



Council Member Motion

For the Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting of August 28

Date: August 22, 2014 **From:** Mayor Fortin
Subject: Expression of Interest for Crystal Gardens

Summary

On March 31, 2014, the City of Victoria took ownership of the Crystal Gardens, during a land exchange with the Provincial Government.

In spring 2014, Council deliberated on the recommendations of the optimization review of the Victoria Conference Centre which assessed the performance of the Centre under current market conditions and identified areas in which this performance might be enhanced. The report found that the addition of the Crystal Gardens as an ancillary meeting space created an added burden of capital, lease and operating cost but did not generate a corresponding increase in revenues.

The City of Victoria is being actively approached by businesses interested in the Crystal Gardens space.

Recommendations

That Council direct staff to report on the current state of the viability of the Crystal Gardens.

That Council direct staff to issue a Request for an Expression of Interest for the Crystal Gardens from the community.

That staff make recommendations for Crystal Gardens to Council, based on the proposals received through the Request for Expressions of Interest.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean Fortin".

Mayor Dean Fortin