

Vote to lease City-owned golf courses expected to occur on May 29

City Councillors to vote on leasing Crescent Drive, Kildonan, Windsor Park and Harbourview Golf Courses on May 29, 2013 at City Council meeting

Vote NO to leasing City-operated golf courses

Keep Public Land Public!

- A motion was passed by the [Alternative Services Delivery Committee](#) on February 25 to lease the four City-operated golf courses. On May 29, City Council is expected to vote on this motion.
- Once leased, the operation of these public lands will be removed from public scrutiny and accountability due to **privacy regulations**
- This will allow private development on the golf courses
- We must not let this happen - the golf course lands are public property zoned as parkland

What to do...

- Your support and action is urgently required to stop the leasing of the golf courses
- Share this information with all your golf, ski, education, child care, university and other contacts
- Write or phone **each** [City Councillor](#). Let them know you value Winnipeg's public green space
- **Ask your Councillors:** How do you plan to protect this public golf course/greenspace land and ensure the public does not lose access to it? How do you see the city improving accountability and transparency to the public about the finances and operation of the golf courses? What winter uses will be allowed under the leases? How do you plan to vote on leasing of the golf courses?
- Thank your Councillor if they are voting NO to the leases
- Attend City Hall on May 29 to show your support and hear what your Councillors have to say
- Contact [OURS-Winnipeg](#) if you would like to receive updates

Lack of transparency and accountability...

- In November, OURS-Winnipeg made a basic request of the City of Winnipeg through a FIPPA (Freedom of Information) for expenses, revenue, interest, taxes, amortization, and depreciation separately, for each of the city-owned golf courses, per year for 2006 to 2011. The City provided an incomplete response
- In February 2013 a Complaint to the Manitoba Ombudsman was filed. Now the City is stalling on providing information to this request. The City's lack of cooperation and compliance to these requests is telling
- *The May 2010 [Operational Review of City of Winnipeg Golf Services](#) prepared by Convergence Consulting soundly reprimanded the City for its poor management of the City-owned golf courses. The conclusion was "that the Winnipeg Golf Services, while serving as a Special Operating Agency has not achieved the objectives for which it was formed. From the outset, best management practices were **not** adopted."*

Viewing public golf courses lands as being for the public good rather than a liability would help focus improvement.

OURS-Winnipeg would suggest more competent management of Winnipeg Golf Services Special Operating Agency to ensure public land remains public. This includes aggressive marketing,

better maintenance and re-investment of golf revenues, implementation of management information systems, improved accountability and transparency of the currently leased golf courses and City-operated golf courses, and up-grades to the four City-operated golf courses. This is in line with the Convergence Consulting report.

Golf course/greenspace is a valuable public asset; NOT A LIABILITY