

LATE DISTRIBUTION FOR COUNCIL - JANUARY 31, 2006

A7



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: January 26, 2006
Author: Janice MacKenzie
Phone No.: 604.871.6146
RTS No.: 5704
CC File No.: 08-2200-20
Meeting Date: January 31, 2006

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: City Clerk

SUBJECT: International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council select which Councillors will attend the 17th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm on April 30 - May 4, 2006 as the City's representatives.

COUNCIL POLICY

There is no applicable Council Policy.

PURPOSE

To obtain direction from Council on which Councillors are to represent the City at the upcoming 17th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm to be held in Vancouver on April 30 - May 4, 2006.

BACKGROUND

On April 30 - May 4, 2006 the 17th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm will be held in Vancouver. At the April 26, 2005 Regular Council Meeting, Council approved funding of \$250,000 as a contribution to this conference.

In recognition of this contribution, on January 17, 2006, the conference organizers extended free registration offers to the City for up to five Council Members.

At the Regular Council Meeting on January 17, 2006, Councillor Stevenson requested a Leave of Absence to attend the Conference. At that meeting, Council agreed to the following:

THAT consideration of the following be postponed pending the confirmation of other Councillors being included in the invitation to attend the Conference:

THAT Council grant a Leave of Absence for Councillor Stevenson for the May 2, 2006 Business License Hearing and Council Meeting, and for the May 4, 2006 City Services and Budgets Meeting, the Planning and Environment Meeting and the Court of Revision Meeting.

DISCUSSION

Staff have had a further discussion with the Conference organizers. The organizers have indicated that additional free registration offers may be possible provided that the City can confirm that those Councillors will definitely attend the conference. The organizers have asked for this confirmation for event planning purposes.

Staff have also polled the Councillors to determine which Council members would like to attend the Conference. The following members have expressed interest in attending:

- Councillor Stevenson
- Councillor Ladner
- Councillor Louie
- Councillor Anton
- Councillor Ball
- Councillor Cadman
- Councillor Capri
- Councillor Deal
- Councillor Lee

Councillors Deal, Ladner, and Cadman have indicated that they wish to attend only certain parts of the Conference. However, at present program detail for the Conference is not available.

On May 2, 2006 there is a Business License Hearing at 9:30 a.m. for which four Councillors are required. The panel has not yet been established. At 2:00 p.m. on that day, the Regular Council Meeting is to be held. Minimum quorum is six members; however, if grants are to be considered, a minimum of eight members (votes) is required.

On May 4, 2006 there is a Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets meeting at 9:30 a.m. Again, the minimum quorum is six, unless grants are considered in which case eight votes are required. As the Conference is scheduled to end at noon on May 4th, attending Councillors are able to attend all other meetings of Council on that day.

There are no meetings of Council scheduled for May 1st and 3rd.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

CONCLUSION

A number of Councillors have indicated they would like to attend the 17th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm to be held in Vancouver on April 30 - May 4, 2006. As this is a week in which Council holds their Regular and Standing Committee meetings as well as their Business License Hearing, not more than five Councillors can attend if minimum quorum is to be made. However, if grants are to be considered, not more than three members can be absent if this item of business is to be conducted. At present, the Conference organizers have confirmed that five free registrations are available, however, additional free registrations may be forthcoming. Council is being asked to decide which Council members are to attend the Conference on behalf of the City.

* * * * *