REPORT OF THE

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 1999

On motion of Deputy Mayor Thomas, the Report of the Executive Policy Committee, dated September 1, 1999, was considered clause by clause.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Thomas,

That the Consent Agenda, Clauses 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 and 8, be adopted.

Councillor Timm-Rudolph requested that Clause 5 be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Councillor Angus requested that Clause 7 be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

The motion to adopt the Consent Agenda, Clauses 1,2,3,4,6 and 8 was put and declared carried.

Trans Canada Trail
File ST-7.2 (Vol. 14)

793 - 1. The Executive Policy Committee, on July 14 and September 1, 1999, considered and passed the following motion, namely:

WHEREAS the Trans Canada Trail is currently under development through the Province of Manitoba, some 900 kilometres in length which will form part of the 16,000 kilometre trail across Canada;

AND WHEREAS when completed, the Trans Canada Trail will link every province and territory in Canada, from St. John's to Victoria, to Tuktoyaktuk to Chesterfield Inlet;

AND WHEREAS in Manitoba, the official local trail council for the Trans Canada Trail is the Manitoba Recreational Trail Association, and as at the present time, in excess of 80% of the proposed trail routing in Manitoba has been registered with the Trans Canada Trail Foundation;

AND WHEREAS on September 9, 1999, the first Trans Canada Trail pavilion in Manitoba will be officially opened at The Forks which will coincide with the opening of nine other pavilions across the country making it vital that the trail route through Winnipeg be officially designated by this date;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Winnipeg Council support in principle the development of routes for the 'Trans Canada Trail'.

and submits same to Council for approval.

For the information of Council, the Chief Administrative Officer has been requested to canvass all Members of Council for their suggestions regarding routes in the City of Winnipeg including spur lines for the Trans Canada Trail.

Adopted by consent.

Expenditure from Land Dedication Reserve Fund - Springers Gymnastics Club Inc. - Assiniboia Community Committee
File EP-2 (Vol. 25)

794 - 2. The Executive Policy Committee has been advised that the Assiniboia Community Committee has concurred in the allocation of $30,700.00 from the Assiniboia Land Dedication Reserve Fund for the parking lot at 4246 Ridgewood Avenue.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 1, 1999

The Executive Policy Committee concurs with the above and recommends that funds in the amount of $30,700.00 be approved from the Assiniboia Land Dedication Reserve Fund for the project.

Adopted by consent.

Expenditure from Land Dedication Reserve Fund - Assiniboine Curling Club and Vimy Ridge Arena - Assiniboia Community Committee
File EP-2 (Vol. 25)

795 - 3. The Executive Policy Committee has been advised that the Assiniboia Community Committee has concurred in the allocation of $1,200.00 from the Assiniboia Land Dedication Reserve Fund for chain fencing between the Assiniboine Curling Club and Vimy Ridge Arena.

The Executive Policy Committee concurs with the above and recommends that funds in the amount of $1,200.00 be approved from the Assiniboia Land Dedication Reserve Fund for the project.

Adopted by consent.

Request for an Independent Public Review of an accident at the Federal Laboratory for Disease Control File WS (Vol. 5)

796 - 4. On July 19, 1999, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee, under Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/90:

Moved by Councillor Lazarenko,
Seconded by Councillor Golden,

WHEREAS on July 12 and November 29, 1989, Council considered and approved the use of the Central Works Yard at Ross Avenue and Tecumseh Street as the site for the Federal Laboratory for Disease Control;

AND WHEREAS Council based this approval on the complete assurances of the federal and provincial governments that the operation of the lab was without risk or hazard to the citizens of Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS the recently opened Canadian Science Centre for Human and Animal Health is a Level 4 laboratory, one of about a dozen in the world with the strictest level of containment designed to handle the most deadly diseases;

AND WHEREAS according to media reports on July 13, 1999, an accident on June 23, due to "human error", resulted in the release of at least 2,000 litres of improperly treated effluent from the lab's waste-water system into the City's sewer system;

AND WHEREAS, subsequently, in breach of its operating licence, lab officials failed to follow proper reporting procedures and, further, lab and government officials resorted to personal discretion in deciding whether to make the accident known to the public;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Winnipeg insist on an independent public review of the accident, a commitment that federal and provincial governments will handle future incidents with transparency and the establishment of iron-clad safety procedures, before the lab stocks Level 4 diseases.

On August 30, 1999, the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works considered a Report from the Director of Water and Waste dated August 5, 1999 with respect to the subject matter which was received as information and forwarded to the Executive Policy Committee for information and consideration in conjunction with the resolution referred by Council. The Committee also requested the Administration to provide all Members of Council with a copy of the emergency response plan.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 1, 1999

The Executive Policy Committee recommends that the motion be filed for the following reasons, namely:

1. Officials at all three levels of government have agreed on the importance of immediate communications for any incidents that may occur at the Science Centre and have streamlined the process for information relevant agencies.

2. The Federal Government is committed to providing the community with full and open communications.

3. The Standing Policy Committee on Public Works has requested that all Members of Council be provided with the emergency response plan to be developed.

4. The cause was found to be human error and not failure of mechanical or computerized monitoring systems and it has been determined what corrective measures have been put in place to prevent a recurrence of this or similar incidents.

Adopted by consent.

Amendment to the Organization By-law
No. 7100/97 File GL-5.6 (Vol. 9)

797 - 5. On September 1, 1999, the Executive Policy Committee passed the following motion, namely:

WHEREAS at the June 14, 1999 Council Governance Workshop several suggestions were put forth for further developing the relationship between the governing body (Council and its committees) and the Administration, one of which was that the role of the Executive Policy Committee Secretariat be clarified as the linkage between Council and the Administration, including coordinating, consulting and scheduling to facilitate the work of the governing body;

AND WHEREAS such recommendation is in keeping with Clause 1 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated October 24, 1997, "George B. Cuff, Organizational Review and Performance Assessment Report dated October 22, 1997" and will support effective governance;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Section 16 of the Organization By-law No. 7100/97 be deleted and substituted by the following:

EPC SECRETARIAT
16. There shall be a group of professional staff, known as the Executive Policy Committee Secretariat, led by the Manager of Executive Policy Committee Support, which shall provide fiscal, policy and strategic analysis, research, communication and support in such areas as the Mayor and Executive Policy Committee determine are required to assist Executive Policy Committee and the office of the Mayor, which duties shall include issues management and the scheduling and coordination of the agendas of Executive Policy Committee and the standing committees.

and submits same to Council for approval.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Thomas,
Adoption of the clause.

