



Corporate NO: R123

Report COUNCIL DATE: May 29, 2000

REGULAR

TO: Mayor & Council **DATE: May 12, 2000**

FROM: General Manager
Parks, Recreation and Culture **FILE: 8133-001**

SUBJECT: Preparation of Bids for Games

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that a bid for either the 2004 or 2006 BC Summer Games be submitted, but that a bid not be submitted for the 2002 Canadian Senior Games.

BACKGROUND

At their May 1 meeting, Council received a letter from the Canadian Seniors Games Association inviting Surrey to bid for the 2002 Canadian Senior Games and referred the letter to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission. A letter from the Minister of Small Business, Tourism and Culture was received shortly after the May 1 meeting requesting that Surrey consider hosting the 2004 or 2006 BC Summer Games. Both letters are attached.

DISCUSSION

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission reviewed the requests and unanimously supported the submission of a bid for either the 2004 or 2006 BC Summer Games, but recommended against submitting a bid for the 2002 Canadian Seniors' Games.

Surrey has developed an excellent reputation for hosting major sporting events. The 1998 BC Games for Athletes with a Disability demonstrated the ability of the community's volunteers to organize an outstanding major Games. The host committee for the 2001 BC Seniors' Games is already well on their way to planning another excellent sporting event. An announcement regarding a major cultural festival in 2002 is expected soon and it is anticipated that the community and civic resources needed for that event would make hosting a Canadian Senior Games difficult the same year.

The Commission and staff are, however, enthusiastic about the submission of a bid for the 2004 or 2006 BC Summer Games. These Games would bring 4,100 participants from across British Columbia to Surrey. The Province provides \$600,000 of support funding to each host community; the economic impact of hosting the event is estimated at \$3 million and a legacy fund of approximately \$250,000 is generated for future sport development.

SUMMARY

The Commission and Department recommend that the City of Surrey submit a bid for the 2004 or 2006 BC Summer Games. If approved by Council, a subsequent resolution will be forwarded to Council to accompany the bid application, along with other supporting documentation and a resolution from the Board of Trustees of School District No. 36. The deadline date is November 3, 2000.

Don Hunter, General Manager

Parks, Recreation and Culture

DH:dlg

Attach.