

RECOMMENDATION

THAT staff initiate a public consultation process to discuss outstanding issues related to the Golf Operations Management Plan and report back to the Board with recommendations for action.

BACKGROUND

In 1992, the Park Board began the process of redeveloping Langara, McCleery and Fraserview Golf Courses. The project was financed by the City of Vancouver through a loan from the Property Endowment Fund and was completed in 1998.

In June 1999, after the implementation of New Directions, Vancouver East District began the process of developing a management plan for Golf Operations. The plan is to include all aspects of the golf course operation, and focus on both financial sustainability and operational issues. The goal is to create a working plan that will guide the operation of the golf courses in the new integrated organizational structure.

DISCUSSION

The Golf Operations Management Plan is currently being developed by Vancouver East District staff including administrative staff, golf course supervisors and support staff, golf professionals and golf course foremen. The main elements of the management plan are an Evaluation of Past and Current Operations, Vision for the Future, an Operations Plan, a Marketing Plan and a Financial Plan. Before the plan can be completed, there are three outstanding issues that need to be addressed:

- 1. The operating budget is insufficient to adequately maintain the newly renovated and expanded facilities.
- 2. A capital reserve account is necessary to fund projects and major repairs.
- 3. The Park Board has a financial obligation to the City of Vancouver to repay the outstanding golf course loan in 10 years.

To deal with these issues and the impact they may have on the golfing public, staff are

recommending a consultation process, involving stakeholders, take place in the summer of 2000. Information gathered from this process will be evaluated and incorporated into the management plan. Staff will return the management plan, with recommendations, to the Board for approval in the fall of 2000.

CONCLUSION

An inclusive and open consultation process will provide an opportunity for the public to understand and provide input to the complex issues related to municipal golf courses. It will enable staff to develop sound recommendations that will be incorporated into the Golf Operations Management Plan.

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