Carried.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 1, 1999

Winnipeg Water Treatment Plant - Public Consultation File WS-7 (Vol. 3)

798 - 6. On September 1, 1999, the Executive Policy Committee passed the following motion, namely:

WHEREAS on May 26, 1999, Council adopted the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee contained within Clause 3 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works dated February 1, 1999 relative to the Winnipeg Water Treatment Plant Public Consultation;

AND WHEREAS Appendix "E" attached to Clause 3 contains the Terms of Reference of the Public Consultation Process which contains specific dates for advertising, media briefings and a budget summary which will not correspond to the actual dates that have been set for the public consultations and the actual amounts for each category in the budget summary;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Administration be given the authority to amend the terms of reference as set out in Appendix "E" to allow for the actual dates of advertising and media briefings and also to amend the actual amounts spent on each category in the budget summary while not exceeding the $70,000 total.

and submits same to Council for approval.

Adopted by consent.

Proposal for the Union Bank Tower Building - 500/504 Main Street - Pace-Greentree Builders Inc. and Man-Shield Construction Inc. - City Centre Community File G-3.1.1 (Vol. 4)

799 - 7. On July 8, 1999, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development passed the following motion, namely:

WHEREAS the (Royal Bank) Union Bank Tower building at Main Street and William Avenue is a national historic building qualifying for federal support for its preservation;

AND WHEREAS the development of this "keystone" building has tremendous synergy to the Old Market Square, Chinatown and Exchange Districts;

AND WHEREAS the development of a historical building results in higher labour relative to material costs, resulting in increased percentage of tax dollars;

AND WHEREAS it is the City's policy to preserve historical buildings and to pay a premium to locate in the historical buildings;

AND WHEREAS City and private sector funding are a catalyst for redevelopment in the area;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Administration be requested to negotiate a lease of space in the (Royal Bank) Union Bank Tower building for those Departments whose leases are maturing and to identify suitable tenants to occupy approximately 25,000 square feet of space (with the intent that the Administration provide a report to the Executive Policy Committee on all civic accommodations, outlining buildings occupied, space requirements, operating costs, lease maturity dates, etc.);

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Policy Committee be advised as to the Federal and Provincial monies that are available to assist in the development of historical buildings with a view to being able to offer lower rental rates;

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 1, 1999

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matter be forwarded to Executive Policy Committee, and subsequently Council, for ratification and immediate development of the (Royal Bank) Union Bank Tower building.

On September 1, 1999, the Executive Policy Committee considered an Administrative Report with respect to the referenced matter which advised that the Civic Accommodations Division is actively working to avoid any future surplus of leased space for Civic utilization in downtown Winnipeg by performing an analysis of future departmental needs, existing inventory, and resulting potential space surplus/deficiency.

The Executive Policy Committee therefore recommends:

I. That the proposal from Pace-Greentree Builders Inc. and Man-Shield Construction Inc. not be accepted at this time.

II. That the issue of the redevelopment of the Union Bank Tower Building be referred to CentreVenture for their comments and vision on development of the property.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Thomas,
Adoption of the clause.

The Speaker called the Deputy Speaker, Councillor Lazarenko, to the Chair in order to participate in the debate.

Moved by Councillor Golden,
That the clause be referred to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development.

Councillor Steek called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:-

Yea: Councillors Angus, Golden, Steek, Timm-Rudolph, O'Shaughnessy and Lazarenko.6

Nay: Councillors Clement, De Smedt, Gerbasi, Lubosch, Smith, Deputy Mayor Thomas and Vandal. 7

and the motion to refer the clause to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development was declared lost.

The motion for the adoption of the clause was put.

At the request of Councillor Angus, Council considered the recommendations separately.

The first recommendation was put.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:-

Yea: Councillors Clement, De Smedt, Gerbasi, Golden, Lubosch, Smith, Deputy Mayor Thomas and Vandal. 8

Nay: Councillors Angus, Prystanski, Steek, Timm-Rudolph, O'Shaughnessy and Lazarenko. 6

and the first recommendation was declared carried.

The second recommendation was put.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 1, 1999

Councillor O'Shaughnessy called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:-

Yea: Councillors Angus, De Smedt, Gerbasi, Golden, Lubosch, Prystanski, Smith, Steek, Deputy Mayor Thomas, Vandal, O'Shaughnessy and Lazarenko. 12

Nay: Councillors Clement and Timm-Rudolph. 2

and the second recommendation was declared carried.

The Speaker here resumed the Chair.

Access Advisory Committee - Contract Renewal for Administrative Assistant
File CR-3 (Vol. 4)

800 - 8. Council on September 24, 1997, adopted Clause 1 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 24, 1997 which approved a personal services contract with Judy Redmond for the provision of administrative support services for the Access Advisory Committee, said contract to be of a one year duration from September 29, 1997 to September 28, 1998.

On September 29, 1998, Council adopted Clause 16 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 23, 1998, which extended the personal services contract for one year commencing September 29, 1998 to September 28, 1999.

The Chairperson of the Access Advisory Committee has advised that Judy has successfully increased the profile of the Committee within City Departments and the Community at large. The Chairperson has also outlined several objectives of the Committee for the next year. In order for the objectives to be met, the Access Advisory Committee at its meeting on July 21, 1999 passed a motion recommending that a two-year extension be granted for Judy Redmond's contract as Administrative Assistant for the Access Advisory Committee commencing September 29, 1999.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends:

I. That The City of Winnipeg extend the personal services contract with Judy Redmond for the provision of administrative support services for the Access Advisory Committee (using the "Winnipeg Arts Advisory Council model"), as follows:

(a) The contract be of a two year duration commencing September 29, 1999 to September 28, 2001;

(b) The fee for service to be $30,000.00 per annum utilizing funding from the existing Access Advisory Committee budget allocation.

II. That the City Solicitor/Manager of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary contract extension between The City of Winnipeg and Judy Redmond.

Adopted by consent.

REPORT OF THE

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

DATED SEPTEMBER 8, 1999

On motion of Deputy Mayor Thomas, the Report of the Executive Policy Committee, dated September 8, 1999, was considered clause by clause.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Thomas,
That the Consent Agenda, Clauses 1 and 2, be adopted.

