



Corporate Report

NO: R125

COUNCIL DATE: June 26, 2006

REGULAR

TO: Mayor & Council DATE: June 21, 2006
FROM: General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture FILE: 6140-20/C
SUBJECT: Canada Cup Futures Tournament and Showcase Under 16 Tournament

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council:

1. Receive this report as information; and
2. Approve **\$3,835** from the Council Initiatives Budget to cover sport field user fees and to assist in off-setting the cost of portable outfield and perimeter fencing for the Canada Cup Futures Tournament and the Showcase Under 16 Tournament being held July 3-8, 2006 at Cloverdale Athletic Park and Sullivan Park.

BACKGROUND

For many years, Softball City at South Surrey Athletic Park has hosted the prestigious **Canada Cup International Women's Fastpitch Tournament**. This extremely successful event brings athletes and their supporters to Surrey from around the world.

Since 2002, Cloverdale Athletic Park has been the venue for the *Canada Cup International Fastpitch Futures Tournament World Juniors* (girls 17-19 of age). This tournament is a great opportunity for young athletes to develop their skills and showcase their talents by facing other elite level softball teams in international competition. The City has received accolades from athletes and their coaches who have been uniformly impressed by the calibre of facilities at Cloverdale Athletic Park.

In 2006, Canada Cup has added the 16 & Under Fastpitch Showcase Tournament, July 3-8, 2006 at Sullivan Park. This high level tournament provides a great opportunity for young athletes to develop their skills and showcase their talents by facing other elite level softball teams in international competition.

The City has recently received a request from the organizers of the Canada Cup to waive the sport field user fees charged for the use of City parks for Canada Cup tournament events and to pay for temporary fencing at Cloverdale Athletic Park and at Sullivan Park. These requests are in addition to other services already provided by the City's Parks Division in support of the Canada Cup events.

DISCUSSION

The sport field user fees payable by Canada Cup amount to **\$2,335** (2005 – 2006 Approved Fees & Charges). This amount covers not only the fields at Cloverdale Athletic Park, but also other fields booked throughout the City for the 2006 Canada Cup events. The amount charged takes into consideration the percentage of the tournament participants that are in the adult age category, and provides a further reduction for the Cloverdale Athletic Park diamonds because of the nuisance factor associated with construction of the new synthetic turf field adjacent to Diamond 1.

The cost of the portable fencing requested by the Canada Cup organizing committee amounts to approximately **\$1,500**.

In previous years, Council provided funding from the Council Initiatives Budget to offset the cost of the sport field user fees paid for the Futures tournament, recognizing that this event of international significance contributes very positively to the City's image and brings many visitors to the City for overnight stays.

On this basis, staff recommend that Council approve funding from the Council Initiatives Budget Fund in the amount of **\$2,335** to cover the sport field user fees that would otherwise have been paid by the Canada Cup organizing committee, and **\$1,500** for portable fencing.

CONCLUSION

The Canada Cup organizing committee has requested a waiver for the sport field user fees that are payable for the use of City Parks during tournament events, and has also requested that the City pay for temporary fencing required for the tournament events.

Staff recommend that Council approve **\$3,835** from the Council Initiatives Budget to cover sport field user fees and to assist in off-setting the cost of portable outfield and perimeter fencing for the Canada Cup Futures Tournament and the Showcase Under 16 Tournament being held July 3-8, 2006 at Cloverdale Athletic Park and Sullivan Park.

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c.c. - General Manager, Finance, Technology and Human Resources