

1. Improving Campaign Finance for Local Elections in British Columbia

MOVER: Commissioner Loke

SECONDER:

WHEREAS

1. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation is an independent elected board which believes in an open, fair, accessible and democratic election process;
2. The Province of British Columbia controls legislation relating to municipal elections and financial disclosure including the Vancouver Charter, the Election Act (British Columbia), and the Local Government Act (British Columbia);
3. The Government of Canada has banned corporate and union donations, capped individual contributions to candidates and elector organizations, enforce spending limits, and requires annual disclosure of donations;
4. The BC Local Government Elections Task Force made 31 recommendations to the Government of British Columbia on May 28th, 2010, which includes, but is not limited to, spending limits, contribution limits, election advertising limits, third party advertising limits, and new rules on campaign financial disclosure;
5. Vancouver City Council ratified a motion on Campaign Finance Reform titled, "Increasing Fairness and Citizen Involvement in Municipal Elections", on January 31, 2012;
6. Candidates and elector organizations participating in election to the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation are accountable to the residents of the City of Vancouver.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation supports the Government of British Columbia implementing campaign finance rules for municipal elections, as follows:

- i. to ban corporate and union donations to individual candidates and elector organizations;
- ii. to set limits on annual contribution amounts to individual candidates and elector organizations;
- iii. to impose annual disclosure requirements for elected officials and elector organizations for donations and expenses;
- iv. and to set spending limits for individual candidates and elector organizations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation directs the General Manager and Chair of the Park Board to write a letter to the Premier of British Columbia, British Columbia's Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and the Chief Electoral Officer of British Columbia informing them of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation's request to introduce legislation on campaign finance reform for local government elections in British Columbia, as per this motion.

AND BE IT EVEN FURTHER RESOLVED THAT The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation stands in solidarity with municipalities, citizen's groups, political parties, labour unions, businesses and other groups who have endorsed campaign finance reform in order to improve the democratic process for citizens in British Columbia.