



DUNBAR
COMMUNITY CENTRE
ASSOCIATION

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Information About the Proposed Joint Operating Agreement

HISTORY

The volunteers in the Dunbar Community Centre Association (DCCA) have been providing programs and services at the Dunbar Community Centre for 60+ years. In 1979 the Park Board (PB) and DCCA formally signed an agreement for the provision of those programs and services known as a Joint Operating Agreement (JOA). Between 1990 and 2014 several attempts to negotiate a more modern agreement have failed. As a result of consultations last year the PB has produced a proposed new JOA for acceptance and signature by September 30, 2017.

IMPROVEMENTS

- 10 year term with option of 5 year renewal
- Formal commitment to good governance
- Formal cooperation between the parties
- Clarity around roles of parties, human resources issues and asset ownership and management
 - Formal delegation of DCCA responsibilities to PB staff and indemnification for performance of delegated duties
 - Formal requirements for administrative policies
- Arbitration of some disputes by an independent arbitrator

KEY CHANGES WITH CHALLENGES

Membership: Dunbar participants become an Association member, with no fee, by taking a program. The option of opting out will now be offered.

Financial: The cost of DCCA continuing to offer programs and services at Dunbar will increase under the proposed JOA.

- The CCAs will pay to PB an operating fee of 2% of gross revenue (phased in over the first two years). Approximately \$16,000/yr
- The DCCA will pay more for existing staff positions shared with PB. Approximately \$60,000/yr
- Registration system costs will be higher



If these expenses had been in place they would caused a deficit of \$24,000 in 2016.

To avoid deficit budgets and maintain a balanced budget and continue operations in Dunbar, the DCCA may need to

- Decrease costs by eliminating low revenue or subsidized programs and services
- Reduce staff
- Increase fees
- Increase programs and program participation

or some combination of the above.

Risk of potential deficit can be directly decreased by reducing service costs and expenses. Increased programming or participation can reduce a potential deficit by the amount of positive net revenues associated with those programs.

Programming: PB acquires the right to operate up to 5 centralized programs in the Centre. If those programs are offered free or at a discount they will use otherwise programmable time/space and may displace existing revenues. Cooperative program scheduling should mitigate that effect.

Termination: Occurs at 10 years if either party decides not to renew for 5 more years, at 15 years unless the parties agree to negotiate a new JOA and on 90 days notice for any sustained, remedied, material breach of the agreement.

ALTERNATIVES

If the CCA does not accept the proposal the consequences are not clear. By default, the DCCA would continue to provide programs and services under the existing JOA. No decision has been communicated about how PB will respond to CCAs who do not sign the proposed JOA.

DCCA POSITION

DCCA was created to advocate for and provide programs and services at a community centre in Dunbar. It is important to continue to fulfill that mandate. and work with PB to provide those programs and services.

RECOMMENDATION: The DCCA Board recommends that the Board accept and sign the proposed JOA on behalf of the membership and the Association.