

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MAY 29, 2006

LEASE OF CITY BUILDING – MERINO CENTENNIAL CENTRE

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Community Services in consultation with the Directors of Recreation and Legal Services recommends:

- 1) That Council grant permission to Elections Canada for the use of the Merino Centennial Centre;
- 2) That staff be authorized to make the necessary arrangements including such matters as finalizing the dates and process to facilitate the completion of the lease agreement; and
- 3) That a by-law be enacted to authorize the execution of a Right of First Refusal to Lease Premises Agreement and a Lease Agreement between Elections Canada and the City of Vaughan.

Economic Impact

The economic impact of this initiative will result in the City of Vaughan receiving remuneration in the amount of \$7,000.00 plus GST from Elections Canada in exchange for the use of Merino Centennial Centre for a two month period, plus an additional amount on behalf of the four user groups that use Merino Centennial Centre. The remuneration from Elections Canada to the City of Vaughan will be used to offset operating expenses for maintenance, hydro, etc.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to grant permission to Elections Canada for the use of the Merino Centennial Centre for a seven (7) week period (compensation for 8 weeks) in the event a federal election is called between now and March 31, 2007.

Background - Analysis and Options

Elections Canada is requesting permission to lease the Merino Centennial Centre on Merino Road in Maple. They would like to gain access for a seven week period, beginning as soon as an election is called, but have agreed to pay rent for a two month period. The Returning Officer for Vaughan has requested that this item be placed on the agenda in the event an election may be called between now and March 31, 2007 in order to make the appropriate arrangements.

The building that Elections Canada is interested in is the Merino Centennial Centre. Elections Canada is proposing to pay the City of Vaughan rent of \$3,500.00 per month for a two month period for a total of \$7,000.00 plus GST.

The City of Vaughan will be paid an additional amount on behalf of the four user groups that use Merino Centennial Centre for their loss of usage of the Merino Centennial Centre to be disbursed to the four user groups after the final payment from Elections Canada is received. The City will ensure that the common space of the building is free of furniture, the security access code will be changed and given only to Elections Canada as well as make the necessary parking arrangements.

In addition to executing the Elections Canada Lease Agreement referred to as the Lease for Returning Officer's Office, the City of Vaughan and Elections Canada will also be executing a separate Right of First Refusal to Lease Premises Agreement, which gives Elections Canada a right of first refusal to lease the Merino Centennial Centre. The City of Vaughan has no objections to this Agreement.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council grant permission to Elections Canada for the use of the Merino Centennial Centre for a seven (7) week period between now and March 31, 2007 in the event a federal election is called and that the City of Vaughan be compensated for a two month period at a rate of \$3,500/month with an additional amount provided by Elections Canada to compensate the four user groups that utilize the facility. On receiving notification of the impending election, it is also recommended that staff be authorized to make the necessary arrangements including such matters as finalizing the dates, processing the completion of the lease agreement, and that a by-law be enacted to authorize the execution of a Right of First Refusal to Lease Premises Agreement and a Lease Agreement between Elections Canada and the City of Vaughan to ensure the necessary arrangements are in place should an election be called shortly.

Attachments

None

Report prepared by:

Diane LaPointe-Kay, Director of Recreation and Culture
Glyn Onizuka, Solicitor

Respectfully submitted,

Marlon Kallideen
Commissioner of Community Services