Carried.

Amendment to The Civic Employees' Pension Plan By-law (By-Law No. 5300/89) File GU-3.9 (Vol. 17)

801 - 1. The Executive Policy Committee has been advised that the Civic Employees' Pension Plan does not provide for the indexing of deferred paid-up pensions. That is, when a member terminates their employment before being eligible to retire, the pension they have earned does not receive cost-of-living adjustments until after the pension starts to be paid to the member at age 60 (age 55 if the member was hired before April 10, 1992).

The three unions (Canadian Union of Public Employees, Manitoba Nurses Union and the Winnipeg Association of Public Service Officers) that have members affected by the Public Health or Social Services transfers have requested that the Civic Employees' Pension Plan By-law be amended to provide for the indexing of deferred paid-up pensions for the employees who are being transferred. If Council enacts this by-law amendment it would provide for indexing of deferred paid-up pensions for only the transferred Public Health and Social Services employees and could not be extended to any other group of plan members without a further by-law amendment.

Subsection 22 (4) of By-law No. 5300/89 provides that no amendment to the Employee Benefits Program shall be made until City Council has received a report from a qualified actuary. In this regard, a report dated July 8, 1999, has been received from Mr. Enzo DeLuca of Western Compensation and Benefits Consultants, stating that the Pension Plan might be expected to receive a gain of approximately $603,000 as a result of transferring employees electing to receive a deferred pension or transferring the commuted value of their deferred pension. Approximately $388,000 of the $603,000 gain would be utilized to provide indexed deferred pensions.

At their meeting held on July 9, 1999, the Employee Benefits Board passed a motion, that based on the transfer of jurisdiction affecting Public Health and Social Services and the negative effect that plan members will suffer by not having indexing applied to their deferred pensions, that the Employee Benefits Board recommend a By-law change to City Council that would allow for indexing of deferred pensions for those specific employees on a without prejudice basis. Section 21 of By-law No. 5300/89 provides that subject to Sections 22 and 23, Council may, by by-law, from time to time, amend the By-law.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends:

I. That City Council enact an amendment to the Civic Employees' Pension Plan By-law No. 5300/89, to provide for cost-of-living adjustments to the deferred paid-up pensions of those plan members who are affected by the transfer of Public Health to the Winnipeg Community and Long Term Care Authority (WCA) or by the transfer of Social Services to the Province of Manitoba.

II. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to effect the intent of the foregoing.

Adopted by consent.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 8, 1999

Appointment to the Employee Benefits Investment Committee
File GU-3.9 (Vol. 17)

802 - 2. Section 15 (1) of the Civic Employees' Pension Plan By-Law No. 5300/89 states:

"The Investment Committee shall consist of:

(a) two (2) persons appointed by the Members' Representatives for such term as may be fixed by the Board; and

(b) four persons, at least three of whom shall be chosen for their investment experience and competence, appointed by Council for such term as may be fixed by Council, after considering the advice and comments of the Board Members who are not Member Representatives."

Mr. Marshall G. Smith is one of the City representatives on the Employee Benefits Investment Committee and his current term expires on October 31, 1999. He has served on the Employee Benefits Investment Committee for many years and it is recommended that he be re-appointed as he continues to make a very valuable contribution to this Committee.

The other three City representatives on the Employee Benefits Investment Committee are Mr. Alan G. Howison, whose current appointment expires on October 31, 2000, Dr. John McCallum, whose current appointment expires on October 31, 2001 and Mr. Keith Dowdall who serves on the Committee due to his position with the City as Director of Corporate Finance / City Treasurer.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends:

I. That Mr. Marshall G. Smith be re-appointed to the Employee Benefits Investment Committee for a one year term, from November 1, 1999 to October 31, 2000.

II. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to effect the intent of the foregoing.

Adopted by consent.

REPORT OF THE

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

DATED SEPTEMBER 15, 1999

On motion of Deputy Mayor Thomas, the Report of the Executive Policy Committee, dated September 15, 1999, was considered clause by clause.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Thomas,

That the Consent Agenda, Clauses 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 and 9, be adopted.

Councillor Timm-Rudolph requested that Clause 7 be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Councillor Lazarenko requested that Clause 9 be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

The motion to adopt the Consent Agenda, Clauses 1,2,3,4,5,6 and 8, was put and declared carried.

Winnipeg Development Agreement - Reallocation File FR-3.2 (PA-1) (Vol. 1)

803 - 1. The Winnipeg Development Agreement (WDA) is a tri-level agreement between the City of Winnipeg, Province of Manitoba and the Government of Canada. The goal of the Agreement is to work with the community and business to support the long-term sustainable economic development of Winnipeg.

The Agreement was formally signed on March 10, 1995 and provides $75 million ($25 million from each level of government) to be implemented over five years. Under the terms of the Agreement, financial obligations are to be committed by the expiry date of the Agreement (March 31, 2000) and the completion of each program shall not extend beyond September 31, 2001.

This reallocation will redistribute funds from a City WDA program that runs the risk of not fulfilling the financial terms of the Agreement, towards a program that could utilize additional funding. As previously stated, the WDA expiration date is March 31, 2000.

As detailed in the terms of the Agreement (Section 5.2 (d), WDA Policy Committee's unanimous approval (upon the recommendation from WDA Management Committee), is also required for these reallocations. Upon approval from Council, formal discussions with the Provincial and Federal WDA partners will commence concerning the reallocation of funds between City programs.

Reallocation of Funds from Program 5C to Program 1A.

It is proposed that funding in the amount of $350,000 be reallocated from Program 5C: Employment Equity to Program 1A: North Main Strategic Development.

The goal of the Employment Equity program is to provide enhanced employment opportunities within the City of Winnipeg organization, to targeted group members (aboriginal people, women, people with disabilities and visible minorities). It is intended to initiate actions to ensure that recruitment, selection, and promotion of current and future employees is carried out in a non-discriminatory manner.

The objective of the North Main Strategic Development program is to revitalize North Main and its environs and to improve the living conditions for area residents. Specifically, the program will place emphasis upon the development and co-ordination of a comprehensive community development strategy, to address some immediate and long term concerns of Main Street. The centrepiece of the program is the Circle of Life Thunderbird House and Medicine Wheel Park.

