



Corporate Report

NO: R020

COUNCIL DATE: February 23, 2009

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: Mayor & Council DATE: February 19, 2009
FROM: General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture FILE: 8200-20/BC
SUBJECT: Amendment to Application to Host the BC Summer Games

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department recommends that Council approve an amendment to the City of Surrey application to the B.C. Games Society (the "Society") to indicate that the City of Surrey is prepared to host the BC Summer Games (the "Games") in either of 2012 or 2014 based on the same conditions as were included in the previous application by the City to the Society.

BACKGROUND

In September 2008, Council considered Corporate Report R188 (copy attached as Appendix 1) and adopted the recommendations of that report, which was to approve the submission of an application to the Society to host the BC Summer Games in 2014. The report advised that hosting the Games in 2014 rather than in 2012 was preferable as there may be a greater pool of volunteers available in 2014 than in 2012, given that the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games may absorb an amount of Surrey-based volunteer capacity that will take some time to replenish. The Society has advised that depending on the applications that they received, it would be advantageous if Surrey would consider expanding their application to allow the City to host either the 2012 or 2014 Games.

The City of Surrey has also submitted a proposal to host the BC Disability Games in 2013, which was endorsed by the Parks & Community Services Committee and approved by City Council. The BC Disability Games Society Board, in a letter dated January 6th, 2009, advised that they are withdrawing their request for proposals at this time and will initiate another process for proposals in the future in respect to hosting the BC Disability Games.

DISCUSSION

As noted in Corporate Report R188, the B.C. Summer Games attracts about 3,600 participants and is held over a 4-day period, typically during July. The host community for the Games typically experiences a significant economic benefit due to the athletes and visitors that come to the host city prior to and during the Games. This benefit is estimated to be in the range of \$2 million to \$3 million.

The City of Surrey has the capacity to support the Summer Games in either of 2012 or 2014 with an excellent range of venues and sufficient volunteers. Some of the venues that will be used for the Games are owned and operated by the Surrey School District. As such, if Council approves the recommendation of this report, it will also be necessary to obtain an amended resolution from the Board of School District #36, indicating its willingness to make available the necessary School District venues for the 2012 Games.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council approve an amendment to the City of Surrey application to the B.C. Games Society (the “Society”) to indicate that the City of Surrey is prepared to host the BC Summer Games (the “Games”) in either of 2012 or 2014 based on the same conditions as were included in the previous application to the Society.

Laurie Cavan
General Manager,
Parks, Recreation and Culture

LAC;jr

Appendix A – Corporate Report No. R188 – “Invitation to Host the BC Summer Games”

As an aside, the City of Surrey has already submitted a bid to host the BC Disability Games in 2013 (deadline September 30, 2008), which was endorsed by the Parks & Community Services Committee and approved by City Council. The decision on the BC Disability Games will be made by the organizing Society in the late fall of this year.

DISCUSSION

The B.C. Games were initiated by the Government of BC in 1978. Since that time, the BC Games have played an important part in the development of amateur sport and athletes as well as communities in British Columbia. The purpose of the B.C. Games is to:

- assist in developing B.C. athletes, coaches, and officials in preparation for higher levels of competition;
- promote interest and participation in athletic and sports activities by the citizens of B.C.; and
- assist in the development of strong and vibrant communities in the Province.

The Government of BC, through the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, will provide \$600,000 for the administration and operation of the 2014 BC Summer Games. As part of the application process, the prospective hosting community is required to commit resources to the BC Games. A minimum of \$45,000 cash and \$50,000 of in-kind services and facilities is required for the planning and staging of the Summer Games. In addition, the Host Community must employ a full-time Operations Manager for approximately 9 months in advance of and during the Games to ensure that the Games are properly planned and managed. It is estimated that such a position would cost approximately \$45,000 for the 9-month period. Planning for the BC Summer Games typically begins about 2 years prior to the Games.

Typically, the B.C. Summer Games attracts about 3,600 participants and is held over a 4-day period. One of the benefits to the host community is the significant economic impact that is created by the athletes and visitors that come to the host city immediately prior to and during the Games. This economic impact is estimated to be in the range of \$2 million to \$3 million.

