



Date: June 9, 2011

TO: Board Members – Vancouver Park Board
FROM: General Manager – Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Truffles Fine Food Café at VanDusen Botanical Gardens Visitors Centre -Award of Contract

RECOMMENDATION

- A. *THAT the Board approve a 5-year Operating Agreement for Truffles Fine Foods to construct and operate a café in the designated foodservice area at the VanDusen Botanical Garden Visitors Centre and subject to the approval of the General Manager of the Park Board up to two additional 5-year extension terms.***
- B. *THAT the fee structure will be at a rate of 10% of Gross Revenue.***
- C. *THAT all legal documentation is to be in a form which is satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver and the General Manager of the Park Board.***
- D. *THAT the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.***
- E. *THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licences 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***

BACKGROUND

The new Visitors Centre is currently under construction at the VanDusen Botanical Gardens. This facility is designed to meet the criteria of both the Living Building Challenge and LEED platinum certification. The designated foodservice space is located on the northwest side of the Visitors Centre with floor to ceiling windows overlooking the plaza and with a spectacular view of Livingston Lake and its fountain.

Discussion

An RFP was issued on February 18, 2011 for the business opportunity to provide a limited menu foodservice operation in the new VanDusen Botanical Garden Visitors Centre. The key evaluation criteria focused on the need for the foodservice operation to

be compatible with the Living Building Philosophy and operate in an environmental and sustainable manner. Following a short listing process, presentations and site meetings the Selection Committee chose Truffles Fine Foods as the successful proponent. Truffles Fine Foods was founded in 1995 by Nin Rai and provides a broad range of culinary services to all types of occasions and events. Truffles has catered to the high demand Film Industry, many large off premise functions and operates the flagship café at the North Shore Film Studios. Truffles is a part of Pacific Green and will offer organic food and drink products, fair trade, shade grown coffee and teas, implement the Ocean Wise program and minimize the use of water and power consumption on site.

Terms of the Operating Agreement

The agreement term will be five (5) years with the opportunity to renew at the end of the term for two (2) further five (5) year terms. The fee for the first five (5) year term will be 10% of Gross Sales

SUMMARY

Truffles Fine Foods meets the key requirements to construct and operate the cafe located in the VanDusen Botanical Gardens Visitors centre. Staff recommends the Board approve the terms as noted above and permit the General Manager, in cooperation with the Director of Legal Services to enter into a formal agreement with the Truffles Fine Foods.

Prepared by:
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