

MOTION

Cherry Grove Memorial

At its Regular Board meeting on Monday, October 7, 2013, Vancouver Park Board referred this motion to the Park Board Committee on October 21, 2013 in order to hear from speakers.

MOVED by Commissioner Loke
SECONDED by Commissioner Jasper

WHEREAS

1. In 1985, eight Cherry Trees were to be planted to commemorate victims of AIDS in Stanley Park;
2. On October 20, 1985, four Cherry Trees were actually planted in memory of the first four gay men known to have died from AIDS;
3. The Vancouver Park Board has maintained and protected the Cherry Trees since this time;
4. It has been 28 years since the Cherry Trees were planted and 30 years since the founding of Vancouver AIDS Society, an organization which was part of the planting of the trees;
5. HIV/AIDS is a silent epidemic, as those affected are silenced by stigma and discrimination and we are all working to end this silence;
6. The City of Vancouver is a leader in taking proactive steps to raise awareness and break the stereotypes and stigma around HIV/AIDS;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation officially recognize the Cherry Grove Memorial within Stanley Park and will work with Vancouver AIDS Society to develop, install and maintain a plaque or other commemorative symbol at the site telling the story of the Cherry Grove Memorial, the first AIDS Memorial in the world.