



Date: September 11, 2003

TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation
FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: PARK NAMING REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board officially rename the park now known as Portside Park to *CRAB Park at Portside*.

POLICY

Guidelines for Naming Parks, Trails, Roads or Other Features Coming Under the Park Board's Jurisdiction

1. In the first instance, the park, trail, road or other feature being named generally should relate to a "constant" feature either nearby or within that park. This could relate to a bordering street name or a natural or man-made feature. This does not preclude the consideration of a name already in "common" use for the park. Criteria such as the above gives ease of identification with relation to the park.
2. When no such "constant" feature is present or it is desired to commemorate an historical event or person important to the Park Board, City of Vancouver, or a person having made a substantial donation to the Park Board, a park may be named for that person.
3. When deemed appropriate, the Park Board will submit a short list of suggested names to concerned community groups for their input regarding the selection of a name.

BACKGROUND

Portside Park is located at the north foot of Main Street on the waterfront. It is 2.50 hectares and was officially opened by the Park Board in conjunction with the Vancouver Port Authority in July 1987. The Park Board holds long-term lease for this property with the Vancouver Port Authority. Park features include a pavilion, donated by BC Irlbybird retailers as part of Vancouver's Centennial Legacies Program plus a playground, children's water park, benches and grassy areas for outdoor play. Most notably, this park offers waterfront access and a pebble beach in an area of the city where there is limited availability.

DISCUSSION

Portside Park was first envisioned and lobbied for by a local neighbourhood committee known as *Create a Real Available Beach* or the better known acronym CRAB. Though the park was officially named Portside in 1987, the community moniker of CRAB has been the preferred name over the past 16 years. Recent letters from the community have requested that the Board consider officially renaming this park to help clear up any confusion with nearby Portal Park and to satisfy the desires of the residents to call their greenspace CRAB Park. Discussions with the Vancouver Port Authority have resulted in a staff recommendation to rename the park CRAB Park at Portside.

SUMMARY

Almost two decades have passed since the official naming of Portside Park but residents still refer to it as CRAB Park. Renaming this important waterfront greenspace after the committee that was the impetus for its creation, while still recognizing the Port Authority's involvement, is a fitting solution to this park's unique identity. Renaming of this park is consistent with Sections 1 and 3 under the Park Naming Guidelines listed in the policy section of this report.

Prepared by:

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TC

Appendix A - Letters from Don Larson, Water for Life dated July 12 and July 16, 2003

Appendix B - Letter from Vancouver Port Authority dated June 19, 2003