

Date: January 18, 2006



**TO: Board Members – Vancouver Park Board**  
**FROM: General Manager – Parks and Recreation**  
**SUBJECT: Nat Bailey Stadium Lease Agreement**

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## RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the Board enter into a one year lease extension (January 1, 2006 - December 31, 2006) under the current terms and conditions with National Sports Organization Inc. (Vancouver Canadians Professional Baseball Club) for the use of Nat Bailey Stadium;***
- B. THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licenses are granted hereby and none shall arise or be granted hereafter unless and until all contemplated legal documentation has been executed and delivered by all parties; and***
- C. THAT once the form of the lease has been approved by the General Manager and the Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver, that the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.***

## BACKGROUND

Nat Bailey Stadium has been leased to National Sports Organization Inc. (Vancouver Canadians Professional Baseball Club) since January 2000, initially for three one-year terms and then two one-year extensions.

The Park Board entered into a lease with the Vancouver Canadians under new circumstances. The previous Triple A professional baseball franchise moved to a new stadium in Sacramento, California and a Single A Team from the Northwest League of Professional Baseball moved into Nat Bailey Stadium as the Vancouver Canadians.

The Canadians have worked hard to ensure the success of the stadium with opportunities for UBC Baseball, a variety of other amateur groups as well as providing the venue for a number of community charity fundraisers. The Canadians have also continued to maintain and upgrade the facility each year.

The Vancouver Canadians lease expired on December 31, 2005 and discussions about a potential extension of the lease have occurred.

In July 2005 the Park Board put out a request for experienced organizations who were interested in leasing Nat Bailey Stadium for use as a baseball facility to come forward. Several expressions of interest were received, including the current leaseholder.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff are currently discussing the future lease with an interested party, however these discussions have not been completed and the existing lease has expired.

In order to permit the ongoing operation of the Vancouver Canadians at Nat Bailey Stadium for the 2006 season, a further one-year extension has been requested. Staff consider this to be appropriate as it is anticipated that sometime during this extension period staff will report back to the Board on the outcome of the negotiations.

The extension period from January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2006 will be under the same terms and conditions as the previous lease agreement.

## **SUMMARY**

The Vancouver Canadians existing lease expired on December 31, 2005. Staff are discussing proposals for a future lease with interested parties, however these negotiations are not complete. In the meantime, staff are recommending that we extend the lease with the Vancouver Canadians for one year, 2006, at the existing lease rate of \$75,000.

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