

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the  
Special Council Meeting held on  
Tuesday, September 4, 2012 and  
Wednesday, September 5, 2012.

Wednesday September 5, 2012

Mayor and Councillors:

Langley in 2010, Kelowna in 2008, and Kamloops in 2006 all recently successfully held the BC Summer Games in towns with only 1/3 to 1/2 Richmond's population. All these locations held successful Games and made money.

Nanaimo held them in 2002, and decided to bid for them again and will be holding them again in 2014.

Yet some in Richmond say the BC Summer Games are so demanding.

What skills and abilities do these locations have that we don't in Richmond? None. We can do it.

We have better highway access and the provinces airport to easily attract all the visitors here.

We have more hotel rooms and shopping diversity than any of these locations, so we are better poised to keep visitors and their spending in Richmond.

Additionally, given these Games are during the school summer vacation, we are well located for families to spend a few days watching their children or grandchildren, before holidaying further south.

We have almost all the facilities locally, including volleyball for 1/20<sup>th</sup> the price in the staff budget. A month ago I pointed out that Surrey advertised for Games staff for 10 months for 1/3<sup>rd</sup> the staff budgeted here.

I also suggested last month that our sports fields and facilities are co-located well with adjacent schools for youth athlete accommodation. Our athletes would typically walk to sports saving significantly on transportation cost while also reducing our Games environmental footprint.

Our costs can be significantly lower than the exceedingly conservative staff estimate.

Our BC Summer Games can be profitable just like our BC Seniors Games.

We held the 2009 BC Seniors Games financially successfully, and set the still standing participant record, despite 2009 being the deepest year of the recent recession. We did this even though the Winter Olympics and Firefighters Games were held in the area within 6 months of our Games, and they both had fundraising head starts.

When we bid for the Canada Games, or the Masters Games, or other large events, our bid will be competing with cities like those above whose resume will state they recently hosted the BC Summer Games recently. We should be able to make the same statement.

The 2016 BC Summer Games have the full support of Richmond Sports Council, and already have the support of many other parts of the community.

Richmond School District 38 already wholeheartedly endorsed our potential bid, and last night by a vote of 6-1 agreed to offer use of their facilities free of charge except for their additional operating costs.

We haven't hosted the BC Summer Games in over 30 years -- over a generation. It is our turn to step up and give our communities youth this goal to strive toward.

Richmond Council tonight has an opportunity to show its confidence in its volunteers and residents. Please vote to bid on the 2016 BC Summer Games.

Sincerely,

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