



July 14, 2023

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Tiina Mack, Director - Planning and Park Development

SUBJECT : **Community Centre Childcare Use of Park Space Policy Engagement Update
– Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

The Board received a staff report for decision entitled Community Centre Childcare Use of Park Space Policy (CCCUPS) at the June 26, 2023 meeting. The decision was deferred to the July 17, 2023 meeting, giving Community Centre Associations additional opportunities to engage with the Board and staff about the draft Policy. The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on input received from the Presidents of the Community Centre Associations (CCAs) at their meeting on July 6, 2023 and to share a potential amendment to the CCCUP report recommendations.

At the July 6 Presidents meeting, staff informed the CCA Presidents in attendance about the draft Policy and responded to comments received. Staff explained that, in collaboration with City staff working on the indoor change of use for a new childcare centre, Park Board staff will offer a pre-application meeting and site visit with the applicant to review the opportunity and clarify requirements of the intake form. This is intended to reduce barriers to the application and match CCAs with an appropriate level of City staff support. The draft Policy has provision for a range of shared use of childcare playgrounds in parks, ranging from public use outside of operating hours, to public use only on days of closure, to no public access, which will be reviewed case-by-case. Park Board staff indicated that there can be cost sharing for the maintenance of childcare centre playgrounds in parks that are open to the public. Meeting participants appreciated these clarifications and also supported a potential Policy adjustment as follows:

- Should a childcare centre park playground that is open to the public outside of the childcare centre operating hours be vandalized by the public, Park Board will cover the costs of the repairs.
- If this is a frequent occurrence, the General Manager can consider a shift towards a model of no public access at a given site.

The Board may wish to make this amendment to the CCCUP's Report recommendations at the upcoming Board Meeting, to reduce potential concerns from future applicants. If the Policy is approved, the first project that is expected to be considered is an application for a childcare project and playground by the Kitsilano Community Centre Association. This first project will be a pilot and a learning opportunity for the both the Association and Park Board staff. Policy adjustments that may be necessary following the pilot completion can be made by the General Manager.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tiina Mack'.

Tiina Mack (*she/her*)
Director - Planning & Park Development

/tm/ds/kp

Copy to: PB Leadership Team , Doug Shearer, Manager – Planning, Policy & Environment, PB Communications