Date: May 5, 2003



TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation

FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation

**SUBJECT:** Mount Pleasant Family Centre Society Lease Renewal

## RECOMMENDATION

A. THAT the Board renew the lease with the Mount Pleasant Family Centre Society for Robson Park Clubhouse for a term of five years from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2008.

B. THAT once the form of the lease has been approved by the General Manager and the Director of Legal Services, that the General Manager is authorized to execute the document on behalf of the Board.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Mount Pleasant Family Centre Society has operated the Robson Park Clubhouse located at 2910 St. George Street as a Family Services Centre since 1980. The original lease was for 8 years and has been renewed 3 times on 5 year terms. The 2100 ft<sup>2</sup> clubhouse, owned by the Park Board, is a two level structure. The main level consists of a lounge, kitchen area and two small offices. The second level is a multi-purpose room. In 2003, the Board approved a small expansion to the second floor to improve the programming potential at the facility.

The society provides service to over 700 children between the ages of 0-6 years of age and to 500 parents/caregivers per year. The mission statement of the society is: "A HOME AWAY FROM HOME". A place for families with young children to drop-in, make new friends, learn new skills, and receive support in times of need. Program and service activities consists of:

- **S** free drop in for children 0-6 years and their families
- S supervised playroom with a variety of toys and play centres
- S comfortable space for adults to talk and meet other parents and caregivers
- S parent support groups
- **S** information workshops

- S informal English as a second language
- S culturally sensitive individual and family support
- S referrals to community resources
- S clothing exchange
- S lending library

Annual membership to the society is \$15 per family based on a policy of universal access.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Mount Pleasant Family Centre has been providing quality service to the community for over 23 years. The Park Board has a positive relationship with the organization and staff over the years and programmes are coordinated with the recreation staff at Mount Pleasant Community Centre. Furthermore, the Family Centre coordinates services with the local elementary schools, neighbourhood houses, and other child servicing agencies in the local area. The centre has fulfilled its mandate under the existing lease and their programmes continue to support children and families in the Mount Pleasant community.

The essential clauses in the lease are as follows:

- a) \$1.00 per year lease fee
- b) Use of the facility
- c) Insurance and indemnification requirements
- d) Society to maintain, repair and pay for operating costs of the facility
- e) Termination clause to cover various situations

## **SUMMARY**

Staff are recommending renewal of the lease for a 5 year term.

Prepared by: Vancouver East District Board of Parks and Recreation Vancouver, BC