Program 5C: Employment Equity was originally allocated $1.5 million to pursue program objectives. The program authorization had not received final approval until December 1997, well behind all other WDA programs. During this same time period, the City experienced a general reduction in staff hiring due to reorganization. As this program was experiencing implementation difficulties, there was a parallel demand for additional funding in Program 3A:

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 15, 1999

Neighbourhood Revitalization, for the West Broadway Neighbourhood. $300,000 was reallocated in September 1998 to Program 3A: Neighbourhood Revitalization, to provide financial assistance to the West Broadway Development Corporation (as approved by Council September 29, 1998).

These same issues continue today, and an additional reallocation is recommended to ensure that the City's WDA funding requirements will be fulfilled within the terms of the Agreement. Upon this reallocation, approximately $170,000 would remain uncommitted in the Employment Equity program to allow for the continued implementation of priority projects.

Program 1A: North Main Strategic Development was originally allocated $6 million. The focal point of the program is Neeginan and more specifically the centrepiece project, the Circle of Life Thunderbird House. This project is set to become the spiritual and cultural centre for not only the aboriginal community of Winnipeg and Manitoba, but also of the entire country. This project was originally allocated $1.5 million for the design and construction of the Roundhouse and $2.25 million for land purchase and site preparation. It became evident that the original budgets did not allow for the completion of the project to the original specifications and that further funding would be required. The City of Winnipeg (as approved by Council on July 19, 1999), committed an additional $200,000 to be reallocated from within the WDA. The additional funding is requested to cover potential land acquisition and site preparation overruns. The Province of Manitoba also has contributed $1.1 million to this project.

As funding for the Winnipeg Development Agreement has been budgeted for in prior years, no additional borrowing authority is required. Cash flows in these programs will have to be monitored closely throughout the remaining term of the WDA.

Council is the approval authority for the Program Authorizations under the WDA. The proposed reallocations of funds between programs of the Winnipeg Development Agreement requires Council approval. Council will also be required to recommend the reallocation to the WDA Policy Committee.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends:

I. That the Reallocation of $350,000 from Program 5C: Employment Equity to Program 1A: North Main Strategic Development of the WDA, be approved.

II. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to effect the intent of the foregoing.

Adopted by consent.

Task Force on Inner Winnipeg Neighbourhood Redevelopment
File EX (Vol. 13)

804 - 2. On March 17, 1999, the Executive Policy Committee laid over Clause 1 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development dated February 19, 1999, with respect to a Task Force on Inner Winnipeg Neighbourhood Redevelopment.

On March 24, April 28, and May 26, 1999, Council granted an extension of time of 30 days for consideration of this matter.

On June 16, 1999, Executive Policy Committee referred Clause 1 back to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development for reconsideration of the levels of funding for operation of the Task Force.

On August 31, 1999, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development requested that the Executive Policy Committee provide a copy of the Housing Policy, that is being prepared by the Mayor's Office, to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development (Task Force on Inner Winnipeg Neighbourhood Redevelopment).

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 15, 1999

The Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development also submitted a brief received from Councillor Prystanski, outlining a recommendation from the Task Force on Inner Winnipeg Neighbourhood Redevelopment, namely:

> That the mandate of the Task Force is to undertake a review and series of consultations on housing policy and actions, leading to the development of a Housing Strategy and Implementation Plan for Inner Winnipeg - with particular emphasis to be placed upon recovery of distressed inner Winnipeg neighbourhoods, and to examine replacement of deteriorated housing stock to develop a policy on infill housing for vacant lots.

In accordance with Section 61.5 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/94 as amended, the Executive Policy Committee recommends that Council grant an extension of time of 30 days for further consideration of this matter.

Adopted by consent.

Proposed Text Amendment - Winnipeg Zoning By-law No. 6400/94 - Regulation of Advertising Signs
File DAZ 215/99 [c/r DAZ 209/94 (Vol. 3)]

805 - 3. On June 16, 1999, the Executive Policy Committee referred back Clause 1 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development dated June 1, 1999, with respect to the referenced matter.

On August 31, 1999, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development laid over Clause 1 until their October 26, 1999 meeting.

In accordance with Section 61.5 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/94 as amended, the Executive Policy Committee recommends that Council grant an extension of time of 60 days for further consideration of this matter.

For the information of Council, the Administration has been requested to attend the November 10, 1999 meeting of the Executive Policy Committee to provide further background information on the regulation of advertising signs at which time all members of Council are invited to attend.

Adopted by consent.

Proposed Leave and License Agreement for the Use of the Mill Street right-of-way - Riverside Park Management Ltd. - City Centre Community
File FI-2.2(32)(Vol. 6)

806 - 4. On June 16, 1999, the Executive Policy Committee laid over Clause 1 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development dated June 15, 1999, with respect to the referenced matter.

On July 14, 1999, the Executive Policy Committee laid over Clause 1 and referred it to the Chief Financial Officer for report back to the September 15, 1999 meeting of Executive Policy Committee.

In accordance with Section 61.5 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/94 as amended, the Executive Policy Committee recommends that Council grant an extension of time of 30 days inasmuch as the administrative report has not been received to date.

Adopted by consent.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 15, 1999

Proposed Maintenance and Sale of City-owned Vacant Lands resulting from the Demolition of Unsafe Buildings in the Inner City Area File FI-2.2 (Vol. 8)

807 - 5. On July 14, 1999, the Executive Policy Committee laid over Clause 8 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development dated July 8, 1999, with respect to the referenced matter.

On September 15, 1999 the Executive Policy Committee heard Paul Chorney, Program Director, Carol Basarab and Sheri Blake, West Broadway Development Corporation in delegation with respect to the subject matter and indicating support for the recommendations from the Property and Development Services Department.

In accordance with Section 61.5 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/94 as amended, the Executive Policy Committee recommends that Council grant an extension of time of 30 days for further consideration of the matter.

Adopted by consent.

Zoo Animal Reserve Fund File PR-7.1.1 (Vol. 16)

808 - 6. On July 14, 1999, the Executive Policy Committee referred back Clause 8 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services dated July 5, 1999, with respect to the referenced matter.

On September 7, 1999, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services laid over Clause 8 to a special meeting at the call of the Chair.

In accordance with Section 61.5 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/94 as amended, the Executive Policy Committee recommends that Council grant an extension of time of 30 days for further consideration of this matter.

