

MOTION ON NOTICE

For consideration at the Regular Board meeting held on March 10, 2025

“Think Local”: Prioritizing Canadian Goods for Vancouver Park Board Facilities

Submitted by: Commissioner Viridi

WHEREAS

1. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation is dedicated to fostering local economic growth while upholding sustainable and ethical procurement practices;
2. The U.S. government, led by President Donald Trump, has threatened to implement tariffs on Canadian goods, adversely affecting Canadian industries, workers, and businesses;
3. The City of Vancouver is taking steps to align its procurement policies to prioritize Canadian goods in response to these potential tariffs;
4. Supporting Canadian-made products and locally sourced food and beverages strengthens the local economy, supports job creation, and ensures greater economic resilience;
5. Park Board facilities, including concessions, restaurants, community centres and event spaces, serve a high volume of food and beverages. This is an opportunity for us to showcase and support Canadian producers. Let’s “think local”.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation directs staff to review current procurement procedures, contracts, vendors, capital projects, and trade agreement implications, and to report back as soon as possible on the potential benefits and opportunities of purchasing and utilizing Canadian-made goods in all Park Board operations. This should be done whenever feasible and cost-effective, including areas such as infrastructure materials, equipment, and maintenance supplies, with the aim of supporting the Canadian economy;
- B. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation directs staff to review current practices and provide recommendations on enhancing sourcing from Canadian producers, with an emphasis on Canadian alcohol and locally sourced food for all food and beverage products sold or served at Park Board facilities, including concessions, community centres, restaurants, and event spaces;
- C. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation directs staff to work with the City of Vancouver, and where applicable, provincial and federal governments, to review and update policies, where feasible, in alignment with the City’s focus on prioritizing Canadian-made goods and the team Canada approach, ensuring alignment with local, provincial, and national priorities to enhance Canada’s

resilience, which may include coordinating with the City and reviewing existing contracts as needed; and

- D. THAT staff collaborate and engage with local suppliers and businesses to support the shift to Canadian-made goods and create opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises to take part in the procurement process.

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