



February 26, 2016

TO: Park Board Chair and Commissioners
FROM: General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: RBC Run for the Kids - Special Event

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve a request from BC Children's Hospital Foundation to use Riley Park and adjacent spaces at Nat Bailey Stadium and Queen Elizabeth Park to deliver the RBC Run for the Kids event on Sunday, June 5, 2016.

POLICY

Park Board approval is required for special events not included in the annual Calendar of Major Special Events and/or that are in variance with one or more Park Board by-laws.

BACKGROUND

Since 1982, BC Children's Hospital Foundation (BCCHF) has worked with children, families, caregivers and British Columbians to raise funds supporting BC Children's Hospital, Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children and the Child & Family Research Institute. Through a wide range of fundraising events and activities, BCCHF works to improve the health and lives of young people who are cared for by BC Children's Hospital.

In 2014/15, BCCHF received donations from more than 119,000 individuals and generated revenues in excess of \$96 million. The Foundation's fundraising activities include:

- Legacy giving;
- Annual individual and corporate gifts;
- Employee, corporate and community support;
- Children's Miracle Network; and
- Special events.

One of BCCHF's signature events is the RBC Run for the Kids initiative (formerly known as the ChildRun). Now in its 31st year, Vancouver's largest family fun run inspires participants to raise funds for childhood cancer and mental health initiatives at BC Children's Hospital. On Sunday, June 5, 2016, the RBC Run for the Kids will host runners and walkers of all ages and abilities on a scenic 5km or 1km fun run route, followed by a carnival celebration. Since its inception, this event has raised over \$11 million.

DISCUSSION

For the past five years, the RBC Run for the Kids event has commenced and ended at the former RCMP Headquarters location at 33rd Avenue and Heather Street. Prior to that, the event began and finished at BC Children's hospital. Due to redevelopment activity at both locations, the RBC Run for the Kids event is seeking a location along the existing fun run route

to locate the event's start/finish area in 2016 and future years. Accordingly, the event organizers are requesting approval to locate the event's start/finish area at Riley Park and adjacent spaces at Nat Bailey Stadium and Queen Elizabeth Park. The actual fun run route will remain unchanged and largely utilize City of Vancouver streets, with a section of the event passing through Queen Elizabeth Park (see Appendix A). For safety, the northern portion of Queen Elizabeth Park will be closed to vehicle traffic between 7:00am and 10:30am. Access to the pitch & putt golf course and parking lot on the south side of the park will remain open and without any obstructions. The park spaces requested by BCCHF would be used to accommodate the following activities (see Appendix B):

- Spaces A & C - overflow areas;
- Space B - transition zone between start/finish area and carnival celebration area; and
- Space D - carnival celebration area.

As noted above, the carnival celebration area would be located in Riley Park, with event activities taking place between 9:30am and 11:00am. The carnival site would be activated with a selection of tents and deliver experiences such as photo booths, face painting, inflatables, mascots, various forms of entertainment, etc.

The City's FEST Committee, which includes representatives from VPD, VF&RS, BC Ambulance Service, BC LC&LB, City Special Events, Traffic Management and the Park Board, has reviewed and endorsed the requested event changes. Subject to Park Board approval, staff will work with BCCHF to ensure appropriate safety, security, traffic and waste management plans are developed. Staff and the event organizer will also engage with Riley Park area stakeholders to address potential neighborhood impacts.

It is acknowledged that road closures in Queen Elizabeth Park can disrupt normal operations of park businesses, and as a result, staff consider all road closure requests carefully and work closely with event organizers to re-open roads as quickly as possible.

After thoughtful review, staff believe that the request by BCCHF to use Riley Park and adjacent spaces at Nat Bailey Stadium and Queen Elizabeth Park to deliver the RBC Run for the Kids event can be executed successfully, and will continue to collaborate with the organizers to ensure the event is delivered in accordance with all permit conditions.

SUMMARY

The RBC Run for the Kids is a family and community-oriented event that inspires participants to raise funds for childhood cancer and mental health initiatives at BC Children's Hospital, the province's paediatric centre of excellence. Through its execution, it also promotes active living and enhances the vibrancy of our city. Accordingly, staff recommend that the Board approve the request as outlined above.

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

Prepared by:
Octavio Silva, Manager of Business Development

/os/clc

RBC Run for the Kids - Preliminary Route Map



RBC Run for the Kids - Preliminary Site Map - Riley Park and Adjacent Areas