Adopted by consent.

Proposed 2000 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program File FL (Vol. 7)

809 - 7. The initial 1995 Home Renovation Tax Assistance (HRTA) Program and subsequent annual HRTA Programs were intended to:

> *Provide an economic incentive for the home renovation industry, to reduce the perception that property owners are penalized for improving their properties and to encourage property owners to take out building permits thereby promoting the quality of construction in meeting applicable building, electrical and plumbing codes.*

The City of Winnipeg Act (Section 138.1) authorizes Council to "establish a program of property tax credits to encourage and assist in the renovation of residential premises."

On February 10, 1999, The Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development requested an administrative report consisting of the following components:

- identify how many homes will qualify within the eligibility criteria;
- encourage private industry involvement
- financial impact, with respect to:
  - renovation value
  - actual tax credits
  - future tax credits
- recommendations for 2000 and beyond

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 15, 1999

In determining a home renovation tax assistance program for 2000 and subsequent years, a review of and comparison with the 1998 and 1999 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Programs is warranted.

Number of homes which meet the eligibility criteria

A total of 94,131 dwelling units qualify for the 1998 HRTA Program (single-family dwellings, less than $100,000 assessed value, constructed prior to 1981). This represents approximately 36% of the City's self-contained dwelling units (260,956 total). There is no budget cap for the 1998 HRTA Program. The 1999 HRTA Program (single-family dwellings, duplexes, and multiple-family dwellings up to 4 units, less than $90,000 assessed value, constructed prior to 1974) accommodates 80,487 dwelling units. This represents approximately 31% of the City's self-contained dwelling units (260,956 total). The 1999 HRTA Program budget is capped at a maximum of $325,000 per year for three years ($975,000 in total).

Private industry involvement

The February 8, 1999 report submitted by the Development and Inspections Division Manager at Property and Development Committee's February 10, 1999 meeting recommended a marketing campaign in partnership with the home renovation industry, in order to create better awareness of the Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program. The report suggested a number of opportunities for private industry involvement, including: program information form distribution at commercial lumber yards and hardware stores; and promotional information included in the *Real Estate News*; promotional information included in industry newsletters. A budget would be required if a marketing campaign of this nature is pursued.

Media coverage of the HRTA Program and word of mouth have led to some program awareness and likely led to individuals applying for permits, where they may have otherwise proceeded with renovations without permits. The majority of HRTA Program applications, however, are made by individuals already applying for building permits—they apply for the tax credit after being informed by Zoning and Permits Branch staff that their properties are eligible. As of August 20, 1999, 684 applications have been received for the 1999 program.

Financial impact

The 1998 and 1999 HRTA programs provide for a maximum annual tax credit of $500 per eligible dwelling unit. Total tax credits spread over three years are $1500 per dwelling. The annual tax credit is equivalent to 5% of the amount expended for eligible renovations. In order to receive the maximum tax credit under the program, a homeowner must spend a minimum of $10,000 on eligible renovations.

As of August 20, 1999, approximately $416,176 worth of annual tax credits had been approved under the 1998 HRTA Program for 1536 dwellings. Approximately 598 applications for the 1998 HRTA Program await approval. The following table illustrates current exposure for the previous HRTA program credits (1995, 1996, 1997), the 1998 program credits (to August 20, 1999), estimated additional 1998 program credits, and the 1999 program maximum credits.

ANNUAL TAX CREDITS

PROGRAMS	1999	2000	2001	2002	1999-2002 Total
1995	$23,115	$23,115			$46,230
1996	$11,880	$11,880	$11,880		$35,640
1997	$8,040	$8,040	$8,040	$8,040	$32,160
1998, pre-Aug 20/99	$416,176	$416,176	$416,176		$1,248,528
1998, post-Aug 20/99 (estimated)	$161,460	$161,460	$161,460		$484,380
1999 (maximum)		$325,000	$325,000	$325,000	$975,000
TOTAL	$620,671	$945,671	$922,556	$333,040	$2,821,938

* the annual totals (1999, 2000, 2001) include estimates for the 598 files under the 1998 HRTA Program not yet processed

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Based on the 1536 files approved under the 1998 HRTA Program, annual tax credits per dwelling unit average approximately $270. Average building permit value per dwelling is approximately $5400 (note, because the maximum credit is based on 5% of eligible renovations to a maximum annual credit of $500, the average renovation value per dwelling does not include credits for renovations exceeding $10,000—nor does it include additional renovations not eligible for the program). Assuming an average annual tax credit per dwelling of $270 for the remaining 598 dwellings not yet approved for the 1998 program, an additional $161,460 worth of credits may be attributable to 1999, 2000, and 2001 for this program ($577,636 in total). The 1999 current budget allocated to the HRTA Program is $470,000. An overexpenditure of approximately $100,000 is possible.

As of August 20, 1999, 684 applications have been received for the 1999 HRTA Program. Annual tax credits per dwelling average approximately $270. Average building permit value per dwelling is approximately $5400. Assuming the average annual tax credit per dwelling unit of $270 continues, approximately 1200 dwellings will qualify under the 1999 HRTA Program cap of $325,000 per year. However, based on the current uptake, it is not anticipated the 1999 HRTA Program cap will be reached.

Recommendations for 2000 and beyond

The City of Winnipeg Act (Section 138.1) authorizes Council to "establish a program of property tax credits to encourage and assist in the renovation of residential premises." Each of the Home Renovation Tax Assistance programs (1995 - 1999) states the object of the program is to:

> Provide an economic incentive for the home renovation industry, to reduce the perception that property owners are penalized for improving their properties and to encourage property owners to take out building permits thereby promoting the quality of construction in meeting applicable building, electrical and plumbing codes.

The Property and Development Services Department recommends that an examination of this object—and how well the current program achieves it—is prudent, prior to establishing another HRTA Program for 2000 and beyond. As well, it is important to determine if the program "encourages and assists in the renovation of residential premises."

