



Date: May 29, 2015

TO: Park Board Chair and Commissioners
FROM: General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Friends of Jericho Art Centre Society Agreement Renewal

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board renews the agreement with The Friends of Jericho Arts Centre Society to lease the Jericho Arts Center for a five year period with an option to renew for a further five year period, under the terms and conditions described in this report;
- B. FURTHER THAT once the form of agreement has been approved by the General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, and the Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver, the General Manager be authorised to execute the document on behalf of the Board.

POLICY

The Board approves the use of all of the lands under its jurisdiction.

BACKGROUND

The Jericho Arts Centre was dedicated as an art center by the Vancouver Park Board in 1993. The 135 seat performance venue is located in the heart of Vancouver's west side near Jericho Beach. The purpose of the center is to:

- A. Provide opportunities for a range of artistic disciplines.
- B. Expand access to the arts for all members of the community.
- C. Provide a variety of options for participation in the arts through programs and the activities of arts groups.

The Jericho Arts Center is presently operated by the Friends of Jericho Arts Center Society. The group is a BC registered society which was formed to represent the users and volunteers of the Jericho Arts Center. Several years ago the Society approached staff expressing interest in moving toward the independent operation of the center. This would allow the Society to have a more focussed direction on its artistic endeavours, apply for grants, and expand the programming of the facility.

DISCUSSION

The Friends of Jericho Arts Center Society have requested that the Park Board consider a renewal of their lease for a further five years with an option to renew for an additional five years. The previous agreement was a five year agreement. Other than this, the only

substantive changes to the agreement is the addition of a termination clause allowing the Park Board to terminate the agreement without cause with 180 days' notice.

SUMMARY

The Friends of Jericho Arts Centre Society have requested a renewal of their agreement for a period of five years with an option to renew for a further five year term. They will operate, manage and maintain the facility as a site for community arts, specifically performing and visual arts. Staff is recommending that the Board approve the societies request to renew the agreement with the Park Board.

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