

MOTION ON NOTICE

1. Blue Flag

MOVER: Commissioner Blyth

SECONDER: Commissioner

WHEREAS:

1. Blue Flag was founded in the 1980's in Europe to improve water quality at beaches and marinas around the World. Blue Flag is a prestigious award that assures that a beach is clean, sustainably managed and great for swimming; the Blue Flag is only awarded to beaches that have achieved international standards;
2. Forty eight (48) countries with 3850 beaches, and 18 beaches and four marinas in Canada became Blue Flag Beaches in 2013. British Columbia currently has no Blue Flag Beaches;
3. Studies have been done to show that a Blue Flag Beach will boost Tourism and build local economy and people will travel to City's with Blue Flag Beaches.
4. We have seen the positive effect on local wildlife when we take steps to improve water quality in Vancouver. In 2014, we have seen whales, herring and dolphins in their natural habitat because of simple steps that have been taken to improve water quality such as wrapping the pylons that have creosol; work done by the Squamish Streamkeepers Society. The Vancouver Park Board also removed the Wharf at Jericho Beach bringing it back to a more natural environment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Park Board work with local Marinas, Tourism Vancouver, the Georgia Straight Alliance, the Squamish Streamkeepers Society, and Environmental Defence to request a feasibility study to identify potential candidates for marinas and beaches in Vancouver.