

Park Board General Manager's Report December 11, 2023

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

Stanley Park Train is Back for Bright Nights

Staff are happy to report that the Stanley Park Train is back online for the cherished Bright Nights holiday event following a successful inspection by Technical Safety BC on November 27. Demand for tickets was unprecedented and 40,000 tickets were sold in under 2.5 hours in two separate ticket releases. The Bright Nights event was extended an additional week to account for the demand and the event will run from November 30, 2023 to January 6, 2024 from 4:00pm – 10:00pm.

Bright Nights is the single largest fundraising event for the Burn Fund. The Park Board has donated more than \$2.5 million to the Burn Fund since the event partnership began in 1998.

Despite tickets to the Stanley Park Train being sold out, we encourage the public to come out and show support for the Burn Fund by visiting the holiday lights display and activities in the plaza, which are free to the public.

Council Business (related to or impacting parks & recreation):

Council to receive a report on December 7 titled "<u>Audit of Park Board Revenue Management</u>". The report includes six recommendations to improve engagement with council, service delivery objectives and costs, fee-setting, and performance management.

Council to put forward a motion on notice on December 13 titled "<u>Amendment to the Vancouver</u> <u>Charter</u>", which would formally request that the Province of British Columbia amend or repeal section 485 of the Vancouver Charter to remove the requirement for an elected Board of Parks and Recreation.