

Revised: December 3, 2007

Date: November 28, 2007



TO: Board Members – Vancouver Park Board
FROM: General Manager – Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: VACNet Advisory Committee Report

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board receive the Vancouver Active Communities Network (VACNet) report and forward the report to City Council for their information.

THAT staff continue to work closely with our Vancouver Active Communities Network (VACNet) partners to ensure the widest possible implementation of the goal to increase activity levels of citizens “20% More By 2010”.

BACKGROUND

In September 2006, Park Board and City Council approved the “Active Communities Vancouver” Action Plan which identified a range of priorities and initiatives to achieve the goal of “20% More By 2010”. One of those initiatives was the creation of the Vancouver Active Communities Network (VACNet) whose mandate is to act as an advisory committee to promote, support and help guide the “Active Communities Vancouver” initiative.

Formed in January 2007, VACNet has a membership that represents more than 100 organizations including civic departments, local associations, representatives of private sector corporations and other government agencies. Sharon Urton of S.U.Sportcare Inc and Bob Lenarduzzi of Vancouver Whitecaps are the CoChairs of the VACNet Steering Committee. A list of Steering Committee members is attached as Appendix B.

During this past year VACNet has supported, promoted and helped guide a number of the initiatives and projects for the Active Communities work. In addition the group has provided a series of opportunities for its members to collaborate on a wide range of initiatives.

DISCUSSION

For 2008, VACNet continues to encourage our “Active Communities Vancouver” program to expand the work on priorities that target the sedentary segments of our community. The attached report (Appendix A) advises us on the priority actions for 2008 and provides recommendations under three key themes: positive ticketing, sports infrastructure and programming. These recommendations are all focused toward reducing barriers and increasing participation in the “Active Communities Vancouver” initiative.

Staff recognizes the valuable contribution of the VACNet partners’ work toward achieving our goals and we will continue to seek advice and guidance on our 2008 programs and activities.

SUMMARY

The many organizations within the VACNet have been working cooperatively to provide support, guidance and recommendations to help achieve the “Active Communities Vancouver” goal of enabling Vancouver residents to be “20% More Active By 2010”.

Prepared by:

Vancouver East District
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
Vancouver, BC