

# COMMITTEE REPORT

## COMMITTEE II – PLANNING AND FACILITIES

TUESDAY, 2010 June 29

### Committee Report to the Board Monday, 2010 July 05

The Committee met to discuss the following items:

A1. Childcare and the VSB - PowerPoint

Due to a conflict, Trustee S. Gregson announced her abstention from discussions regarding childcare issues.

B. Ostrom, Manager of Operations and T. Hayley, Rentals and Leases Supervisor, presented their *Childcare and the VSB* PowerPoint presentation which covered the past, present and future of childcare in the district.

In response to queries, staff confirmed that:

- o The additional 275 childcare spaces created through capital projects will not be achieved by the end of 2011;
- o School closures will impact existing childcare spaces; and
- o The proposed rates are cost recovery only and therefore cannot be compared to other metro district childcare rates.

This item was received for information.

B1 Delegation – Child Care Administrators Network (CCAN)

S. Menzer and C. Hibbert representatives of CCAN handed out a copy of their submission. They highlighted the following points:

- o CCAN is a network of non-profit child care providers who operate over 3200 licensed child care spaces in Vancouver;
- o Supportive of the district's move to a standardized approach to charging fees for childcare programs;
- o While the proposed cost recovery model may cause hardship to some families, it will not result in program closing; and
- o Asked for consideration to eliminate the support space fee; and, as the increases had not been included in their 2010/2011 budget, to delay implementation of this change until at least January 2011.

In response to a trustee question, S. Menzer confirmed that 20% of childcare providers in Richmond closed down when their rates were raised to reflect rental costs.

The delegation was thanked for their presentation.

B2 Delegation – Collingwood Neighbourhood House (CNH)

J. Linkletter, President of Collingwood Neighbourhood House, stated that CNH currently rents space in four district elementary schools. They reported that most of their families would be able to absorb an increase of \$10 per month but a bigger increase may result in the withdrawal of children from the program. They also stated that if programs are to be assessed the additional \$2,500 annual fee then there should be a minimum standard for storage size, access to indoor gym time and a level of cleanliness.

The delegate was thanked for her presentation.

**B3**    Delegation – City of Vancouver

A. Reimer, City of Vancouver Councillor, stated that the City of Vancouver appreciates the advocacy efforts of trustees to limit and phase in the rate increases. She estimated that 560 childcare spaces would be lost if the rates were increased to for-profit rates. She also stated that, due to the high cost of land in Vancouver and that single-use land is not feasible, childcare operators need to use school space.

The delegate was thanked for her presentation.

**B4**    Delegation – Franklin Preschool

E. Wardley and J. Westoby, Franklin Preschool Directors, stated that the proposed rental fee increases are especially punitive to smaller centres and especially full day users such as preschools. They also feel that insufficient notice was given to the centres regarding the rental increases as fee information for 2010/2011 has already been given to parents.

The representatives distributed a sheet with two alternatives to the district's proposed rent increases to childcare operators.

The delegation was thanked for their presentation.

**C1**    Proposed Childcare Costing Model - Update

B. Ostrom and T. Hayley provided an update on the proposed childcare costing model report presented at the May 4, 2010 Committee meeting. They reported that incumbent childcare operators had been contacted and provided access to the report. A comparison of the current and proposed full cost recovery fee structure was included in the updated report.

In response to a query, it was confirmed that:

- o Champlain Heights should not have been included in the report as the childcare operates in the Community Centre; and
- o The portable at Franklin costs \$7,800 per year to operate however the group is currently being charged \$2,500 per year.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the rental rates for Childcare Programs be increased to the proposed full cost recovery rates, phased in over a three year period.

**C2**    Facilities Cost Recovery for Rental Programs – Update

B. Ostrom and T. Hayley provided an update on the Facilities Cost Recovery for Rental Programs report presented at the May 4, 2010 Committee meeting. They confirmed that the metro school districts had been contacted with respect to how specific groups were being charged and that, for the most part, rental anomalies were not applicable.

They confirmed that all after-school programs are currently being charged the non-profit rate for rentals from 6:00pm onwards. They are not being charged for the use of space prior to 6:00pm.

As requested by trustees, a schedule of cost recovery rates for the Scouts and Girl Guides groups were included in the report. It was also noted that some of these groups operate in gyms which restricts the district's ability to rent these gyms to other user groups at the non-profit rate.

After much discussion it was felt that rental rates for these programs be immediately increased to cost recovery but that the gyms be charged at the non-profit rate.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** rental rates for After-School Youth Programs be increased to the non-profit rate.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** rental rates for Scouts Canada and Girl Guides of Canada be increased to cost recovery, except for the rental of gym space which shall be at the non-profit rate. The impact of these changes will be reviewed by the board in a year's time.

D1. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of this Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, 2010 September 14 at 1730 hours.

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Allan Wong, Chairperson

Committee II Members Present: Carol Gibson, Ken Clement, Sharon Gregson

Other Trustees Present: Patti Bacchus, Allen Blakey, Mike Lombardi,  
Ken Denike, Jane Bouey

District Management Present: Steve Cardwell, Brenda Ng, Mark Dale

Association Representatives Present: Shaun van der Hoop, VSTA  
Glenn Vockeroth, VESTA  
Mark Pearmain, VASSA  
Darren Mitzel, VEPVPA  
Ron Scott, PASA