

Golf Course Meeting at City Hall - Feb 25, 2013

OURS-Winnipeg was formed in December, 2011, in response to an Expression of Interest by the City administration to sell the seven public golf courses for residential or commercial development. With your tremendous support, City Council reversed this decision in July, 2012, but stated that another report would be delivered upon further deliberation on how the green spaces might be managed.

On Thursday, February 21, the City of Winnipeg released a report recommending the leasing four of the public golf courses; Kildonan, Windsor Park, Harbor View, and Crescent Park.

OURS-Winnipeg is of the opinion that leasing these public recreational spaces is one step closer to privatization of public resources in the not too distant future. In fact, these resources have been allowed to deteriorate for years, to a level that we are now being told is a liability and that leasing is the only solution. In the haste to divest of golf course greenspace, best practices have been overlooked.

OURS-Winnipeg believes that, if the City was genuine in fulfilling its role as steward of these valuable and mostly river side lands that belong to the citizens of Winnipeg, a very different conversation would be occurring.

The Alternative Services Committee is meeting Monday, Feb. 25th at 1 p.m. at City Hall. OURS-Winnipeg is scheduled to present a brief at this meeting and we would welcome you to attend.

Outdoor Urban Recreational Spaces-Winnipeg continues to advocate for these public green spaces, as they are indeed OURS!

Link to Alternatives Services Delivery Committee agenda:

<http://winnipeg.ca/CLKDMIS/ViewDoc.asp?DocId=12505&SectionId=330518&InitUrl=/CLKDMIS/Documents/asd/2013/a12505/06.%20appendix%202.pdf>

Media <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/want-to-lease-a-golf-course-192442871.html>

OURS-Winnipeg was formed in December, 2011, in response to an EOI (Expression of Interest) by the city administration to sell the 7 public golf courses for residential or commercial development. With your tremendous support, city council reversed this decision in July, 2012, but stated that another report would be delivered upon further deliberation on how the green spaces might be managed. Friday, February 22nd, the Winnipeg Free Press reported that the Alternative Services Department recommended leasing 4 of these public golf courses, namely Kildonan, Windsor Park, Harbor View, and Crescent Park.

OURS-Winnipeg is of the opinion that leasing these public recreational spaces, is one step closer to privatization in the not too distant future. In fact, these public resources have been allowed to deteriorate for approximately 10 years, where now we are being told that maintenance of these assets in the coming year is a liability, and that leasing is the only solution.

OURS-Winnipeg believes that, with allocation of public dollars budgeted yearly to the maintenance of these green spaces, this would greatly enhance the viability of this municipally owned asset.

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