



## PARK BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

— March 8, 9 & 10, 2021 —

*The following information is intended to provide a brief overview of the Board's governance work at the Committee and Board meetings. The full agenda, meeting materials, video clips and official minutes can be found on the [Park Board website](#).*

### STAFF REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS

#### **Stanley Park Bright Nights - Firefighters Burn Fun**

The Board received a [presentation on the annual fundraising event held at the Stanley Park Train in support of the Firefighters Burn Fund](#). The presentation outlined the COVID-19 pandemic response that required pivoting the event to a virtual experience. Three videos were produced, which have received over 81,000 views combined. A [full-length train-ride video](#) was shot in 360 degrees and is best viewed on a mobile device to fully appreciate immersive experience. The Burn Fund was able to raise more than \$74,000 in online donations and more than \$100,000 in ticket sales for the online Bright Nights 50/50 Raffle.

#### **Burrard View Park - Proposed Vancouver Urban Food Forest**

The Board received a [report on the proposed Vancouver Urban Food Forest \(VUFF\)](#) in Burrard View Park, a community garden that would include: a medicine-wheel inspired garden planted and maintained with permaculture practices; an adjacent food forest of native plants planned, maintained, and programmed with Indigenous people; and collaborative community programs to address food security and climate change. Commissioners heard from 34 speakers over two evenings, most of whom were in support of the concept. Several speakers raised concerns about the community consultation undertaken and the proposed location (southeast corner of the park, adjacent to the fieldhouse). The Board [referred the report recommendations back to staff for further consultation and engagement](#) in order to identify a suitable location for the garden within Burrard View Park.

#### **Park Board Procedure By-law Update – Report Back**

As directed, staff presented [procedural options that would allow the public to speak on member motions](#). The Board [approved the proposed revisions to the procedure by-law](#) that were initially presented in December 2020, along with the recommendation to seek Vancouver Charter changes regarding Special and electronic meetings. The approved by-laws will be presented to the Board for enactment at the next Regular Board meeting.

### GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE REPORT

The General Manager presented an overview of the topics included in the [GM's Report](#):

- **East Park Update** – The planning and design phase is currently underway for East Park (working title), a new waterfront park in Olympic Village, which includes the renewal of a portion of the seawall south of Science World. The project aims to be centred on Indigenous values, reflect diverse community interests, and demonstrate resiliency to a changing climate.
- **Coopers' Park Dog Off-Leash Area Renewal** – Public engagement for renewal of the dog off-leash area in Coopers' Park will commence on March 19, 2021. Proposed improvements are guided by design recommendations in the People, Parks and Dogs Strategy for neighbourhood-sized, urban off-leash areas.
- **Queen Elizabeth Park Master Plan RFEOI** – A public RFEOI for consultants for the QE Park master plan is expected to be posted shortly; the key master plan themes of Nature, Culture, Horticulture, Connectivity and Service Needs were approved by the Board in January 2020.



- **International Women’s Day - March 8** – Falaise Park Fieldhouse artists in residence group Girls Rock Camp hosted a DJ Live set from the fieldhouse featuring local, national and international women-fronted bands. Echo Park North Film Centre, the artists in residence at Moberly Park Fieldhouse screened work by female film makers from around the world in the windows of the Moberly Fieldhouse. xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Coast Salish artist Chrystal Sparrow, an artist in residence in the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Cultural Residency at the A-Frame Fieldhouse in Stanley Park, was live on her Facebook page beading and sharing words of encouragement for Indigenous women.
- **Spring Activities at VanDusen Botanical Gardens** – VanDusen Spring Camps will run March 16 to 26 and enrollment sold-out within hours of opening up registration. Starting March 12, VanDusen will be launching “Guardians of the Garden”, a new add-on activity to educate and connect children with nature.
- **Council Agenda Items** of interest to the Park board include:
  - A motion on [Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) in the City of Vancouver
  - A motion on [Understanding COVID-19 Recovery Through Economic and Cultural Stimulus Projects](#)
  - A motion on [Don’t Feed the Wildlife](#)
  - A report on [Women’s Equity Strategy Updates and Next Steps](#) recommending that Council direct staff to send this report to the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, Vancouver Public Library and Vancouver Police Department Board for information.

## BOARD MOTIONS

### **Stanley Park Temporary Bike Lane on Park Drive – 2021**

The Board directed staff to [plan for and implement a temporary bike path on Park Drive in Stanley Park dedicated to cyclists](#), with an aim to have it in use as soon as is operationally reasonable, and to remain in place until approximately October 31, 2021. Staff will work closely with park stakeholders, communicate and consult with the appropriate City of Vancouver advisory committees. Information and learning from the 2020 temporary traffic management plan in Stanley Park, and the temporary changes in 2021, are to be observed as a case study as part of the Stanley Park Mobility Study and support the Beach Avenue Interim Design. Staff will report back with a summary of the data, outcomes, and observations of the 2021 measures.

### **Protecting the Irreplaceable View from the Pinnacle of Vancouver**

The Board directed the General Manager to [advise the City of Vancouver planning team of the Park Board’s concerns about potential changes to the protected views from Queen Elizabeth Park](#). The Board Chair will also advise Mayor and Council of these concerns.

### **Low Intensity Turf Maintenance for Increased Financial & Ecological Resilience**

The Board directed staff to establish incremental targets and develop an implementation plan, including any new equipment required, [to defer and/or alter mowing regimes on appropriate turf surfaces maintained](#) by Park Board staff, with consideration to park typologies and usage intensity. The current temporary mowing practices will be tracked to see the effects on biodiversity, ecological benefits, operational efficiency/diversification, emission comparability, and financial sustainability, staff will report back with their findings.



## NEXT MEETINGS

The next Committee and Board meetings are scheduled for March 29, 2021, and will be held via video conference.

