



Date: June 24, 2013

TO: Board Members – Vancouver Park Board
FROM: General Manager – Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Special Events Approval – July 2013

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board approve a request from the Vancouver Folk Festival Society, organizers of the Vancouver Folk Music Festival, for an increase in the maximum capacity of the event's licensed area from 750 to 1,000 persons, for the festival at Jericho Beach Park from July 19 to 21, 2013.

POLICY

Board approval is required for major events not included on the annual Special Event Calendar and/or are in variance with one or more Park Board bylaws.

BACKGROUND

The Vancouver Folk Festival Society will be hosting their 36th Annual Folk Music Festival this summer at Jericho Beach Park. As usual, the Festival will highlight folk, roots and world music, and welcome more than 300 artists from around the globe.

DISCUSSION

The Vancouver Folk Music Festival has run a successful licensed zone within the main event area since 2009, without incident. For 2013, the organizers are requesting an increase in maximum capacity from 750 to 1,000. The licensed area will operate on Friday, July 19 (4pm to 11pm) and Saturday and Sunday (11am to 11pm), with service ending at 10pm. The organizers expect the expanded licensed area will enhance the festival experience, reducing line-ups during peak times and provide additional revenue to assist with event costs.

This Public Special Occasion License Application has been approved by Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services, the Vancouver Police Department and BC Liquor Control and Licensing Branch. The organizers have agreed to additional security, as required by VPD.

SUMMARY

The Vancouver Folk Music Festival has proven to be a well-organized annual event. Staff do not anticipate any significant issues as a result of the increased capacity of the licensed area and recommend the Board approve the request. Staff will continue to collaborate with organizers to ensure the event is implemented in accordance with all permit conditions.

Prepared by:

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Vancouver Folk Music Festival Licensed Area – Jericho Beach Park

