REPORT OF THE

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FISCAL ISSUES

DATED NOVEMBER 21, 2000

On motion of Councillor Clement, the Report of the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues, dated November 21, 2000, was considered.

Moved by Councillor Clement,
That the Consent Agenda, Clause 1, be adopted.

Carried.

Recommendations for Entertainment Funding By-law Exemptions
File FL-6 (Vol. 23)

132 - 1. On June 21, 2000, Council adopted Clause 1 of the Report of the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues dated April 4, 2000, as amended by the Executive Policy Committee recommendation. Pursuant thereto, the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues has been given responsibility for reviewing applications for listing and making recommendations to Council, based on evaluations conducted and recommendations provided by the Corporate Finance Department. On September 20, 2000, Council enacted By-law No. 7710/2000 referred to as "The Entertainment Funding By-law" in accordance with Recommendation II outlined in the said Clause.

An amusement or place of amusement may be listed in Schedule "A" to The Entertainment Funding By-law where an organization has submitted an application for exemption. Listings, which in the opinion of Council meet the criteria set forth in Schedule "B" to By-law No. 7710/2000, are intended to assist locally based charitable and not-for-profit cultural or athletic organizations in producing entertainment and sporting events with admission prices at a level which will encourage a broad audience. Listings are not intended to apply where an amusement is held for fund raising events in which the performers or promoters profit or where the exemption would result in for-profit gain.

In accordance with due process, the Corporate Finance Department has conducted a consistent and thorough review of all applications received for exemption from The Entertainment Funding By-law as compared with the criteria set forth in the By-law and Schedule "B" thereto.

Pursuant to its review, the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues concurred in the administrative recommendation and determined that the following amusements and/or places of amusement, which do not meet the criteria set forth in Schedule "B" of The Entertainment Funding By-law, be denied listing in Schedule "A", for the reason(s) outlined below.

Name of Organization	Name of Event	Criteria Not Satisfied
Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature	Fund Raiser	Individuals performing in the event may be paid more than $50.00
Manitoba Children's Museum	Fund Raiser	Individuals performing in the event may be paid more than $50.00
Winnipeg Art Gallery	Fund Raiser	Individuals performing in the event may be paid more than $50.00
Manitoba Choral Association	Fund Raiser	Individuals performing in the event may be paid more than $50.00
Manitoba Blues Society	Fund Raiser	Individuals performing in the event may be paid more than $50.00
India School of Dance, Music, and Theatre Inc.	Fund Raiser	Individuals performing in the event may be paid more than $50.00

The Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues further concurred in the administrative recommendation that the amusements and/or places of amusement, which meet the criteria set forth in Schedule "B" be listed, as set out below.

Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues dated November 21, 2000

It is noted, that the annual Festival du Voyageur includes one performance titled "Cajun Night" that does not have any local content, however, in accordance with Section 4 of Schedule "B", performances which have limited local content may be considered for listing where the performance is to be offered by a locally based charitable or not-for-profit cultural organization as part of a festival. It has been determined that the limited local content of this one performance will complement and enhance the ability of the Festival du Voyageur to produce entertainment and attract a broad audience.

The financial impact of approving (and denying) these applications for exemption from the entertainment funding tax is unknown. The tax revenue that could be generated from events hosted by these organizations cannot be quantified as the events have not yet occurred.

The Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues therefore recommends:

I. That the following amusements and/or places of amusement, which meet the criteria set forth in Schedule "B" of The Entertainment Funding By-law No. 7710/2000, be listed in Schedule "A" thereto, namely:

The Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature (excluding fund raising events)
University of Manitoba School of Music
Winnipeg Scottish Festival Inc.
Gas Station Theatre (for Osborne Village Cultural Centre Productions and Events)
Gas Station Theatre (for Osborne Village Cultural Centre co-productions)
Theatre Projects (Manitoba) Inc.
Manitoba Children's Museum (excluding fund raising events)
TRIP dance company inc.
Manohar Performing Arts of Canada Inc.
Winnipeg Art Gallery (excluding fund raising events)
Festival du Voyageur, Inc
Manitoba Band Association
Manitoba Choral Association (excluding fund raising events)
Manitoba Blues Society (excluding fund raising events)
Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers
India School of Dance, Music, and Theatre Inc. (excluding fund raising events)
Manitoba Recreational Canoeing Association, Inc.
Le Cercle Molière Inc.
Polonia Mid-Continental Arts Festival Ltd.

II. That the City Solicitor/Manager of Legal Services be directed to prepare the necessary amending By-law in accordance with the foregoing for submission directly to Council for approval.

III. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the foregoing, including the execution of any documents related thereto.

Adopted by consent.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FISCAL ISSUES

CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

133 - On motion of Councillor Clement, By-law No. 7742/2000, a by-law of The City of Winnipeg to amend the Entertainment Funding By-law No. 7710/2000, was read a first, second and third time, the rule being suspended for the third reading, and was passed and ordered to be signed and sealed. File FL-6 (Vol. 23).

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FISCAL ISSUES

QUESTION PERIOD

134 - Councillor Steek referenced the City's 2000 $3.5 million budget savings and questioned how the City was not able to realize a $68,000 saving on administrative costs relative to the Community Incentive Grant Program.

Councillor Clement noted that $3.5 million surplus was attained through prudent management and that the $68,996 was part of the current budget. He advised that this was one of thousands of accounts given consideration when preparing the balanced budget.

Councillor Steek requested that if there were surplus monies in the future, that Councillors be given ample notification for meetings that would be held to discuss what should be done with the surplus, to which Councillor Clement responded that he would endeavor to provide as much notice as possible.