As a tax credit program, where homeowners' property taxes are reduced for a specified period and based on the expense of eligible renovations, the program does not provide a direct economic incentive to the renovation industry. The renovation industry - composed of suppliers, contractors, and designers - does, however, benefit from a program which encourages homeowners to renovate their homes. Analysis of recent residential permit data (Winnipeg Building Permits Summary, 1995-1999) indicates minor decline in the number of residential alterations/additions permits issued up until 1998. Permits of this nature increased in both 1998 and 1999, perhaps due to the HRTA Program. Before reaching this conclusion, however, a number of factors must also be considered as potentially increasing permit numbers, including: increased confidence in the overall economy; residential alterations/additions category does not distinguish dwelling types not eligible for the HRTA Program; and program applicants applied for permits for renovations not normally requiring a permit (e.g. doors, kitchen cabinets), so as to qualify for maximum program tax credits. While residential alterations/additions permit numbers have increased in 1998 and 1999, there is no direct evidence that the HRTA program has been the sole catalyst to encourage and assist in the renovation of residential premises.

Anecdotally (since no intake survey was initiated), Zoning and Permits Branch staff report that most HRTA Program applications result from homeowners already applying for building permits being informed their properties qualify for the program. This feedback suggests the program itself has not succeeded in encouraging homeowners to apply for building permits - nor has it countered the perception property owners are penalized for making improvements to their properties. Building permit information is shared with the Assessment Department and would be considered a factor in determining a dwelling's assessed value. It is unlikely this program will succeed in altering attitudes among citizens who perceive benefits in not applying for building permits - which may have more to do with sales tax savings (so-called "underground" renovators) than it does with property tax savings. It is difficult to measure changes in perceptions, except in instances where (in a case such as this) building permits can be shown to have conclusively increased as a direct result of a particular incentive program.

The Property and Development Services Department proposes four options for proceeding with a home renovation tax assistance program for future years. The current HRTA Program and its predecessors do not demonstrate achievement of Council's objectives. Without clear objectives established for what Standing Committee wants to achieve with another HRTA Program, the program should be terminated (Option 1).

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If Standing Committee wants to achieve the at-large renovation of the City's housing stock by way of a tax credit program - and is satisfied the current program will succeed in accomplishing this general objective - a 2000 HRTA Program based on the current program should be pursued (Option 2). This option would be strengthened with the formulation of new measurable program objectives which better reflect Standing Committee's expectations for such a program.

If Standing Committee wants to achieve the renovation of the City's housing stock by way of a tax credit program - and is not satisfied the current HRTA Program will succeed in accomplishing this objective - two options are proposed. These options would also be strengthened with the formulation of new program objectives which articulate Standing Committee's expectations for such a program.

Minor modification to the 1999 HRTA Program eligibility criteria could, for example, target dwellings of a certain age which require structural, mechanical, life safety, or facade improvements to make them habitable and extend their lifespan (Option 3). The criterion for age of dwelling could be adjusted and the eligible renovations list could be tailored to reflect these desires.

More radical changes to the HRTA Program could encourage housing renovation in specific areas of the City. Specific distressed neighbourhoods could be targeted and eligibility criteria altered to include a broader range of building types and tenancy forms (Option 4). Such a program could be part of a multi-dimensional strategy focused on improving housing opportunity in areas of the City demonstrating chronic housing problems. The four options referred to in the preceding section are outlined below:

Option #1 - Terminate HRTA Program after 1999 program expires

- tax credits under existing HRTA programs cease after 2002
- no additional financial exposure for the City

Option #2 - Establish 2000 HRTA Program, utilizing 1999 HRTA Program eligibility criteria

- dwellings constructed pre-1974; assessed value less than $90,000; owner-occupied single-family, duplexes, multiple-family (1-4 units per building); maximum tax credits of $325,000 annually over three years
- additional financial exposure for the City: $325,000 tax credits for 2001 (potentially $1,218,426 total); additional $325,000 tax credits for 2002 (potentially $658,040 total); additional $325,000 tax credits for 2003 (potentially $325,000 total)
- program continues to offset eligible renovations of owner-occupied dwellings City-wide, with program eligibility criteria favouring neighbourhoods which have the highest number of qualifying dwellings, such as: Windsor Park, Jefferson, Chalmers, Crestview, Kildare-Redonda, and Sargent Park
- eligible renovations include structural, utilities, and other basic life safety and livability work
- eligible renovations also include decks, verandas, garages, greenhouses, gazebos, sunrooms, and other enhancements

Option #3 - Establish 2000 HRTA Program, with minor modifications to eligibility criteria

- adjust dwelling age; maximum assessed value; housing type; program cap
  - will limit financial exposure
  - will target specific areas of the City (e.g. older neighbourhoods) and specific housing types (e.g. single-family dwellings)
  - the 1995 HRTA Program, for instance, was restricted to single-family dwellings, built pre-1971, with an assessed value of less than $80,000
- modify list of eligible renovations
  - will discriminate funding basic habitability and life safety renovations from more cosmetic renovations
  - eligible renovations under the 1995 HRTA Program, for instance, do not include decks, verandas, garages, greenhouses, gazebos, or sunrooms
- decreased potential tax credits, compared to the 1998 and 1999 HRTA Programs

Option #4 - Develop objectives and guidelines for a new program to encourage and assist in the renovation of Winnipeg's older neighbourhood housing stock, consistent with the City's housing policy (including Plan Winnipeg Policies 4B-01 through 4B-08) and emerging housing initiatives

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- target specific neighbourhoods or areas, such as the inner city, shoulder communities, or conservation neighbourhoods
- more directly matches housing initiatives to neighbourhoods and areas with demonstrated housing needs
- evidence of focused investment more apparent sooner if specific areas are targeted
- coordinate with and capitalize on existing and emerging housing and revitalization programs and tools, such as RRAP, M/WCRP, WDA, community development corporations, tax increment financing, infill servicing incentives, and other initiatives
- multi-tool approaches more successful in diverse neighbourhoods—single-barrelled approaches tend to work in homogeneous neighbourhoods, potentially encouraging dependency on the tool
- coordinated programs and initiatives deliver funding more economically

Substantial attention has been focused on Winnipeg's housing conditions and policies recently. Initiatives are underway to determine appropriate policies and programs to address Winnipeg's housing conditions, particularly in deteriorated areas of the City. With increased recognition that declining property assessments in inner Winnipeg have an impact on the City's overall tax base, it appears beneficial for the City to establish initiatives which target specific neighbourhoods, in a comprehensive and coordinated manner. The Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program, in its present form, has not encouraged the renovation of Winnipeg's aging housing stock in areas of the City demonstrating chronic housing problems. Applications for the 1998 and 1999 HRTA programs are primarily from properties located in Winnipeg's older (post-Second World War) neighbourhoods. Newer suburbs are excluded, due primarily to the age of dwelling criterion (pre-1981 and pre-1974 for the 1998 and 1999 programs, respectively). The new program's objectives should harmonize with the work of community-based organizations dedicated to improving Winnipeg through housing opportunities.

