



November 13, 2007

Mayor and Council  
City of Vancouver  
453 West 12th Ave.  
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

**Subject: Recommendations to Council from VACNet Steering Committee**

Dear Mayor and Council,

The enclosed document is intended as a companion document to the Vancouver Park Board's Active Communities Progress Report RTS 06987. The recommendations in the companion report are representative of a "brain trust" comprised of 100 organizations represented under the VACNet umbrella.

VACNet was mandated by Vancouver City Council to make very specific recommendations to Council in response to ensuring our city is 20% more active by 2010. In this companion report we include three themes, (1) positive ticketing, (2) sports infrastructure and (3) programming, with key messages and action items for your review.

Our definition of "active communities" encompasses active living, sport and recreation and health. The Sport for Excellence Strategy for the City can capture the interest that already exists in Vancouver for sport participation across the entire continuum. The right investment of resources, both human and fiscal, can reap dividends well beyond the initial investment as we work together to accomplish ambitious yet achievable goals.

In sum, we are describing SPORT SCIENCE, the study of the human body in motion. This encompasses improved health outcomes and improved sports performance. By definition, the "body in motion" contains many forms of activity far beyond a traditional understanding of "sports". This is why we stress the importance of approaching the VACNet mandate holistically – an approach that recognizes the overarching need to reach Vancouver's entire population with the message that active living in all forms, be it walking, dancing, hiking or soccer, contributes to a healthier population.

In order to reach our targets, three key items come into play.

1. We need access to school facilities to expand programming
2. We need to redefine SPORT (Canadian Sport for Life Acronym)
3. We need to seek public/private partnerships that enable infrastructure needs to be realized.

We look forward to working together towards positive outcomes for our city.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Lenarduzzi".

Bob Lenarduzzi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sharon Urton".

Sharon Urton

– Co-Chairs: Vancouver Active Communities -