO THE MINUTES
OF THE PARKS RECREATION &
CULTURAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE MEETING OF
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2007.

From: Elizabeth Specht [especht@volunteerrichmond.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, 27 February 2007 3:04 PM
To: Mayor and Councillors
Cc: Sparrow, Kate; Jacques, Vern; Tompkins, Lucy; Townsend, Ted; lgreenhill@shaw.ca; 'Bruce Rozenhart'; 'Lawrence Portigal'; ed@TrainingForJobs.com; mmccoy@touchfam.ca
Subject: Volunteer Management Strategy
Importance: High

Please accept my sincerest apologies as I am unable to attend tonight's meeting due to illness. I have asked Lyn Greenhill, VRIS Board member to speak on my behalf.

I would first like to recognize and commend the city staff on the report and recognize the work and effort that has gone into this. Volunteer Richmond Information Services (VRIS) has appreciated the process, dialogue and discussion that has taken place over the last year plus.

Our discussions with City staff have always been focused on ensuring we were proposing a system that builds on community assets and avoids duplication. To this end, the suggestion of integrating with our VolunteerRichmond! Online volunteer recruiting tool is a prime example of avoiding duplication.

Using a community asset model, PRCS staff have recognized where VRIS can add the most value in implementing the plan.

Volunteer Richmond Information Services is committed to supporting the City in developing volunteer management and community engagement systems and support. In this current report, we are recognized as a partner, identified as having a lead or supporting role in the carrying out of the plan, with the hopes that this can be covered off within the PRCS operating budget. It would be our desire, and recommendation, to enter into discussions around a multi year partnership contract with clearly defined roles and deliverables so that we truly are implementing a holistic and comprehensive strategy. I believe we can achieve both service and fiscal efficiencies with this approach.

PRCS is just one piece of the many aspects of volunteer management needs within the City, and we encourage and would welcome the opportunity to contribute to a dialogue as to how this proposed PRCS framework can be beneficial corporate wide.

I wish you a good discussion today, and again, commend both staff and Council for recognizing the need to invest and organize in volunteer management.

Best regards,

Elizabeth Specht

Elizabeth Specht
Executive Director
Volunteer Richmond Information Services
604-279-7029 ph 604-279-7038 fax
www.volunteerrichmond.ca