



Date: June 21, 2002

TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation
FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Canadian Cancer Society's Relay for Life

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board give approval to the Canadian Cancer Society for the use of Brockton Oval, for a weekend in June 2003 (7 p.m. - 7 a.m.) for the 2003 Relay for Life event with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager.

POLICY

Major special events which are in variance with one or more Park Board by-laws or guidelines require Board approval (Appendix A).

BACKGROUND

The Relay for Life is the Canadian Cancer Society's national event that takes place in various cities across Canada. It is an annual 12 hour over-night relay where hundreds of walkers, runners, and joggers participate to raise funds for cancer research. The outdoor weekend event also consists of musical entertainment, games, crafts and children's activities. During this past year, the Canadian Cancer Society organized 64 relays throughout Canada including 3 locations in the Lower Mainland (ie. Coquitlam, North Vancouver and Surrey).

DISCUSSION

The organizers are requesting permission to host the event at Brockton Oval during a weekend in June 2003. The event will be scheduled on a Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. until Saturday morning at 7:00 a.m. A stage and sound system will be required for music and announcements. A lighting company would be contracted to light the field overnight and various event tents will be placed on the main field area along with participant tents along the perimeter of the track. Food and refreshment services will be available for participants.

On site security would be provided as well as the assistance of the Vancouver Mounted Police Squad. The anticipated attendance for this event will be approximately 1500 participants (50 - 100 teams).

The event requires Board permission to be in the Park between 10:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m. Organizers are requesting Board approval at this time to provide sufficient planning time for a successful event. Staff believe that the isolated location will have minimal impact on park users and neighbours and recommend approving this event.

SUMMARY

The Canadian Cancer Society is Canada's largest health charity. The Relay for Life events are well organized and highly successful fundraisers. In 2002, a total of \$2.2 million has been raised through this signature event.

Prepared by:

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