Agenda – Council – January 23, 2008

Report - Executive Policy Committee - January 9, 2008

Item No. 3 Public Library Review Final Report – Reaching Our Vision: Providing High Quality, Sustainable Public Library Services for All Manitobans
File L-1

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 9, 2008, the Executive Policy Committee submitted the following to Council:

1. That the December 19, 2007 Council Motion be concurred in and the Province of Manitoba be requested to give favourable consideration to the following three (3) recommendations from the Public Library Review Final Report, Reaching Our Vision: Providing High Quality, Sustainable Public Library Services for All Manitobans, as part of its 2008/2009 budget, namely:

   A. Recommendation #10 – That the Province and Municipalities establish a funding mechanism to address current trends in population and operating costs.

   B. Recommendation #11 – That the annual Collection Development Grant be extended to include all library branches in the province that meet the qualification of being open at least ten hours a week, and agree to share their collections through the MAPLIN system.

   C. Recommendation #13 – That an annual technology maintenance grant be made available to each library branch including Winnipeg Public Library to be used for hardware or software replacement, for purchase of digital content or Internet access.

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 9, 2008, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the December 19, 2007 Council Motion, pertaining to three recommendations contained in the Public Library Review Final Report - Reaching Our Vision: Providing High Quality, Sustainable Public Library Services for All Manitobans, and submitted the matter to Council.

Further on January 9, 2008, the Executive Policy Committee received from Heather Graham, Chairperson, Winnipeg Public Library Board, a copy of the Public Library Review final report "Reaching Our Vision: Providing High Quality, Sustainable Public Library Services for All Manitobans", dated May 23, 2006, and her presentation in support of the Council referral with respect to the Public Library Review report.

COUNCIL:

On December 19, 2007, Council ruled automatic referred of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee:

Moved by Councillor Pagtakhan,
Moved by Councillor Smith,

WHEREAS Libraries are an essential public service by enhancing literacy, providing access to technology and by making our communities better places to live;

AND WHEREAS in 2005, the Province of Manitoba appointed a committee to conduct a Public Library Review, with the findings released in January 2007;

AND WHEREAS three (3) recommendations of the Public Library Review could have a positive financial impact on the Winnipeg Public Library system;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba has just completed the public consultation portion relative to the 2008/2009 Provincial Budget;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council calls upon the Province of Manitoba to give favourable consideration to the following three (3) recommendations from the Public Library Review final report, Reaching Our Vision: Providing High Quality, Sustainable Public Library Services for All Manitobans, as part of its 2008/2009 budget, namely:

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL (continued):

a) Recommendation #10 – That the Province and Municipalities establish a funding mechanism to address current trends in population and operating costs.

b) Recommendation #11 – That the annual Collection Development Grant be extended to include all library branches in the province that meet the qualification of being open at least ten hours a week, and agree to share their collections through the MAPLIN system.

c) Recommendation #13 – That an annual technology maintenance grant be made available to each library branch including Winnipeg Public Library to be used for hardware or software replacement, for purchase of digital content or Internet access.