STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT

QUESTION PERIOD

Minute No. 351
Councillor Gerbasi inquired about the status of the Sherbrook Pool and requested that an update be provided by the Chair either in the Council Meeting or in a council seminar to allow Councilors to respond to citizen inquiries.

Councillor Browaty acknowledged that unfortunate circumstances last November required an immediate closure of the Sherbrook Pool to ensure the safety of the users. He advised that the Mayor's Office committed $200,000 from the Mayor's Office budget to ensure that the right research and work was done, stated that some engineering research had been conducted and a recommendation from the Public Service should be forthcoming.

Councillor Gerbasi noted that they have heard that a report would be coming for a long time and suggested that the area Councillor and the Councillors most affected by the closure would have to wait until the report was made public, which was problematic.

Councillor Browaty advised that Community Services provided additional opportunities for people in the area to use other services, buses and shuttle service to allow people from the immediate neighbourhood to use other facilities for free public swim classes. He added that they had done whatever could be done to accommodate that area. He reiterated that there would be further consultation and communication, whether it would be a rehabilitation of the existing facility, rebuilding, or providing other amenities in the community. He concluded that there was lots of time to have good public conversation, including all the stakeholders in the neighbourhood, the area Councillors, the users of Sherbrook Pool and the broader community.

Councillor Gerbasi advised that users of Sherbrook Pool commented that they appreciate the other facilities but they were not adequate and do not meet their needs. The Sherbrook Pool was needed and Councillors who represent those people had been left in the dark.

Councillor Browaty replied that everything happens in due course and appreciates the frustration of the community wanting to have resolution. He concluded that the Public Service had contacted the Friends of Sherbrook Pool and they would be part of the release of information and apprised of it as well.

Councillor Smith asked when the report pertaining to Sherbrook Pool would be available; to which Councillor Browaty agreed to endeavor to find out and provide a response later in the day.

Councillor Sharma referred to the recent Expression of Interest that was posted for the lease of a restaurant in the Peguis Pavillion at Kildonan Park that closed on March 4, 2013 and asked for an update and when to expect the matter before Council.

Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – Question Period (continued):

Councillor Browaty stated that a Report would go forward to the May 9, 2013 meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development with a proposal to award the new service provider inside the Peguis Pavilion, and stated that he was hopeful that the provider would be up and running for the summer season.

Councillor Sharma asked for assurance that the restaurant would be open for the summer because the constituents had been without such an amenity for a few years.

Councillor Browaty advised that the Department completed the remedial work that needed to be done on the Peguis Pavillion and it was a multi-year contract pending Council approval and he saw no reason that it could not be open for the summer and it was with the provider to decide that.