

RE: CONTRACT TO CONVERT THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING APPLICATION FROM THE SPERRY
90/30 COMPUTER TO THE DEC VAXCLUSTER

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. *THAT the recommendation of the Director Administrative & Community Services be adopted.*

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1986 JUNE 16

FROM: DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

SUBJECT: CONTRACT TO CONVERT THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING APPLICATION
FROM THE SPERRY 90/30 COMPUTER TO THE DEC VAXCLUSTER

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT That the firm of COMPUTECH CONSULTING LTD. be awarded the fixed price contract of \$195,700.00 to convert the General Accounting Application from the Sperry 90/30 computer to the Digital Equipment Corporation VAXcluster.

REPORT

Burnaby's Strategic Plan for Information Management, developed in 1984 and updated in 1985, identified the need to replace the Sperry 90/30 computer with a DEC VAXcluster. The cluster is now in place and currently consists of three VAX 11/750 computers, with a new VAX 8500 to be installed in the cluster shortly.

The General Accounting application, currently running on the 90/30 was designed and written specifically for Burnaby and thus meets most of our needs. Our development strategy is to convert existing programs where possible while incorporating some important enhancements. This will insure an implementation date of 1987 January 01. This date is considered important since our current plan calls for the removal of the 90/30 by March 1987.

This strategy was determined after considering:

- . The purchase of an accounting package.
- . Re-designing and re-writing the entire accounting application.
- . Conversion of the existing system.

The commitment of the current in-house programming staff to present projects has dictated the need to use outside assistance to meet the deadlines imposed. On May 15, 1986, a Request For Proposal (RFP) was sent out, by the Purchasing Agent, to eleven vendors. The four responses received, and their prices are as follows:

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| 1. Computech Consulting Ltd. | \$195,700.00 fixed price |
| 2. Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) | 289,000.00 estimate |
| 3. Synerlogic | 196,960.00 estimate |
| 4. Systemhouse Ltd. (SHL) | 310,000.00 estimate |

After an extensive review and comparison of the proposals by the Information Services Department, Computech Consulting Ltd. is being recommended both for technical merit and lowest price. The Director of Finance concurs with this recommendation.

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Computech is the firm that designed the existing application and many of the same staff will be assigned to this project. They, therefore, have the advantage of an intimate knowledge of the application. Their prior knowledge has allowed them to reduce the time for the analysis and design phases of the project and the amount of input required from our Finance Department users. This reduction in our staff time is significant and will reduce the overall cost of the project.

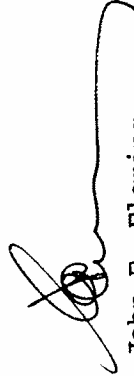
FINANCING:

The financing for the proposed conversion is provided for in the Non-recurring Development Cost Reserve. In the original estimates for that reserve \$166,000 was provided for the cost of the General Accounting application. While the low bid recommended exceeds that early figure, there are contingency funds in the overall reserve which are more than adequate to cover this project.

CONCLUSION:

The use of consultants for system development has the implicit advantage to the Corporation of allowing a fresh approach, insight, and more varied experience to be applied in the make-up of the final product.

The Computech track record at Burnaby has proven that they can deliver a product that is more than satisfactory to the user and this fact must remain a crucial measure of our developed applications.



John E. Fleming
Director Administrative & Community Services

cc: Director Finance
Information Services Director