REPORTS NOT RELATED TO THE JURISDICTION OF ANY COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF THE
SUB-COMMITTEE ON RULES

On motion of Councillor Wade, the Report of the Sub-Committee on Rules, dated September 27th, 1990, was considered.

Mayor's Dining Room,
Administration Building, Winnipeg.
September 27th, 1990.

His Worship the Mayor and Councillors:

Your Sub-Committee of Council to Review the Procedure By-Law submits the following Report and recommends:

Amendments to the Procedure By-law
File GK-4.

1605 - 1. Council at its meeting held on November 29th, 1989, appointed a Sub-Committee to review the Procedure By-law. The Sub-Committee was instructed to report directly to Council. The Sub-Committee consists of His Worship the Mayor, the Presiding Officer, the Deputy Presiding Officer, and the City Clerk.

On March 7th, 1990, Council adopted Procedure By-law 5400/90 and requested your Sub-Committee to submit revisions to said By-law it deems appropriate based on ensuing experience and observation. In addition to its ongoing review of the Procedure By-law, your Sub-Committee was requested to consider the following motions referred by Council, namely:-

1. "WHEREAS City Council debates are the primary forum for the exercise of representative democracy at the municipal level;

   AND WHEREAS all Councillors and the citizens of Winnipeg benefit from Council debates wherein speakers treat other Councillors with respect and dignity;

   AND WHEREAS "The Procedure By-law" sets out the rules which govern and guide Councillors' conduct;

   THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Sub-Committee of Council review the Procedure By-law, Section 8.17 on Disrespect, to add a clause or review existing clauses in order to more clearly set standards for debate and to specifically exclude comments which may be perceived as threatening and/or intimidating."

2. "WHEREAS the democratic process is frequently stifled by calling the question prematurely;

   THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a two-thirds majority of Council be required to call the question when three or more Councillors have debated the motion."

Your Sub-Committee has favourably considered the two amendments as referred by Council and submits for favourable consideration the following recommendations to amend the Procedure By-Law 5400/90:

1. That Subsection (d) of Rule 8.17 be deleted and the following substituted therefor:-

   (d) shall not use profane, vulgar, offensive, threatening or intimidating language.

2. That Rule 35 be deleted and the following substituted therefor:-

Motion to Vote on Question
35. A motion that the vote be now taken shall always be in order, shall be adopted by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, shall take precedence over any other motion and is not debatable, except that a Councillor shall not immediately after speaking, move that the vote be now taken.

For the information of Council, your Sub-Committee will continue its review of the Procedure By-law and consistent with its mandate, will present from time to time other suggested changes or improvements to the rules of procedure that it feels appropriate. The comments and opinions of all Members of Council will be solicited by your Sub-Committee during its ongoing review.

Moved by Councillor Wade,
Adoption of the report.

Councillor Timm-Rudolph asked that the recommendations be considered separately.

Recommendation 1 was put and declared carried.

Recommendation 2 was considered.

Moved by Councillor Yuen,
That the question be now put.

Carried.

Recommendation 2 was put.

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

Yea: Councillors Wade, Boychuk, Duguid, Fraser, Golden, Murray, Reese, Selinger, Young, and Eadie. 10

Nay: Councillors Demare, Douglas, Gilroy, Kaufmann, Lazarenko, Lorenc, McKee, Mendelson, Mitchelson, Prystanski, Thomas, Timmers, Timm-Rudolph, Yuen, and Mayor Norrie. 15

and Recommendation 2 was declared lost.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON RULES
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

1606 - On motion of Councillor Wade, By-law No. 5533/90, a By-law of The City of Winnipeg to amend By-law No. 5400/90 being a by-law to regulate the procedure at meetings of Council and its Committees, was read a first time. File No. GK-4.

Councillor Wade moved that By-law No. 5533/90, be read a second time, which motion was carried.

Moved by Councillor Wade,
That this constitute the second reading of By-law No. 5533/90. In amendment,

Moved by Mayor Norrie,
Seconded by Councillor Yuen,
THAT By-law 5533/90, be amended by deleting Recommendation 2 contained therein.

Carried.

Councillor Wade moved that this constitute the second reading of By-law No. 5533/90, as amended, which motion was carried.

On motion of Councillor Wade, the rule was suspended and By- law No. 5533/90, as amended, was read a third time, and was passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

QUESTION PERIOD

1607 - Councillor Murray referred to the nomination of the Commissioner of Protection, Parks and Culture earlier in the meeting, and his appreciation for the selection, but drew attention to the imbalance of women and visible minorities in the City's top administration. He asked if Mayor Norrie would meet with the Chief Commissioner and develop a strategy to correct the imbalance.

