



Date: January 7, 2004

TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation
FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Pesticide Use on Private Property

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board endorse Recommendations A to F in the attached City Council Report dated October 21, 2003 entitled Pesticide Use on Private Properties for information.

POLICY

The Board has an Integrated Pest Management Policy for the use of pesticides on public lands.

BACKGROUND

The attached report to City Council provides an overview of issues involved in reducing the use of pesticides on private property. The report results from an earlier report to City Council, which was discussed in September 2002. Council at that time asked for a report back on consultation with stakeholders, education, and possible regulation.

Since 1987 the Park Board has played a lead role in municipal pesticide use reduction with the introduction of its Integrated Pest Management Program. In respect to the issue of Pesticide use on Private Properties, Park Board staff have provided leadership to move this issue forward on behalf of the City Manager's office.

The regulation of pesticide use on private property in Vancouver does not fall under the Board's jurisdiction, but the Board can advise Council of its views through the endorsement of the recommendations contained in the attached Council report, which was prepared by Park Board and Vancouver Coastal Health Authority staff.

The recommendations deal with education, and advocacy to the Federal and Provincial Governments. A consideration item provides for the introduction of a bylaw should Council be inclined to do so.

The budget allocation for the education program is expected to be determined during the 2004 Operating Budget process. If approved, the delivery of the education program through community partners can be finalized. Park Board staff will continue to work with Health Board staff to lead this project. Further discussions with community partners such as City Farmers, VanDusen Botanical Association and others can be initiated at that time.

Prepared by:

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PR/vs