



**Date: November 5, 2001**  
**TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation**  
**FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation**  
**SUBJECT: 2002 Fees and Charges**

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the Board approve the 2002 Fees and Charges be adjusted to reflect an inflationary increase of 3%.**

## **POLICY**

It is the Board's policy to consider staff recommendations for next year's Fees and Charges.

## **PURPOSES**

The purpose of the Fees and Charges report is to recommend a new fee schedule for 2002 that reflects inflationary and market increases.

## **DISCUSSION**

The proposed 2002 Fees and Charges are based on a fee structure commensurate with the Board's User Fee Policy ([Appendix A](#)) as outlined on the attached Fees and Charges Schedule.

The rate of inflation that the Board project for 2002 is 3%. Whenever possible all increases have been kept to 3%. All fees have been rounded to the nearest \$0.05 after taking into account the increase and the appropriate taxes. This ensures an easier application of the fees at facilities.

Senior fees have been adjusted to reflect the rate increase approved by the Board in 2001.

There are several recommendations which include adjustments for factors other than inflation and these are accompanied by separate justifications:

### **Burrard Marina ([Appendix B](#), page 1 of 8)**

It is proposed that the 2% discount for cash payments be discontinued and phased-out in 2002 and 2003 to be comparable to charge practices

by other marinas.

### **VanDusen Botanical Garden ([Appendix B, page 1 of 8](#))**

A rate increase of \$0.50-\$1.50 per admission reflects a 10-20% increase in admission rates. The proposed rate increase is based on current markets and is a continuation of the management plan to gradually adjust admission charges to comparable market rates.

### **Golf Courses ([Appendix B, page 2 of 8](#))**

The Golf Course Financial Sustainability Plan, approved by the Board in May 2001, approved the following changes to Green Fees:

Adult Green Fee increases of: \$2.00 increase in 2002-2004  
\$1.00 increase in 2005-2008

Senior Green Fees discounts: 30% in 2002  
25% in 2003

- Youth green fee discount stays at 50%;
- Twilight and Winter rate at 75% of regular rate; Sunset rate at 50% of regular rate;
- Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Holiday premium remains at \$3.00;
- the \$3.00 charge per green fee paid by the Golf Clubs is retained; and
- all three courses continue to have the same green fee pricing schedule.

Driving Range rates have not been increased as current rates are in keeping with the local market.

### **Tennis Court Rental ([Appendix B, page 3 of 8](#))**

Currently, weekday afternoons are considered to be non-prime time and a reduced court rental rate (67% of prime time rate) applies. In recent years, there have been relatively few court rentals during these hours. The proposed change to tennis court rental fees is to abolish the non-prime time rate and apply the prime time rate to all court rentals. This will allow the rate to remain at the 2001 prime time level, as the required revenue increase should come from the fact that there is no longer any reduced court rental rate.

### **Fitness Centres ([Appendix B, page 3 of 8](#))**

FlexiPass - a pass which allows a patron unlimited access to fitness

classes, swimming pools and ice rinks. The 2 months and 9 months are recommended to be discontinued to simplify fee structure and provide greater discounts to 3, 6 and 12 month passes.

**Indoor Pools ([Appendix B](#), page 4 of 8)**

A 12% increase to fees for preschool classes (Red Cross/School and Bubbles/Water Babies Classes) are recommended to reduce class size from 6 to 4 in order to meet safety standards. The reduction in class size will allow instructors to provide the needed observation of the class participants and the one-to-one attention of their children. The proposed rate increases are within comparable market rates.

**Children's Farmyard and Miniature Railway ([Appendix B](#), page 7 of 8)**

Prices for general admission to both these attractions, and to the 2 main special events, the Ghost Train and Bright Nights, have been increased to more closely reflect their actual operating costs. Both of these special events are continually being enhanced, and the added value justifies their higher admission prices. Bright Nights is priced slightly lower than the Ghost Train due to its smaller performance component and because its attendees are also requested to contribute directly to the B.C. Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund on-site.

**Parking ([Appendix B](#), page 7 of 8)**

No increases in pay parking rates are proposed for 2002. Significant increases went into effect in 2001. Due to a combination of these increases, improved functioning of pay station equipment and more consistent enforcement by the parking operators, pay parking revenues should meet the inflationary increases of 3% without further rate increases in 2002. Bus parking rates will be reviewed early in 2002. Any changes in bus parking rates will be recommended to the Board in a separate report.

**CONCLUSION**

The proposed 2002 Fees and Charges are consistent with the Board policy and represent an average 3% increase based on the estimated rate of inflation in 2002.

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