Minute No. 174
Report - Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services - January 12, 2009

Item No. 1 Wireless Internet Service in Winnipeg Public Libraries
eFile L-1

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and adopted the following:

1. That an extension of time of 60 days be granted to enable the Winnipeg Public Service to report back as directed by the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services on December 1, 2008.

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:

Moved by Councillor Steeves,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 21, 2009, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 12, 2009, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services recommended that an extension of time of 60 days be granted to enable the Winnipeg Public Service to report back as directed by the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services on December 1, 2008, and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

On December 1, 2008, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services recommended that the Winnipeg Public Service report back within ninety (90) days on the concept of providing wireless internet services free of charge to patrons of the Winnipeg public libraries, including information on other Canadian jurisdictions.

COUNCIL DECISION:

On November 19, 2008, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services:

WHEREAS free wireless internet services can contribute to the economic and educational vitality of a city as well as offer a competitive advantage for Winnipeg over other cities;

AND WHEREAS all citizen services offered at Winnipeg public libraries should be offered to Winnipeggers at no cost;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued)

COUNCIL DECISION (continued)

AND WHEREAS there is currently an hourly charge for wireless internet at all Winnipeg public libraries;

AND WHEREAS the current wireless Internet service in libraries has never been discussed at a committee of Council;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT beginning in 2009 wireless internet services be provided free of charge to patrons of the Winnipeg Public libraries.