



Date: May 14, 2003

TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation
FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Vancouver International Jazz Festival

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board grant permission for a Special Occasion License in conjunction with the Vancouver International Jazz Festival on June 28 and June 29, 2003 from 12:00 noon to 9:30 p.m. with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager.

POLICY

Sale and Consumption of Liquor in Board Facilities (see Appendix A).

BACKGROUND

The Coastal Jazz & Blues Society is a non-profit organization committed to stimulating and expanding Vancouver's innovative music scene. The Society sponsors the Vancouver International Jazz Festival. This annual Festival features over 1700 musicians from Canada and around the world performing at 40 venues located in and around Vancouver. The program includes traditional and contemporary jazz, blues, world and improvised music. The 2003 Festival is scheduled from June 20 - July 1.

The Roundhouse Community Centre and David Lam Park have been major Jazz Festival venues for free public programming since 1997. "Jazz at the Roundhouse" provides an integrated site with both indoor and outdoor stages in close proximity to one another. David Lam Park hosts the main outdoor stage. The use of David Lam Park by the Festival was previously approved by the Board in the annual Special Event Calendar.

2003 SPECIAL OCCASION LICENCE REQUEST

Historically, the Society has operated a special occasion licensed area on Drake Street, immediately behind the main stage. The licensed area has been permitted by the City to sell alcohol during the Festival between noon and 9:30 p.m.

The organizers are requesting permission from the Board to relocate a portion of the licensed area to the plaza area above the False Creek Pump Station in David Lam Park (see Appendix B). This location would allow the Festival's patrons to view the main stage from the licenced area. The proposed licensed area would have a capacity of 175 people and would operate from 12:00 noon - 9:30 p.m on June 28th and June 29th. Security and food services would also be provided by the sponsor. All net proceeds from the sale of alcohol would be used to support the Coastal Jazz & Blues Society's education and outreach programs.

This request meets the majority of the conditions outlined under the Board's Sale and Consumption of Liquor in Board Facilities Policy. However, the organizer is asking the Board to extend the operating hours of the licensed area from 8:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

DISCUSSION

Staff are recommending that the Board approve the Society's request for a special occasion license from noon to 9:30 p.m. on June 28th and June 29th. Live performances are scheduled in the Park to 9:30 p.m. on both these days. Since the Jazz Festival activities will dominate the use of the park, locating a licensed area in this area will have a marginal impact on the park and/or the immediate neighbourhood. In addition, the Society has permission from the City to operate a special occasion licensed area to 9:30 p.m. on Drake Street.

SUMMARY

The Vancouver International Jazz Festival is touted as one of the finest international music showcases in the world. The Festival is a well-organized, well-attended and very popular with Vancouver residents.

Prepared by:

Stanley District
Board of Parks & Recreation
Vancouver, BC