



COMMUNITY CENTRE CHILDCARE USE OF PARK SPACE POLICY

Park Board Committee Meeting
Monday, June 26, 2023



The purpose of this presentation is to

- Provide an overview of the proposed Community Centre Childcare Use of Park Space Policy (“CCCUPS Policy”)
- Seek Board decision on the policy.

Background

- City has identified a need for more childcare in Vancouver, particularly full day licensed spaces
- Park Board and Community Centre Associations (CCAs) are key public partners for non-profit childcare spaces
- All Park Board community centres have childcare (primarily preschool/after school care). There are few all day childcare spaces in community centres
- CCAs have expressed interest in expanding full day childcare to fill this gap
- Group licensed childcare requires a minimum amount of outdoor space per child. Provincial [Child Care Licensing Regulation](#) (VCH) and [City of Vancouver's Childcare Design Guidelines](#)

Background: Policy Context

- **Community Centre Strategy:**
 - **Finding a Balance:** “Consider co-location of group child care and integration of other child care programs into community centres where feasible while balancing all parks and recreation needs.”
 - **Develop Policy:** “Develop policy to address CCA requests for dedicated use of park space to support new at grade group child care programs in existing community centres for Board consideration”
- **VanPlay:**
 - **Goal 2: Park Protection:** Protect existing parks and recreation spaces from loss, encroachment, and densification.



Proposed Policy Overview

- Supports new or expanded full day group childcare programming in existing community centres.
- **In short**, the policy allows:
 - A limited, designated area of park space,
 - Adjacent to a community centre,
 - For specific hours (at minimum during childcare operating hours),
 - To be designed for, and used exclusively by a childcare program
- Provides this space to meet mandated licencing requirements for outdoor space, required for licensed indoor childcare programs.



Proposed Policy Criteria

- **Criteria** have been developed to balance PB's responsibility to provide public space with the opportunity to support provision of non-profit childcare
 - Allows conversion of park space adjacent to existing community centre
 - Aligned with minimum provincial group childcare outdoor space requirement
 - Supports new or expanded licensed indoor group childcare
 - Submitted by an existing or proposed operator of a childcare in a community centre



Proposed Policy Criteria

- Requires no significant negative impacts or conflicts, including to:
 - Existing or planned park or recreation uses
 - Park access within a neighbourhood
- The outdoor space will be designed by applicant with support and review from Park Board staff to meet both childcare program requirements as well as Park Development standards.



THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the Community Centre Childcare Use of Park Space Policy as outlined in this report and attached in Appendix A.

THAT debate and decision of the Report dated June 15, 2023, entitled “Community Centre Childcare Use of Park Space Policy” be deferred to the July 17, 2023, Committee meeting.

