



Park Board General Manager's Report March 27, 2017

The following report is intended to provide an overview and update on recent and upcoming activities within the Park Board.

PARK DEVELOPMENT

South False Creek Seawall

Seawall improvements are currently being constructed through Sutcliffe Park and will be completed in late spring. No construction work will take place from May 19 - September 4, 2017 due to increased use of the seawall. Detailed design for Charleson Park is ongoing and Engineering will procure private contractors to construct the seawall improvements through and adjacent to Charleson Park in the fall of 2017.

Lost Lagoon Fountain

PWL Partnership is in the process of being awarded a contract to design renovation and restoration work required to return the fountain to its past grandeur. The fountain was constructed for the City's 50th Anniversary in 1936 and fully restored for Expo 1986. In spring of 2016, the fountain's mechanical/electrical room was flooded and the fountain has not been operable since. Park Board staff have applied for a federal heritage grant to fund a portion of the project. It is anticipated the restoration work will be completed in the spring of 2018.

Kits Beach Park (western path)

Park Board staff have compiled the results of the November 2016 open house. There was a preference for path option #1 that follows the existing informal path, however, there were concerns associated with the manner in which the path exits onto Balsam Street. Park Board staff are working with Engineering to resolve some of the areas of concern and will subsequently meet with the Kits Point Resident's Association to obtain buy-in. Staff will present the preferred final design to the Board in late spring 2017.

PARK RESEARCH & PLANNING

People Parks & Dogs (Dogs in Parks Strategy)

The consultants and staff have summarized emerging directions, supported by draft recommendations. This material is being presented in the second phase of engagement which is currently underway. A draft final report will be presented to the Board for review in June 2017.

Indigenous/Non-Indigenous Reconciliation Art Program

Input from a five-session consultation process with Indigenous Artists and Cultural Advisors has been compiled and a report has been finalized. The report will guide the development of the new funding program to support the creation of artworks that explore and reveal the nature of Reconciliation for Vancouver's communities and visitors to the city. Indigenous Artists and Cultural Advisors expressed their appreciation of the consultative nature of the approach.



Parks and Recreation Services Master Plan

The consultants and staff have undertaken a comprehensive review of data, policy and literature resulting in a series of issue papers, maps and strategy documents that will guide content development and community engagement for the remainder of the project.

North East False Creek Parks and Open Spaces

Design exploration is underway based on input and work completed in Stage 1 of the project.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT FOR CURRENT & DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

People Parks & Dogs (Dogs in Parks Strategy)

Phase 2 of engagement was completed on March 4, 2017. Open houses took place in various locations, including at the Roundhouse Community Center, Kitsilano Community Center, Central Vancouver Library, the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE), Langara Golf Course, Wise Hall, Hastings Park, and the River District. Each engagement event constituted an open house format to view the panels and materials followed by in-depth conversations about topics that were highlighted by staff and important to visitors. A total of 104 people attended seven open houses with small group discussions and 2,548 survey responses were submitted - 46 of these were in Chinese. The project team is currently reviewing the results and refining the recommendations and guidelines to develop the final strategy.

Parks and Recreation Services Master Plan

The launch event is planned for the last week of April 2017 which will kick off a series of engagement events over spring and summer. A memo to Commissioners outlining the engagement strategy will be provided prior to launch.

North East False Creek Parks and Open Spaces

Stage 1 Engagement Summary has just been completed and will be posted on the NEFC website in the next few weeks. The next round of public consultation is planned for early June 2017.

Tatlow Creek Daylightng

Staff and consultants have developed two concept designs for restoring a historical stream in Volunteer and Tatlow parks. An open house was conducted on March 8, 2017 in the park from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm which was attended by 50 people who supported the initiative. An online survey is still open.

Brewers Creek Park Renewal

Staff and consultants have prepared 2 concepts on general improvements to Brewers Creek Park. An Open House took place on February 27, 2017 at Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood where over 40 people attended with positive feedback. There is currently a survey open and results are pending.



RECREATION

Britannia Community Services Center

Recreation is currently working with the City of Vancouver, the Vancouver School Board and the Britannia Society to transfer building operations and maintenance for the pool and rink to the Park Board to better align Britannia Community Center with the other pool and rink operations of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation.

Kensington Community Center

Kensington childcare options currently being evaluated and the most reasonable option is to keep them in the seniors lounge where they are currently (40k in upgrades needed) and not add a modular option or invest in Grays Lawn Bowling facility.

Other Items:

- ongoing meetings with the Vancouver Public Library to discuss potential collaboration such as training, programming, front line support staff, among others
- ongoing meetings with Social Policy and Cultural Services to discuss opportunities to collaborate within our service delivery areas such as food safety and security, childcare, arts and culture, among others
- CCA/JOA Legal issues review underway; 2nd meeting being held April 1, 2017

COMMUNICATIONS

Heron Cam Year 3

- We welcomed the Herons back to Stanley Park on March 11, 2017. First Facebook Live of the Heron Cam had more than 26,000 views in its first four days. Lots of heron coverage via mainstream media as well.

VanDusen Garden Award March 15, 2017 New Release

- News release highlighted VanDusen's recent "Canada 150 Garden Experience" award in honour of Canada's 150th anniversary.

Easter Train Media Event April 6, 2017

- Stanley Park Easter Train will run from April 13 to 17 this year. Planning is underway for media preview of the train with the Easter Bunny.

Spring Tree Sale April 29 to30, 2017

- Currently working with Planning and the Urban Forest Team to promote Park Board's spring tree sale at Nat Bailey Stadium; news release to go out once online sales are live the week of April 10, 2017.

-

Parks and Recreation Services Master Plan Launch

- Currently working with Planning to host a community event/media kick-off round 1 engagement scheduled from May to August