



## PARK BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS — December 11, 2023 —

*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

#### Water Priority Action Plan 2024

The Board approved the [Water Priority Action Plan 2024](#) report recommendation Option 2. Option 2 focuses on rehabilitating the greatest number of amenities, thereby providing the greatest number of functional, compliant decorative water features at an estimated cost of \$2.6M. These improvements include 12 decorative water features, including the Queen Elizabeth Park Dancing Waters Fountain, Memorial South Park Pond, VanDusen Gardens Rectangular Pond, and many other well loved decorative water features within the City. Following the repairs, it is anticipated that there will be approximately 20 – 50 Million Litres of potable water saved per year.

#### Sunset Engagement – Update

The Board received an [update on the Sunset Neighbourhood Engagement](#). This provided information on the approach staff took to engage the community, which included 3 pop-ups, 3 large events, and 3 workshops spanning from Summer 2023 to Fall 2023. Staff heard interest in a variety of amenities, including walking paths, spray parks, playgrounds, grass fields and artificial turf fields. Staff will be finalizing a high-level feasibility concept plan and cost estimate for a new synthetic turf field in the Sunset Neighbourhood in response to the May 2023 [motion](#), and are expected to report back to the Board for decision in Q1 2024.

#### Kitsilano Outdoor Pool – Update

The Board received an [update on the Kitsilano Outdoor Pool](#), which provided information on the current state of the pool following the damage during the January 2022 King Tide event. The Kitsilano Pool has exceeded the industry expected useful life based on age and condition, and is currently experiencing ongoing water loss of 30,000 Litres per hour due to multiple instances of pipe shearing and breakage. Investigation and repair mitigation measures are ongoing. Staff are preparing to seek funding for a feasibility study in 2024, which is needed to evaluate renewal options. Outcomes of this study will be brought back as a subsequent report to inform the 2027-2030 Capital Plan decision.

### CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Jensen [highlighted recent events](#) attended by Commissioners:

- Pacific Autism Family Network Day Proclamation – Commissioners Viridi and Howard attended the proclamation to declare December 7 Pacific Autism Family Network Day in Vancouver
- Christine Sinclair Day Proclamation – Commissioner Viridi attended the proclamation to declare December 12 Christine Sinclair Day in B.C.
- Christine Sinclair's Final Match – Commissioners attended the Canada Women's game against the Australian National Team to celebrate the final match played by Christine Sinclair
- Bright Nights VIP Event – Commissioners attended the VIP Night for Bright Nights in Stanley Park in support of the BC Fire Fighters Burn Fund.
- Vancouver Warriors Home Opener – Chair Jensen attended the Home Opener for the Vancouver Warriors lacrosse team at Rogers Arena.



## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The Leadership Team presented an overview of the [GM's Report](#):

- Stanley Park Train is Back for Bright Nights – Following a successful inspection from Transportation Safety BC, the Stanley Park Train is back online for the Bright Nights in Stanley Park holiday event.

## BOARD MOTIONS

### **Beach Chair & Umbrella Rental Service**

The discussed the proposal that staff prepare and issue a Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEOI) seeking proposals from qualified vendors interested in offering a seasonal beach chair and umbrella rental service. While the Commissioners appreciated the intent of the recommendation, the [motion was defeated](#).

### **Creating Vancouver's First Inclusive and Accessible Sensory Park for Children**

The Board referred the [motion](#) to the January 22, 2024, Committee meeting to hear from the public. This motion would affirm the Boards commitment to the planning, development, and construction of Vancouver's first inclusive and accessible sensory park, designed to accommodate the unique needs and preferences of neuro-diverse children, those with Autism Spectrum Disorder, and those with mobility challenges. The motion would also direct staff to identify an optimal location, explore funding sources, seek feedback from the community and stakeholders, and to report on the progress of the project on a regular basis.

### **Reaffirming Park Board Independence – Save the Park Board**

The Board approved a motion titled [Reaffirming Park Board Independence – Save the Park Board](#), which was introduced as urgent business at the meeting. The motion directs Commissioners to reaffirm their oath of office and its position as in independently elected Board with a mandate to provide, preserve, and advocate for park and recreation services to the benefit of all people. This motion is in response to the Council motion being put forward on December 13, 2023 titled "[Amendment to the Vancouver Charter](#)", which would formally request the Province amend section 485 of the Vancouver Charter to remove the requirement for an elected Park Board.

## NEXT MEETINGS

The next Committee and Board meetings are scheduled for January 22, 2024.