Mayor Norrie replied that the Personnel Department is very much aware of the issue. He advised that his view in bringing persons of this nature into these positions is to develop middle management. Mayor Norrie also advised that because of the interest in the subject, he is certain it will be discussed in the future.

Councillor Murray referred to a newspaper article and to the amount of compensation offered to certain employees who were harassed by racial slurs for several years. He asked why the settlement was that low and what action has been taken with supervisors remaining in the workplace and what recommendations will be coming forward to award a similar situation in the future.

Mayor Norrie replied that he will pursue the question with the Board of Commissioners and provide a report for Councillor Murray.

Councillor Lazarenko inquired as to the status of a motion presented to Council some time ago, regarding the possibility of a five-year tax freeze on all home renovations.

The Speaker suggested that Councillor Lazarenko determine the status through the City Clerk.

Councillor Lazarenko also inquired as to the status of another motion dealing with a giant aquarium to be situated at either the Assiniboine Park Zoo or at The Forks, including freshwater fish and the Beluga Whale.

Councillor Douglas advised that this matter was dealt with by Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture in the past, and is not presently under active consideration.

Councillor Lazarenko asked that the status of the two issues be determined.

Councillor Fraser asked the Chairperson of the Ad Hod Committee on Budgets for clarification of a motion dealt with earlier by Council directing the Board of Commissioners to prepare the 1991 Current Budget with an objective of a municipal property tax rate of less than inflation. He asked what sort of direction this gave the Board.

Councillor Gilroy replied that inflation is anticipated to be in the area of five percent. If a mill rate of five percent is projected and inasmuch as the mill rate driven income is about one-half of the total income of the City, Council would be looking at a figure in the area of two and one-half percent.

Councillor Fraser referred to Clause 7 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee, dated October 3rd, 1990, regarding a request from Winnipeg Enterprises Corporation for reimbursement of costs relative to amateur sport usage at Winnipeg Stadium. He advised that a document provided earlier by the Chairman of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture had included certain data which, because the 1990 use of the Stadium is completed, could now be included where the information is missing for 1989 and 1990 when the matter is reconsidered by Committee.

Councillor Douglas agreed to provide the information for consideration.

Councillor Timm-Rudolph asked the Chairman of the Committee on Works and Operations for information released at a news conference yesterday regarding transit.

Councillor Lorenc replied that a campaign was underway that transit was "en route to a cleaner environment heralding the advantages of public transit as an environmentally friendly system of transportation."

Councillor Reese referred to discussions held last year on the budget process, and asked the status of the new process proposed following those discussions.

Councillor Gilroy advised that he has made certain recommendations to the Budget Sub-Committee, together with recommendations as to the process to follow, and that it is his intention to report to all members of Council by letter in the immediate future. It is thought that each department of the City will be examined in detail.

Councillor Reese advised that she is pleased to learn of the intended action, and asked if all Councillors will be involved in the examination.

Councillor Gilroy advised that the process he has recommended is that the Budget Sub-Committee do the initial examination, followed by a one or two day workshop similar to the one last spring, and each Standing Committee will examine the departments reporting to each in the normal process. Meetings of the Budget Sub-Committee will be open to all members of Council, but the Budget Sub-Committee will be conducting the questioning as part of this additional step in the normal process of review.

Councillor Mitchelson referred to the action of Council earlier in referring back to Executive Policy Committee, Clause 7 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee, dated October 3rd, 1990, regarding the Winnipeg Enterprises Corporation and the request for reimbursement of costs relative to amateur sport usage at the Winnipeg Stadium. He asked that he be advised when the matter is considered as one of the reasons for moving referral was because he was not afforded an opportunity earlier.

Councillor Douglas agreed to do so.

Councillor Kaufmann referred to a number of recent business closings in Winnipeg, including reduced employment at Air Canada and the Canadian National Railway, and inquired as to what is expected from Winnipeg 2000 and if the City will fund the group to ensure positive results, and not simply the issuance of a paper on the subject. He asked if emphasis will be to promote small business, or try and assist large business which seem to be reducing staff.

Mayor Norrie replied that Council has authorized a budget for Winnipeg 2000, and that along with the grant to the Winnipeg Business Development Corporation, represented a substantial increase. A budget recommendation for 1991 will be forthcoming. He suggested that the question of emphasis is a policy decision for Winnipeg 2000, and drew attention to the original report which placed emphasis on economic development from existing businesses and that large conglomerates were likely to appear in Winnipeg. However, he also suggested that every effort should be made to attract business to Winnipeg.