

## MOTION

### 1. Federal and Provincial Funding Request for Vancouver Seniors Centre

On November 5, 2013, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting on November 6, 2013, in order to hear from speakers.

MOVED by Councillor Louie

SECONDED by Councillor Tang

#### WHEREAS

1. The non-profit society "Southeast Vancouver Seniors' Art and Cultural Centre Society" has been long advocating for a seniors centre;
2. Over the last two election terms it has been the standing policy of both Vancouver City Council and the Vancouver Park Board to support the seniors community in the construction of a Seniors Centre in Southeast Vancouver;
3. Vancouver City Council directed staff to provide further guidance by undertaking exploratory work relating to potential funding sources, governance models and site/building selection with the goal of developing a new seniors centre in Southeast Vancouver at the earliest opportunity;
4. In 2009, the Park Board approved "THAT staff investigate siting options to add up to approximately 10,000 sq. ft. of program space to the existing Killarney complex in order to accommodate the proposed seniors centre";
5. In 2011, Vancouver City Council approved a \$2.5 million contribution toward the Southeast Vancouver Seniors Centre as part of the 2011 Capital Budget, conditional on receiving external funding;
6. In 2013, Vancouver City Council, Vancouver Park Board and the southeast Vancouver seniors community achieved insufficient funding for a 10,000 sq. ft. centre, when only partial funding of \$1.3 million was committed by the Provincial Government;
7. Despite repeated efforts directed toward the Federal Government to achieve matching funding, including requests for "Stimulus" funding, discussions at a staff and political level, a letter from Mayor Gregor Robertson to the local MP Wai Young; and numerous seniors community interventions, no Federal funding has been committed;
8. Cities only receive 8 cents of every tax dollar, with the Provincial and the Federal Governments receiving the remaining 92% of taxes.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council write to the local Federal MP, the local Provincial MLA, along with the Federal and Provincial Seniors Ministers requesting that they fully match the \$2.5 million capital funding already committed by Vancouver City Council towards the construction of a 10,000 sq. ft. Southeast Vancouver Seniors Centre.

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