Approval of a 2000 HRTA Program with a budget cap of $325,000 annually would result in tax credits potentially totalling $1,247,556 in 2001, $658,040 in 2002, and $325,000 in 2003.

The 1998 and 1999 HRTA Programs have resulted in increased workloads for Housing/Existing Buildings Branch, Land Development Branch, and Zoning and Permits Branch personnel. These workloads include additional permit enquiry and application processing, program administration, and renovation inspection. These workloads have not been budgeted and, therefore, staff have been diverted from other priority areas.

On February 10, 1999, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development approved the following motion, with respect to the proposed 1999 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program:

> "That the Administration be requested to prepare a report outlining proposed tax credit recommendations for 2000 and beyond, identifying how many homes will qualify within the eligibility criteria; encouraging private industry involvement; and providing financial impact with respect to renovation value, actual tax credits and future tax credits, and that said report be forwarded to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development no later than June, 1999".

The Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development has recommended that Option 2 contained in the report dated August 23, 1999, from the Director of Property and Development Services, to establish the 2000 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program utilizing the 1999 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program eligibility criteria, be concurred in.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends:

I. That Option 2 be concurred in establishing the 2000 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program utilizing the 1999 Home Renovation Tax Assistance Program eligibility criteria, namely:

   a) dwellings constructed pre-1974; assessed value less than $90,000; owner-occupied single-family, duplexes, multiple-family (1-4 units per building); maximum tax credits of $325,000 annually over three years
   b) additional financial exposure for the City: $325,000 tax credits for 2001 (potentially $1,218,426 total); additional $325,000 tax credits for 2002 (potentially $658,040 total); additional $325,000 tax credits for 2003 (potentially $325,000 total)
   c) program continues to offset eligible renovations of owner-occupied dwellings City-wide, with program eligibility criteria favouring neighbourhoods which have the highest number of qualifying dwellings, such as: Windsor Park, Jefferson, Chalmers, Crestview, Kildare-Redonda, and Sargent Park

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d) eligible renovations include structural, utilities, and other basic life safety and liveability work
e) eligible renovations also include decks, verandas, garages, greenhouses, gazebos, sunrooms, and other enhancements

II. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to effect the intent of the foregoing.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Thomas,
Adoption of the clause.

Carried.

Recognition of Employees and Volunteers for their efforts during the Pan Am Games
File GC-8.9 (Vol. 6)

810 - 8. On September 15, 1999, the Executive Policy Committee passed the following motion, namely:

WHEREAS in 1991, on the heels of a very successful 1990 Western Canada Summer Games, Winnipeg City Council overwhelmingly approved a motion to support a bid to return the Pan American Games to Winnipeg in 1999;

AND WHEREAS after several months and thousands of hours of effort the Winnipeg Bid Committee successfully won the competition to host the XIII Pan American Games;

AND WHEREAS through the tireless efforts of hundreds of employees and volunteers together we showcased our City and the true spirit of Winnipeg throughout the Games, from July 23rd to August 8th, 1999;

AND WHEREAS numerous compliments have been received from officials, visitors and citizens alike about the appearance of our City and the quality of City services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council extends congratulations and appreciation to all staff for their efforts and contributions on an outstanding job and tremendously successful Pan American Games;

and submits same to Council for favourable consideration.

Adopted by consent.

Development of a Competitive Model
File GG (Vol. 6)

811 - 9. On June 24, 1998, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee, under Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/90:

Moved by Councillor Lazarenko,
Seconded by Councillor Golden,

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg wishes to improve municipal services, increase efficiency and reduce the cost of local government;

AND WHEREAS, in 1991, the City of Indianapolis established the Office of Enterprise Development which introduced a system of private and public sector competition for the delivery of municipal services;

AND WHEREAS, by 1993, this system of managed competition had saved Indianapolis approximately $100M, with equal or improved service quality;

AND WHEREAS Indianapolis City staff proposals win approximately one-third of the competitions, still with average savings of more than 25%;

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 15, 1999

AND WHEREAS City staff proposals developed with union involvement win four out of five competitions bid;

AND WHEREAS, in 1995, the Ford Foundation recognized union innovation when it presented its 1995 American Government Award jointly to the union and the City;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct the Administration to enquire into the Indianapolis competitive model with a view toward its application in Winnipeg.

On July 8, 1998, the Executive Policy Committee referred the motion to the Chief Administrative Officer for report back providing the required amendments and/or policy changes that would be necessary to implement the Indianapolis Competitive Model in the City of Winnipeg.

On September 9, 1998, Council granted an extension of time of 60 days inasmuch as the report has not been received to date.

On November 25, 1998, Council granted an additional extension of time of 90 days for consideration of the matter.

On December 9, 1998, the Executive Policy Committee considered a report from the Chief Financial Officer dated November 30, 1998.

On December 16, 1998, Council adopted Clause 12 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated December 9, 1998 concurring in the recommendations contained therein, namely:

I. That the matter of a Competitive Model for Service Delivery be referred to the Joint CUPE-Council Committee for consideration and report back in 120 days.

II. That the Joint Committee be mandated to conduct further research into the Indianapolis model specifically with a view to the development of a framework and policy for a similar City of Winnipeg model. This would include an examination of costing parameters and techniques, performance measurement, employment and compensation policies, bid preparation and evaluation processes and approval mechanisms and processes.

At that time the Administration had also been requested to report back on the implementation of a public participation process.

On April 14, 1999, the Executive Policy Committee recommended that an extension of time of 90 days be approved for consideration of this matter in accordance with rule 16.4 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/90, inasmuch as the Joint CUPE - Council Committee had not met to date, and therefore had not submitted a report for consideration.

On April 28, 1999, Council granted an additional extension of time of 90 days for consideration of the matter.

On June 25, 1999, the Joint Committee of Council and CUPE Representatives requested representatives of CUPE, Local 500 and the Project Manager, CAO Secretariat to prepare guiding principles in connection with the Competitive Model.

