



February 16, 2001

**TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation**  
**FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation**  
**SUBJECT: THE VANCOUVER FOLK FESTIVAL 2001**

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the Board give approval to the Vancouver Folk Music Festival Society for one additional evening concert in the Jericho Park on Thursday July 12, 2001.**

## **POLICY**

Special Event guidelines were approved in 1991. Appendix A indicates in number 1 & 2 the approval of extended hours. Any subsequent and significant change to a major event requires Board approval. The Park Board has approved the 2001 Calendar of Events which includes the Vancouver Folk Music Festival Society on July 13, 14, 15, 2001.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Folk Festival has one large main stage area for the evening concerts Friday, Saturday and Sunday and, seven smaller stages for the workshops which operate during the day on Saturday and Sunday. These stages have been strategically located to have the least impact on the park, wildlife, and noise in the neighbourhood.

The Board has previously given the Society permission to hold Thursday evening concerts (1993, 1994, 1995) and a concert was held in 1995.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Vancouver Folk Music Festival is requesting permission to hold a 2 to 3 hour feature performance concert on Thursday evening preceding the regular Friday night opening to the Festival. The purpose of this concert is to fund-raise to pay off their operating debts. Whether or not the concert is held depends on a number of factors but the Society is seeking the Board's support to proceed with the planning on the event. The most significant impact of the 1995 Thursday evening concert was an additional evening of parking. The concert itself did not generate any additional complaints. There will be no change to the set up (eleven days prior) nor the take down (five days following) for the Festival.

## **CONCLUSION**

Approval of the additional evening concert for the Vancouver Folk Music Festival gives the organizer the time required to gain support from the community and ensure that all arrangements are conducted in a timely manner.

Prepared by:

Stanley District  
Board of Parks & Recreation  
Vancouver, B.C.  
CC/cc

**APPENDIX A**

**VANCOUVER BOARD OF PARKS & RECREATION  
GUIDELINES FOR SPECIAL EVENT**

These guidelines have been drawn up to assist the Board in reducing the negative impact from special events which occur in close proximity to a residential area. They address issues which go beyond the regular coordination, facilitation and approval of site arrangement and permit conditions for special events. Non compliance with noise guidelines will require special Board approval.

1. The amplification of sound for special events will be limited to between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. in areas where residents can be impacted except for the Vancouver Folk Festival which will go to 11:00 p.m.
2. The amplification of sound in the English Bay area will be limited to the hours between 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. and to concert type performances, rallies, short announcements. Rock concerts will not be permitted. All speakers will be directed away from buildings. Sound level will be in accordance with the City Noise By-law.
3. The set-up for the triathlon transition areas will be required to be completed by 10:00 p.m. the preceding night and the early morning preparations will be completed without unnecessary or inappropriate noise.
4. A debriefing session will be conducted between event organizers and Park Board/City staff for each major event. A report will be made to the Board's Recreation Services Committee on the debriefing of each event. Outstanding issues will be reported to the Board.
5. An annual calendar of the major special events conducted on parkland will be prepared for Board approval in the Fall of each year. All related organizations and people connected with or concerned with the different events will be informed in advance about the process and the date on which the Board will be considering the approval of the annual Special Event Calendar.

These guidelines were approved in the Park Board Minutes dated March 18, 1991.