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**CITY OF KELOWNA**  
**MEMORANDUM**

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**Date:** December 12, 2007

**To:** Mayor and Council

**From:** Councillor Robert Hobson,  
Chair, Recreation, Parks & Culture Task Force

**Subject:** Recreation Parks and Culture Task Force Update

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This is a summary of the work of the Task Force and an outline of additional work required to complete its mandate.

- The Task Force was constituted by City Council, had its first meeting in May of 2006, and has met 13 times, most recently in December of 2007.

Referencing the five elements within the Terms of Reference, here are bullet points summarizing past and upcoming work of the Task Force:

1. Recommending to Council appropriate public process, including consultation with user groups, for input into the City's current recreation, parks and culture master plan.
  - Task Force met with staff, the consulting team master plan and the consulting team that conducted the demographic/community trends research.
  - Received presentation outlining the extent and results of public consultation
  - The Task Force provided feedback to the Master Planning team regarding goals and objectives for the master plan.

**Future Action:**

- Task Force should receive full draft of master plan for review, paying particular attention to the public processes.
  - Task Force should provide comments on public process when the Master Plan is taken forward to City Council.
  - The Task Force intends to provide advice to Council regarding on-going involvement of citizens in the park planning and policy development process.
2. Consideration of revisions to the existing parks standards in the OCP for all types of parks and particularly including linear parks, public natural open space, and the relationship to the Regional Parks system.
    - Task Force collected information from other communities regarding natural open space and linear parks.
    - Task Force received a presentation from Regional Parks staff on the Regional Parks system, and plans for financing the acquisition of additional lands.

- Task Force received a presentation from the City's Environment Division regarding the Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory, and other policies and practices for the protection of environmentally sensitive lands.

Future Action:

- Task Force should review policy recommendations regarding park standards included within the Master Plan and provide comments to City Council.
  - Task Force should provide comments to be forwarded into the OCP update process in 2008.
3. In the context of the City's Ten Year Capital Plan, consideration of the establishment of development cost charges and other financial tools to assist in the funding of public natural area parks, linear parks, and park development.
- The Task Force received a presentation from staff on the rationale and calculations behind the current DCC for park acquisitions.

Future Action:

- The Task Force should review the recommendations included in the Master Plan and provide comments to City Council.
- The Task Force should provide comments relative to parks standards to be forwarded into the OCP update process in 2008.
- The Task Force should provide advice to Council on other tools available to assist in the acquisitions, funding and development of parks.

4. Development of policies and plans for the management of City-owned heritage buildings.

- Members of the Task Force participated in the open house conducted by consultant Donald Luxton and the Planning Dept. regarding the 2007 Heritage Strategy.
- One member of the Task Force, Mr. Gordon Hartley, undertook research into best practices in other communities, but was unable to obtain much information due to non-responses to his calls.
- The Chair of the Task Force and Mr. Hartley (acting as a sub-committee) discussed recommendations regarding heritage.

Future Action: Task Force discussion of policy and other recommendations regarding City owned heritage buildings.

5. Updating the City's cultural policy and strategic plans for cultural development.
- Task Force received reports from staff regarding the Culture Matters community consultations and the development of strategic plans for culture.
  - The Task Force met with the consultants preparing the master plan and discussed the approach to cultural components in the master plan.
  - The Task Force supported consolidating the strategic planning process for culture into the master planning process.

Future Action: The Task Force should review the draft master plan, when ready, to consider the recommendations and strategic direction for cultural development, and provide comments to Council.