



# Hastings Community Park Baseball Field Naming

Park Board Committee Meeting  
July 25, 2016



The purpose of this presentation is to seek Board approval for the commemorative naming of the two baseball fields at Hastings Community Park, in response to a Hastings Community Little League request that they be named “Richard Saunders Field” and “Volunteer Field”.

## Agenda:

- Proposal
- Background and Context
- Policy Review
- Process
- Recommendation

Spring 2016

- May 2016: Proposal received from Hastings Community Little League

July 2016

- Commemorative Naming Committee appointed

Commemorative  
Naming Committee  
July 18

- Public Open House for feedback on commemorative names
- Commemorative Naming Committee meets to discuss request and make a recommendation

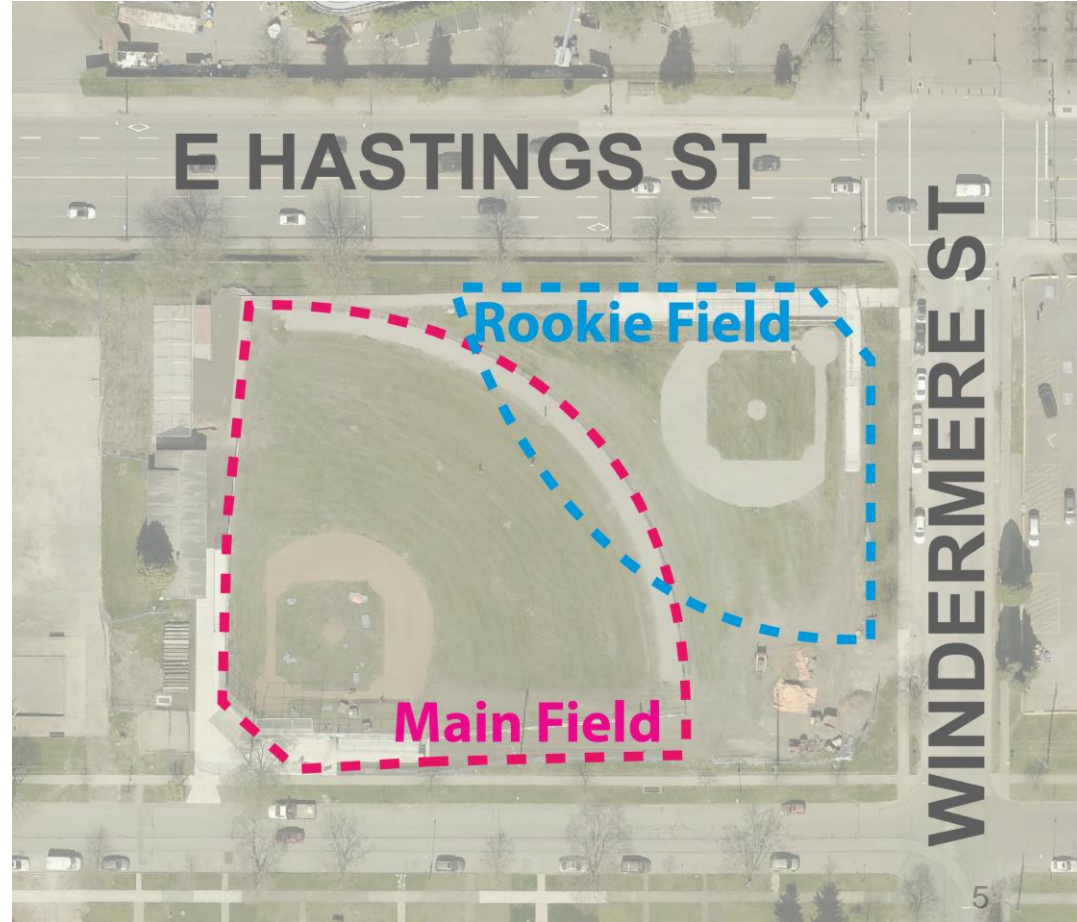
Park Board  
July 25

- Commemorative Naming Committee recommendation presented to Park Board for a decision

# Commemorative Naming Request

Hastings Community Little League is requesting:

- The main baseball field at Hastings Community Park be named **“Richard Saunders Field”**
- The smaller, rookie baseball field at the park be named **“Volunteer Field”**



# Background & Context

**Hastings Community Park**  
is one of Vancouver's oldest  
parks (1910).



**HASTINGS  
COMMUNITY PARK**



**BASEBALL FIELDS**

# Background & Context

- Baseball fields were built in 1952
- Home to the **Hastings Community Little League (HCLL)** since 1953.
- HCLL selected to host the 2016 Little League National Championship tournament at Hastings Community Park.





