



Date: May 16, 2003

TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation
FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: West Nile Virus Surveillance and Mosquito Control Procedures for Vancouver

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board endorse recommendations A) and B) of the attached City Council report entitled "West Nile Virus Surveillance and Mosquito Control Procedures for Vancouver".

POLICY

The Board has an integrated pest management (IPM) policy, which uses pesticides as a means of last resort.

DISCUSSION

The West Nile Virus is potential threat to public health and preventive action needs to be undertaken right away.

The attached Council report provides background on the nature of the public health concern and proposed response.

The response is a staged plan, which begins with surveillance and monitoring of mosquito larvae populations and may escalate to include larvicide treatment of standing water in ponds, ditches and catchbasins. Consistent with the Board's IPM policy biological pesticides would be used.

It is unlikely that adult mosquitos may have to be controlled by the application of insecticides in 2003. Should this be required, this level of treatment would be subject to a report to Council and the Board.

The Park Board has an Integrated Pest Manager, it is proposed that this individual would become the City's coordinator for monitoring, surveillance and treatment on public lands and infrastructure. The Coordinator would work closely with City Engineering and the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority.

Prepared by:

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PR/vs