Date: September 29, 2003



TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation

FROM: Finance Committee - Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Operating Statements as at August 31, 2003

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board receive this report for information.

BACKGROUND

Periodical financial statements are submitted to ensure the Board is kept fully informed of the current expenditures and revenues in relation to the approved budget appropriation.

DISCUSSION

As of August 31, 2003, the Park Board has spent \$32,214,822 of a total budget for 2003 of \$48,326,367 (see appendix 1 for details). To date, 67% of the year has expired and 67% net budget has been expended. Staff have reviewed the operating budget and the results of the review are summarized as follows:

Gross Revenues are currently 72% (69% in 2002) of expected revenues. The higher than budgeted revenue are mainly due to the good weather in the summer. Revenue collected from recreation programs in all districts is slightly higher than budgeted. The good weather in the summer has led to higher than anticipated revenues in Revenue Services such as food concessions and parking which will taper off in fall and winter months.

A notable exception is golf, which is carrying a \$475,000 revenue shortfall from the 7 weeks of rain in April and March. Cost savings steps have been taken to mitigate this shortfall, and the net shortfall to date is \$250,000. It is hope that this shortfall will be reduced by dry and sunny weather in fall. The balance of the shortfall will be offset by surplus revenue from other operations within the Board. In view of this, staff is committed to closely monitoring the golf revenues and will take timely action to balance the budget by end of the year.

Gross Expenditures are at 69%, which is 2% higher than budget and 1% higher than last year, but in line with our financial position at this time of year. The projection is that expenditures will be on budget for year-end.

SUMMARY

Net Expenditures are equal to budget and are projected to come within budget by year-end. Gross Revenues are 5% higher than budget and are projected to come within budget by year-end. Gross Expenditures are 2% higher than budget and are projected to come within budget by year-end. Staff is committed to balancing the budget by the end of the fiscal year. Extensive reviews have taken place and close monitoring is ongoing. Where necessary, cost containment initiatives will be implemented.

The projection to year-end is to have a balanced budget. This projection is based on the most current information available and represents a best estimate of the Park Board's financial position to December 31, 2003.

Prepared by:

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