

B.4

4. Recognizing Local Olympians and Paralympians

MOVER: Councillor Geoff Meggs

SECONDER: Mayor Gregor Robertson

Whereas, Vancouver has a richness of amateur and professional sport that contributes significantly to our local economy and;

Whereas, the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games should be an opportunity for celebrating, honouring and recognizing our local Olympians, Paralympians, and amateur athletes, coaches and volunteers and to date this recognition has not adequately happened within the Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic planning activity;

Whereas, Vancouver is blessed with an abundance of volunteers in amateur sport who deserve more recognition and thanks for their community contribution to the lives of children and youth in our community; and

Whereas, the Mayor and Council should take a leadership role in recognizing those who have made significant contributions to local sport, recreation and community development.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT Council direct the City Manager to develop an action plan for the establishment of a recognition and medal program, entitled "Heroes of Sport", that would:

- 1) Recognize local Olympians and Paralympians to acknowledge their contribution and to provide more inclusion in the 2010 Games;
- 2) Work with partners to develop a means by which former Olympians and Paralympians can act as Hosts to help welcome visitors, raise the profile of sport and highlight Vancouver during the Games;
- 3) Develop a recognition program of local volunteer leaders and athletes in amateur sport;
- 4) Work with the Mayor's office and report back to Council with recommendations on a proposed recognition and medal program that would be feasible to implement in time for the 2010 Games.

* * * * *