Date: October 20, 1998

SUBJECT: VOLUNTEER POLICY

RECOMMENDATION:

 THAT the Board of Parks & Recreation adopt the attached Volunteer Policy.

BACKGROUND

Since April 1997 Commissioners Warren and Yong have been leading a Park Board staff team, the Volunteer Task Force Committee, in the research and development of a policy related to volunteerism in our organization. The Committee has also included representatives from CUPE Local 1004.

DISCUSSION

The Committee has reached agreement that the attached proposed Volunteer Policy is an accurate description of the philosophy and commitment that the Park Board presently has towards fostering, developing and enhancing volunteerism within our organization.

If the policy is adopted, an implementation plan will be established to guide the direction of this policy.

The Committee felt it was important to receive Board approval of the Policy before proceeding with implementation plans. Presently the Committee is involved in a research survey to determine existing volunteer opportunities within the Park Board, and this information will assist us in understanding the diversity and scale of volunteerism that is already part of our service.

There has been a great deal of research done on what other cities/municipalities are doing in regard to volunteerism and this information helped the Committee in the development of the proposed Policy.

CONCLUSION

The adoption of a Volunteer Policy is an important document that can lead and guide the organization in regards to volunteerism, it's role and place in the Park Board.

Prepared by: Recreation Services Board of Parks and Recreation City of Vancouver JH:sg