



Date: February 13, 2015

**TO:** Park Board Chair and Commissioners  
**FROM:** General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
**SUBJECT:** Grant Applications for Sun Yat-Sen Park/Garden Renewal and Asset Management Planning

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## RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the Board support a grant application to the Federal National Historic Sites Cost-Sharing Program for \$100,000 toward the renewal of Sun Yat-Sen Park/Garden located in Chinatown, a National Historic Site.
- B. THAT the Board support a grant application to UBCM's Asset Management Planning Program for \$10,000 to advance the City's and Park Board's capital asset management for parks and open spaces.

## POLICY

Federal and/or Provincial funding programs typically require a resolution of Council as part of the application package. Projects involving the Park Board are presented to the Board for endorsement.

## BACKGROUND

This report seeks the Park Board's endorsement for submitting grant applications to two smaller funding programs that have deadlines in the next two months:

### [Federal National Historic Sites Cost-Sharing Program](#)

This is an ongoing program managed by Parks Canada. The program supports the preservation of National Historic Sites not owned or administered by the Federal government. A total of \$1 million is available for the 2015-2016 fiscal year for all of Canada. The maximum contribution is \$100,000 per project. The deadline for submitting an application is February 20, 2015.

### [UBCM's Asset Management Planning Program](#)

The Asset Management Planning Program was created in 2014 through a \$1.5 million grant from the Provincial Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM). The intent of the program is to assist local governments in extending and deepening asset management practices within their organizations. The maximum contribution is \$10,000 per project. The deadline for submitting an application is March 20, 2015.

## DISCUSSION

### [Federal National Historic Sites Cost-Sharing Program](#)

The following National Historic Sites are partially or fully owned/managed by the City and/or Park Board:

- [Stanley Park](#);
- [Gastown](#) (City-owned elements referenced by Parks Canada include Water Street, Maple Tree Square and streetscape elements);

- [Chinatown](#) (City-owned elements referenced by Parks Canada include the Chinese Cultural Centre, Sun Yat-Sen Park/Garden and Millennium Gate);
- [Former Law Courts](#) at Howe and Georgia Streets (currently the Vancouver Art Gallery);
- [Orpheum Theatre](#) at Seymour and Smithe Streets; and
- [the St. Roch schooner](#) located at the Maritime Museum in Hadden Park.

The City/Park Board are in the midst of a multi-year renewal of Sun Yat-Sen Park/Garden in Chinatown. Following the Sun Yat-Sen Condition Report and Upgrade Plan completed in 2010, the City/Park Board approved \$1 million of funding as part of the 2012-2014 Capital Plan for the first phase of the building restoration work. This included repairs of the north wall cap and entry pavilion roof (\$370,000 - work completed in 2014) and Jade Water Pavilion re-roofing (\$400,000 - work to be completed in 2015-2016).

The second phase of work has been included in the 2015-2018 Capital Plan (\$700,000) and involves pond restoration. The pond habitat needs to be improved for the long term sustainability and health of the pond ecosystem. It is recommended that the City/Park Board apply for a \$100,000 grant from Parks Canada to support the current restoration work.

The 2015-2018 Capital Plan also include projects in Stanley Park (e.g. seawall reconstruction, Beaver Lake restoration). These projects are not scheduled for construction in 2015 and will be considered for Parks Canada funding in future years.

#### UBCM's Asset Management Planning Program

In the past 10 years, the City has made significant advances with regard to managing its capital assets, including the preparation of a 10-year Capital Strategic Outlook and detailed asset inventories/condition assessments for waterworks, sewers, transportation, and building assets.

During the 2015-2018 Capital Plan period, as part of a planned Parks and Recreation Services Master Plan, Park Board staff will take the lead in preparing detailed asset inventories/condition assessments for parks and open spaces assets. It is therefore recommended that the City/Park Board apply for a \$10,000 grant from UBCM to support this asset management initiative.

#### Financial Implications

The value of the two grant applications is \$110,000. For every application that is successful, staff will include project and budget approval in an upcoming Quarterly Budget Adjustment report or the 2016 Budget.

#### **SUMMARY**

By applying to the funding programs outlined in this report, the City and Park Board have the opportunity to access up to \$110,000 in external funding to support the 2015-2018 Capital Plan.

General Manager's Office  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
Vancouver, BC

Prepared by: Dave Hutch, Research and Planning  
Michel Desrochers, Financial Services

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