STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON

PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

MOTIONS

Minute No. 578
Moved by Councillor Lazarenko,
Seconded by Councillor Pagtakhan,

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2005, Council adopted Item 1 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services dated March 11, 2005, Insect Control Strategy;

AND WHEREAS, on July 14, 2005, the provincial Health Minister signed a public health order under the Environment Act to begin spraying for adult mosquitoes with malathion in the City of Winnipeg because of the high numbers of adult Culex tarsalis mosquitoes and evidence of infection with West Nile virus;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council request City Administration to provide the answers to the following questions:

1) Who gave the directive not to release the mosquito trap counts?

2) Who decided not to take immediate action to fog when trap counts exceeded an average of 25 mosquitoes on three consecutive nights and why?

3) Why were the trap counts for West Kildonan not released when the counts rose on June 13 from 43 to the highest count of 512 on June 27?

4) Who decided not to take action in West Kildonan and why?

Automatic Referral to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services in accordance with Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law

Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services – Motions (continued)

Minute No. 579
Moved by Councillor Benham,
Seconded by Councillor Gerbasi,

WHEREAS City Council on October 27, 2004, approved a motion from the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services regarding the City's policy on Insect Control;

AND WHEREAS the motion requested the Winnipeg public service to report on the relative costs and effectiveness of Malathion as a means of controlling adult mosquitoes;

AND WHEREAS the subsequent report outlined a new policy regarding mosquito control, but did not review any of the scientific literature regarding Malathion;

AND WHEREAS City Council endorsed the Blueprint for Action on mosquito control in April, 2003, which called for a Blue-Ribbon Panel of Experts to "provide advice relative to the most effective and environmentally sensitive mosquito control methods;"

AND WHEREAS that panel was not established;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment has called Malathion "a dangerous nerve poison" linked to nerve, kidney and lung damage and childhood leukemia, and called for the City of Winnipeg to halt its use;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council establish a Blue-Ribbon Panel of Experts to review the scientific literature and report on the safety, efficacy, costs and benefits of Malathion for mosquito adulticiding in the Winnipeg context;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the panel shall consist of:

1. The City of Winnipeg entomologist
2. A senior administrator from the Community Services Department;
3. A chairperson who is not employed by the City of Winnipeg;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following organizations be invited to nominate one representative each to the panel:

1. The Province of Manitoba
2. The University of Manitoba
3. The University of Winnipeg
4. The Manitoba Eco-Network

Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services – Motions (continued)

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the panel shall report its preliminary findings, based on the scientific literature, to Council before December 31, 2005;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the panel shall then hold public hearings on its findings with at least one public hearing to be held in each of the community committee areas before March 31, 2006;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the panel shall then make a final report to Council before April 30, 2006.

Automatic Referral to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services in accordance with Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law