

# B.4

## MOTION ON MOTION

### 4. Poet Laureate for City of Vancouver (VanRIMS No. 01-5200-50)

MOVER: Councillor Ball

SECONDER: Mayor Sullivan

#### WHEREAS:

1. The City of Vancouver wishes to support literacy, literary arts, culture and the importance of poetry as a creative expression;
2. The City of Vancouver wishes to create the honorary position of the Vancouver Poet Laureate, the people's poet, who will act as a champion for poetry, language and the arts during the year-long term. The Poet Laureate's mandate will also include the creation of a unique artistic legacy;
3. The City of Vancouver has received a pledge for a donation of \$5000 per year for three years towards a Poet Laureate honorarium;
4. The Vancouver Public Library has offered to manage the nomination/selection process and provide a public reading venue for the Poet Laureate; and additional support as appropriate; and
5. Canadian cities already enjoying the benefits of a Poet Laureate include Toronto, Halifax, Edmonton, New Westminster, St. Johns and Victoria. The Canadian Parliament has had a Poet Laureate since 2001.

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council direct staff to work with Library Staff to create criteria whereby professional, published poets are selected for this honorary position and that staff also detail the expectations and possibilities of the position, and the Laureate's role in City life.
2. THAT staff report back as soon as possible as to any other support needed to sustain the program, with an expected appointment date of January 1, 2007

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