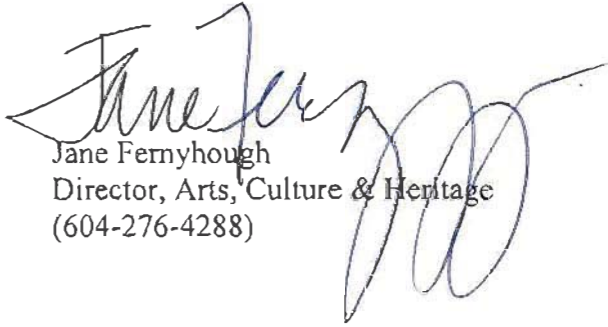


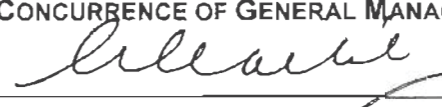


To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee **Date:** February 13, 2012
From: Jane Fernyhough **File:**
 Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage
Re: Requests made by the Richmond Potters Club

Staff Recommendation

That the report "Requests made by the Richmond Potters Club" dated February 13, 2012 from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be received for information.


 Jane Fernyhough
 Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage
 (604-276-4288)

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY		
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER		
		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

At the January 24, 2012 Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee meeting, the staff report, "Richmond Potters Club's concerns at the Richmond Arts Centre" was received for information and two Potters Club members delegated on their concerns outlined in the staff report. In response to the delegation, a referral was passed that: *staff provide information regarding the following requests made by the Richmond Potters Club:*

- a. *no charge for Adult class time;*
- b. *compensation of \$1300 to be continued as a rental deferral for the City's use of the Richmond Potters Club's equipment for Children's classes;*
- c. *no reduction of Club studio space;*
- d. *no surcharge for studio electricity unless there is a meter in place which shows excess cost to the City from the Pottery Club kiln use; and*
- e. *no further reduction of Club studio hours.*

This report outlines the requests made by the Richmond Potters Club.

Analysis

The Richmond Arts Centre provides children and adult classes in a variety of art forms to the community as well as supports arts groups and clubs to practice their art. In an effort to ensure the facility is well managed and provides a high level of quality service, the City must balance the needs and wants of the greater community with those of the Resident Art Groups. The following information addresses the Potters Club's requests.

No Charge for Adult Class Time

Past and Current: The City currently provides studio time free of charge when the Club offers adult pottery classes (value \$2,400) in exchange for the use of the Club's wheels at no charge when the City offers children's pottery classes. The City promotes the Club's classes in the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Guide at no charge (value \$650).

Future: There are no plans to charge the Club for the use of the studio when classes are being offered. The City will continue to promote the classes in the Guide at no charge.

Compensation of \$1300 to be continued as a rental deferral for the City's use of the Richmond Potters Club's equipment for Children's classes

Past: The Potters Club received a \$1300 credit in 2011 for the Arts Centre's use of Club equipment. The intent was that this was to be a one time credit while research was collected on the use of Club equipment.

Current: In 2012, the Club will receive a \$25 credit each time their kiln is used for children's programs and the Club will not be charged studio time when offering Adult pottery classes in exchange for the Arts Centre's use of their wheels for the children's classes. In a recent review of

the Arts Centre's use of Club equipment, it was found that the Club's kilns were only used 5-6 times and their wheels approximately 150 hours during the year. The compensation of \$1300 will not be considered at this time.

Future: This spring, the City will purchase three new wheels for the Pottery studio (value \$4500), which will be available for use by the Club.

No Reduction of Club Studio Space

Past: The Potters Club have several shelving and cupboards in the studio, a storage room and a closet which are used for storage of supplies, unfinished work, and to display examples of finished pottery.

Current: Given the shortage of storage space staff will continue to audit the use of space within the studio to ensure it is shared appropriately and used effectively.

Future: Any changes to studio space, such as storage, will be discussed with the Club in advance.

No surcharge for studio electricity unless there is a meter in place which shows excess cost to the City from the Pottery Club kiln use Kiln Use

Past: The Pottery Club has not to date been charged for the use of the kiln. They have been free to fire the kilns whenever they have needed to for the work.

Current: The Potters Club will not be charged for kiln use in 2012.

Future: Staff will further review kiln use at the Arts Centre as well as other pottery facilities in the Lower Mainland in order to develop kiln guidelines for the Arts Centre.

No further reduction of Club Studio Hours

Past: In 2011 the Club booked the studio for 45 hours per year/per week for member's use and adult classes.

Current: In 2012, the Club has 39 hours for its membership (42 members) and adult classes. The Arts Centre reclaimed 7 hours on Fridays in order to offer children's clay classes however, the Club is still permitted to use the kiln room free of charge during children's classes.

Future: Staff will continue to audit the use of the studio in an effort to best meet the demands placed on the Arts Centre. Both the needs of the City and the Club will be discussed and taken into account if any changes in Pottery studio hours are required in fall 2012 or thereafter.

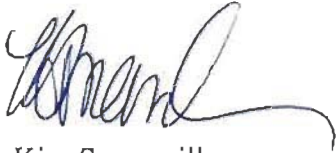
In order to advance the ceramic arts and build the number of participants practicing the art (and thereby keep the Potters Club viable into the future) it is important that both parties work collaboratively. Staff met with the Potters Club's Executive on February 9, 2012 to discuss the relationship between the City and the Club. It was agreed at the meeting that it is important to have a positive relationship and both staff and the Club committed to improving communication.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact at this time.

Conclusion

The Arts Centre provides children and adult classes in a variety of art forms to the community as well as supports arts groups and clubs to practice their art. In an effort to ensure the facility is well managed and provides a high level of quality service, the City must balance the needs and wants of the greater community with those of the Resident Art Groups. Staff are committed to working collaboratively with the Richmond Potters Club to advance the practice of ceramic arts in the community.



Kim Somerville
Manager, Arts Services
(604-247-4671)

KS:ks