



Date: April 25, 2002

**TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation**  
**FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation**  
**SUBJECT: FESTIVAL D'ETE FRANCOPHONE DE VANCOUVER**

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

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| <p><b>A. THAT the Board approve the use of Coopers Park for Festival d'ete Francophone de Vancouver event on June 14, 2002.</b></p> <p><b>B. THAT the Board grant permission for a Special Occasion License in conjunction with the event from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.</b></p> |
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## **POLICY**

Board approval is required for major events not included on the annual Special Event Calendar and/or are in variance with one or more Park Board by-laws or guidelines (see Appendix A).

## **BACKGROUND**

The French Cultural Centre is a non-profit organization with a mandate to offer cultural, artistic, and community-oriented programming in french to Vancouverites. The Centre annually hosts an outdoor weekend event which celebrates French culture through music and dance. Historically, the event has been held at the Vancouver Art Gallery on Friday evening and at the Society's 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. location all day on Saturday. The Friday evening concert attracts approximately 500 - 800 participants. Due to a scheduling conflict, the date for the Friday evening event at the Vancouver Art Gallery is not available this year.

## **DISCUSSION**

The organizers are requesting permission to hold a 3 1/2 hour performance concert on Friday June 14 on the eastern portion of Coopers Park, between Cambie Bridge and the Plaza of Nations. The event will be scheduled from 6pm until 10:30pm. Set-up includes an outdoor mobile stage 24' x 32' with speakers directed towards the water. There will be no charge for admission but donations will be accepted to defer operating expenses. The organizers are also requesting permission to obtain a special occasion liquor licence in an enclosed area of the park. The licenced area would have a capacity of 250 people and operate from 6:00 to 9:30p.m.

Staff are recommending the Board approve both the event and the special occasion licence request. Reports from the City indicate that this is a well-organized and well-conducted event. Due to the park's isolated location, staff believe the event will have minimal impact on both the park and its neighbours. For this same reason, staff do not see any problem in extending the special occasion licence to 9:30 p.m.

## **SUMMARY**

The Festival d'Ete Francophone de Vancouver has a thirteen year history in Vancouver and is a highly celebrated community event. Cooper's Park represents only a temporary location as the organizers plan to move the event back to the Vancouver Art Gallery for next year.

Prepared by:

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