## Hastings Community Little League

- A non-profit sports organization
- Provides baseball programs for children ages 4 to 12 years old.
- Relies exclusively on community volunteers and parents to operate the league.
- Has provided quality facilities and services to the community through Park Board partnership.
- Part of Little League International



# Background & Context

- Main and Rookie baseball fields were renovated in 2015 to accommodate tournaments.
- Hastings Community Little League made a \$306,000 financial contribution



# Who is Richard Saunders?

- Little League volunteer 30 years, as Coach, Vice-President and President
- Assistant District Six Administrator for past 10 years
- Led efforts to raise **\$306,000** for field renovations
- Secured the 2016 Canadian Little League Championship tournament.
- Sport BC “**Community Sport Hero Award**”
- Governor General of Canada “**Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal**”.



# Why are Volunteers important to the HCLL?

- Volunteer run organization.
- All coaches, umpires and league officials are volunteers.
- Parent volunteers prepare the fields, run the concession, sell 50/50 tickets, and keep score.
- Many volunteers without children in the league.
- Without volunteers the league could not operate.



## Park Board Commemorative Naming Policy

- “Any citizen, group of citizens, entity or organization may submit a proposal to an Applicant to name a Park Board Community Facility... after an individual, group of individuals, or community organization to honour and recognize **significant contributions to the community through public service, community volunteerism or outstanding achievement.**”
- Proposed name(s) are taken to an appointed Commemorative Naming Committee comprised of community representatives.
- The Commemorative Naming Committee considers the request, and makes a recommendation.
- The recommendation is taken to the Park Board for a decision.

## Committee Purpose:

“...provide clear guidance regarding commemorative naming of Park Board Community Facilities. The goal is to provide a consistent evaluation framework and approval process....”

## Role

- An ad hoc committee comprised of community representatives from Civic advisory groups, community foundations, and/or community organizations.
- Committee shall consider compliance with the Commemorative Naming Policy and any other factor the Committee deems relevant.

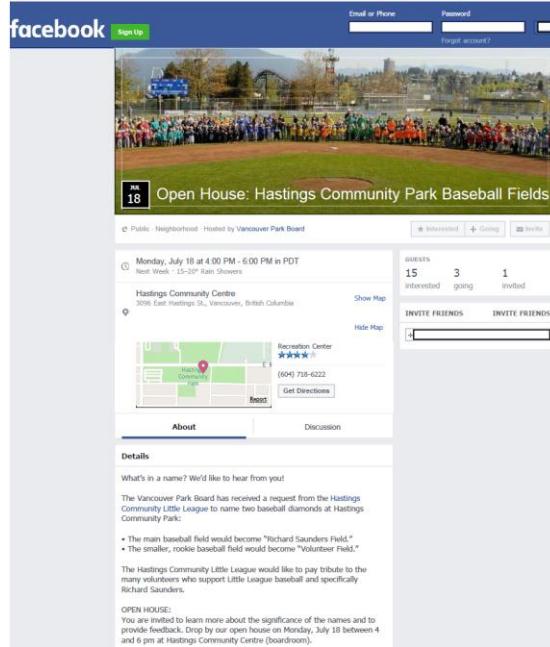
## Committee Membership:

- John Atkin (noted historian and author)
- Paola Qualizza (Vancouver Public Space Network)
- Patricia Barnes (local Hastings Community)
- Harry Quon (local Hastings Community)
- Anne Thompson (Vancouver Sport Network)

# Public Engagement



- Notification signage by the baseball fields
- Facebook ads targeted to the local community
- Flyers provided to surrounding residents and businesses



## Vancouver Park Board

### Open House: Naming Hastings Little League Baseball Fields

The Vancouver Park Board has received a request from the Hastings Community Little League to name two baseball diamonds at Hastings Community Park:

- The main baseball field would become "Richard Saunders Field."
- The smaller, rookie baseball field would become "Volunteer Field."

The Hastings Community Little League would like to pay tribute to the many volunteers who support Little League baseball and specifically Richard Saunders.

**When:** Monday, July 18, 2016  
**Time:** 4 pm - 6 pm  
**Place:** Hastings Community Centre Board Room

**What:** Information boards describing the proposal, park naming policy documents, and questionnaires will be provided. Staff will also be available to answer questions.

**Or contact:** Erin Embley  
604-326-4823, erin.embley@vancouver.ca

**Who is Richard Saunders?**  
Richard has volunteered with Little League baseball for over 50 years, as a coach, and as Vice-President and President of the Hastings Community Little League. He has helped raise substantial funding for field renovations and was pivotal in the Hastings Community Little League hosting the 2016 Canadian Little League Championship tournament.

**Or contact:** Erin Embley  
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## Commemorative Naming Committee Recommendation

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board name the main baseball field at Hastings Community Park, “Richard Saunders Field.”
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board name the rookie baseball field at Hastings Community Park, “Volunteer Field”