The Committee also requested that a Council Seminar be arranged for November 8, 1999, with respect to the Competitive Model and therefore recommended that Executive Policy Committee request an extension of time of 120 days.

On July 19, 1999, Council granted an additional extension of time of 120 days for consideration of the matter.

On September 3, 1999, the Joint Committee of City Council and CUPE Representatives considered the matter and recommended that the Council motion be referred to the Human Resources Strategic Plan Project Steering Committee for consideration and recommendation as part of the overall Human Resource Strategic Plan.

The Executive Policy Committee has reconsidered the matter and recommends that the motion be filed inasmuch as the Executive Policy Committee on July 14, 1999, approved a project to develop a Human Resource Strategic Plan for the City of Winnipeg and this matter will be dealt with in this plan.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 15, 1999

Moved by Deputy Mayor Thomas,

That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee, that the clause be filed, be adopted.

The Speaker called the Deputy Speaker, Councillor Lazarenko, to the Chair in order to participate in the debate.

The motion for the adoption of the clause was put.

The Speaker called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:-

Yea: Councillors Angus, Clement, De Smedt, Gerbasi, Lubosch, Steek, Deputy Mayor Thomas and Vandal. 8

Nay: Councillors Golden, Prystanski, Smith, Timm-Rudolph and Lazarenko. 5

and the motion for the adoption of the clause was declared carried.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

MOTIONS

Moved by Councillor Steek,
Seconded by Councillor Lazarenko,

812 - WHEREAS Section 647(1) of The City of Winnipeg Act directs that an appeal of variance or conditional use be heard by a committee of Council as designated by by-law;

AND WHEREAS By-law No. 7100/97 currently identifies the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development as the said appeals committee;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed desirable to extend Council member representation to hear appeals;

AND WHEREAS the appeals workload can prove onerous for one committee;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Executive Policy Committee explore i) the possibility of amending By-law No. 7100/97 to provide for an appeal process whereby each Standing Policy Committee and Standing Committee of Council would act as the said appeals committee on a quarterly basis; ii) other alternatives to address the hearing and deciding of appeals.

Automatic Referral to Executive Policy Committee in accordance with Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

813 - On motion of Deputy Mayor Thomas, the following by-laws were read a first, second and third time, the rule being suspended for the third reading of each by-law, and were passed and ordered to be signed and sealed, namely:

By-law No. 7503/99, a by-law of The City of Winnipeg to amend By-law No. 5300/89, being a By-law establishing “The Civic Employees’ Pension Plan”. File GU-3.9 (Vol. 17)

Executive Policy Committee - Consideration of By-laws (continued)

By-law No. 7504/99, a by-law of The City of Winnipeg to amend By-law No. 7100/97, being the City Organization By-law. File GL-5.6 (Vol. 9)

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

QUESTION PERIOD

814 - Councillor Angus noted the efforts made during the 1999 Pan American Games to keep the City clean and in noting its attractiveness, questioned what it would take to do this every year.

Deputy Mayor Thomas replied that she would check if any additional dollars were put into the budget for this purpose and stated that if so, the matter could be referred to the budget process.

Councillor Angus referred to the matter of next week's Special Council meeting to deal with CentreVenture and expressed concern regarding a potential conflict of interest by Mayor Murray, who acts as a representative of the City and acts as a director for an arms length lending agency. Councillor Angus questioned if the City's Legal Services Division could provide comment on the matter in time for next week's meeting.

Deputy Mayor Thomas took the question as notice.

Councillor Timm-Rudolph requested assurance that during the home renovation tax assistance program review, that property alarms and building alarms would be considered.

Deputy Mayor Thomas noted that the program had been renewed for one year, but at the end of that, a review would take place and any issue, including alarms, could be brought forward at that time.

Councillor Timm-Rudolph advised that during her review of the CentreVenture Preliminary Business Plan, she noted that it didn't really outline the operating procedures even though it referenced items to be dealt with, and requested Council members be apprised of the guidelines for operation.

Deputy Mayor Thomas advised that any questions about CentreVenture would be referred to the appropriate individuals and that they would be adequately dealt with on September 29, 1999.

Councillor Timm-Rudolph requested definitive answers to issues such as access to information and conflict of interest guidelines.

Deputy Mayor Thomas suggested that the Councillor put her request in writing and explain exactly what she wanted and that the Mayor's Office would endeavour to deal with it.

Councillor Prystanski noted the resignation of Mr. Joe Bova, Co-Chair of the North Main Redevelopment Task Force and requested that the City send an appropriate thank you and congratulations to such an outstanding citizen of Winnipeg. Councillor Prystanksi also noted that when Mr. Bova submitted his resignation, he had not yet received a response to a letter he submitted to the City several months ago. Councillor Prystanski also questioned whether a decision would be made on the replacement of the Co-Chair.

Deputy Mayor Thomas replied that a thank you had been sent to Mr. Bova, and extended her own personal thanks for all the hard work that he had done. Councillor Vandal, as a member of the Task Force, advised that he received a communication from the Mayor requesting his input as to how the Task Force should go. Councillor Vandal advised that he would meet with the area Councillor and Ms Paul Mitchell to discuss these items before making recommendation to the Mayor.

Councillor Timm-Rudolph clarified that she was looking for assurance that the CentreVenture organization would be similar to other Boards and stated that her concern was that CentreVenture was a much different operation than Boards such as the Convention Centre or Winnipeg Enterprises, and requested information on the reporting structure of the Board and who they will ultimately report to.

Executive Policy Committee - Question Period (continued)

Deputy Mayor Thomas noted that if there were any concerns beyond the normal guidelines that the nature of the concern should be noted, and it would be explored.

Councillor Clement questioned if it was true that CentreVenture was incorporated as a development corporation on July 9, 1999, to which Deputy Mayor Thomas replied in the affirmative.

Councillor Clement questioned if it was true that the CentreVenture Development Corporation had the same kind of status as the Forks North Portage Corporation and Core Area Initiative, to which Deputy Mayor Thomas replied in the affirmative.

Councillor Clement questioned if all information pertaining to their business would be dealt with by their Board who answered to the Mayor, to which Deputy Mayor Thomas again replied in the affirmative.

Councillor Golden questioned who the shareholders of the corporation were.

Deputy Mayor Thomas responded that the people of the City of Winnipeg were the shareholders and that she would take all questions under advisement for discussion at next week's meeting when the matter would be considered.