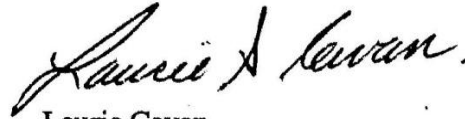
Surrey hosted the BC Summer Games in 1989. These games were very successful in raising awareness of the abilities of BC athletes and showcasing the City of Surrey as a sport tourism destination. The City has the capacity to support the Summer Games through an excellent range of venues, some of which are located in School District facilities. A resolution will be required from the Board of School District #36, indicating support for the bid application and willingness to donate the necessary School District facilities during the Games.

The City of Surrey has the capacity to recruit the necessary number of volunteers to ensure a successful Summer Games through our full time volunteer coordinator and central volunteer registry, which contains the names of hundreds of willing volunteers.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council:

- Approve the submission of an application to the B.C. Games Society for the City of Surrey to host the BC Summer Games (the "Games") in 2014; and
- Approve the inclusion in the application, as required by the B.C. Games Society, of:
 - a commitment of \$45,000 for general expenses plus \$50,000 of in-kind services and facilities toward hosting the Games; and
 - a commitment of \$45,000 for a full time Games Operations Manager to be employed by the City for a 9-month period in advance of and during the Games.



Laurie Cavan
General Manager,
Parks, Recreation and Culture

Appendix A – Letter from the BC Games Society

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MAYOR'S OFFICE

Received Aug 21/08
File No. 0640-DM

Our file: 4020-01

August 18, 2008

Her Worship Mayor Dianne Watts
City of Surrey
14248-58th Avenue
Surrey BC V3X 3A2

Dear Mayor Watts:

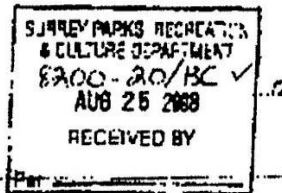
On behalf of the Government of British Columbia and the BC Games Society, it is our pleasure to invite your community to bid to host the following:

- 2012 BC Winter Games
- 2012 BC Summer Games
- 2014 BC Winter Games
- 2014 BC Summer Games

Your community may bid on any or all of these available BC Games, however, only one Games will be awarded to a community. Please indicate your community's bidding preference with your submission, should you wish to apply for more than one Games.

The BC Summer and BC Winter Games have been providing community development opportunities since 1978. Communities that have hosted a BC Summer or BC Winter Games indicate the Games provide an amazing rallying point for their citizens while building a strong core of knowledgeable volunteers. New confidences emerge and improved sport and recreation opportunities remain. The economic impact to a community is also significant, with \$1.79 to \$2.2 million being spent through the hosting cycle with much of these expenditures coming from families and guests attending the Games.

The Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, through the BC Games Society, will provide approximately \$525,000 to each of the successful communities to host the BC Winter Games and approximately \$600,000 to each of the successful communities to host the BC Summer Games. BC Games Society staff assist your community in the implementation of this large undertaking through proven guidelines, systems and software, and working with the key volunteers all the way through the planning and hosting stages.



phone: 250.387.1375 | fax: 250.387.4489 | 200 - 990 Fort Street, Victoria BC V8V 3K2 | www.bcgames.org

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Submissions, as detailed in the enclosed Bid Package, will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, December 15, 2008 by:

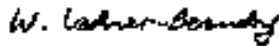
Mr. Kelly Mann
President and CEO
BC Games Society
204 - 900 Fort Street
Victoria BC V8V 3K2

BC Games Society staff will review all submissions and forward them to the BC Games Society Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will submit its recommendations to the Minister Responsible for Sport. Following this review, the communities selected as hosts for these Games will be announced as soon as possible.

Should you have any inquiries regarding the BC Games or questions about submitting a bid, please contact Kelly Mann at 250-387-1375.

Best wishes for a successful bid

Sincerely,



Wendy Ladner-Beadry, Co-Chair
BC Games Society



Frank Lento, Co-Chair
BC Games Society

WBL/gh
Enclosures

cc: Parks & Recreation Director
Spill of 2010 Chair
Regional District Chair
Sport Tourism Contact