



March 24, 2016

**TO:** Park Board Chair and Commissioners  
**FROM:** General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
**SUBJECT:** Creekside Paddling Centre License Agreements

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## RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve a 5-year License with one 5-year less a day extension term for the Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society and a 5-year License with the British Columbia Mobility Opportunities Society to operate at the Creekside Paddling Centre with the following conditions:

- A. THAT the rent structure, operating costs responsibilities, and usage be as outlined in this report;
- B. THAT all legal documentation is to be in a form which is satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver and the General Manager of the Park Board;
- C. THAT the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board; and
- D. THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permission, or licenses are granted hereby and none shall arise or be granted hereafter unless and until all contemplated legal documentation has been executed and delivered by all parties.

## POLICY

The Park Board approves all use of lands under its jurisdiction.

## BACKGROUND

Vancouver's waterfront is a destination for many, including people interested in learning to paddle along with competitive athletes who use the waterways for training or competition.

The Park Board is focused on the provision of quality recreation programs and services across a range of facilities as outlined in the Strategic Plan. The provision of a new non-motorized boating facility east of the Cambie Street Bridge has been a long-term planning objective for False Creek.

On June 26, 2013, Vancouver [City Council approved up to \\$125,000](#) to undertake a project definition for phasing in the establishment of a permanent home for the greater paddling community to meet both immediate and future needs.

In May 2014, the Park Board endorsed the concepts outline in the report for the [Non-Motorized Boating Centre at Creekside Community Centre](#). The Board Report outlined that the City will own the facility and will enter into service contract(s) with partner agencies for components of the operation. The Dragon Boat Festival Society was expected to continue to

be a primary partner agency in the delivery of paddling programs at the new facility through its existing relationship with the Park Board.

The Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society (CIDFS) has a long-term relationship with the Park Board in regard to recreational paddling programming and related special events. The CIDFS is a non-profit society formed in 1989, with an initial focus on the development of the Canadian Dragon Boat Festival. The festival was created to show-off Vancouver's growing cultural diversity and to promote racial harmony among Canadians, new and old. Now twenty-eight years later, the festival is recognized as North America's biggest and best and in 2015, attracted over 100,000 people with more than 190 dragon boat teams from across the Lower Mainland, the Pacific Northwest, and farther afield. In addition to the Vancouver festival, CIDBFS also operates the Seattle and Steveston Dragon Boat Festivals. Under the Dragon Zone Paddling Club, CIDFS provides paddling programming to a broad range of users including youth, adults, and school groups. The Dragon Zone also produces a number of races and regattas that allow paddlers of all ages and abilities to compete and enjoy their sport.

The British Columbia Mobility Opportunities Society (BCMOS) was founded in 1985 as an independent non-profit society dedicated to enriching the lives of people with physical disabilities through wilderness recreation. They currently operate programs for hiking, flight, kayaking, and paddleboards. BCMOS is a member group of the Sam Sullivan Disability Foundation, which is a fundraising entity that supports BCMOS and other similar Societies.

At the [June 10, 2014 meeting](#), Council approved the rezoning of 998 Expo Boulevard which contained CAC funds of \$4.2 million as a contribution to the construction of a non-motorized boating facility at the Creekside Community Centre (Appendix A).

## Discussion

The Creekside Paddling Centre (Appendix B) has been under construction through 2015 and is projected to be completed in early 2016. Once completed, and an Occupancy Permit has been issued, the facility will be operational for users groups.

Park Board staff have reviewed the Paddling Centre's initial use and have determined that the CIDFS should be the primary user and the BCMOS be the secondary user (Appendix C), and that License Agreements could be issued outlining the key operating terms. The proposed terms would include the following:

- The license would be for a 5-year period with one additional extension term of 5-years less one day for the CIDFS and for a 5-year period for the BCMOS;
- The CIDFS and BCMOS would be responsible for the cost of utilities based on an amount pro-rated to their usage;
- The CIDFS and BCMOS would be responsible for the cost of repairs and maintenance as outlined in a Service Level Agreement, which would be contained within the License Agreement;
- A return of \$10,000 annually will be remitted to the Park Board, pro-rated to their usage;
- The usage of the Paddling Centre would be reviewed annually by Park Board staff and notice of any changes in allocation would be provided with at least nine months' notice;

- The CIDFS would be permitted to continue their paddling sports rental operation to the level currently in place.

## **SUMMARY**

The Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society has demonstrated their ability to provide valuable recreation programming and to present special events that benefit the City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Park Board. The BC Mobility Opportunities Society provides water sport programming which is consistent with the Park Board's Strategic Plan of Improved Inclusivity and Accessibility. Staff recommend licenses be granted to the two societies to operate at the Creekside Paddling Centre under the conditions outlined in this report.

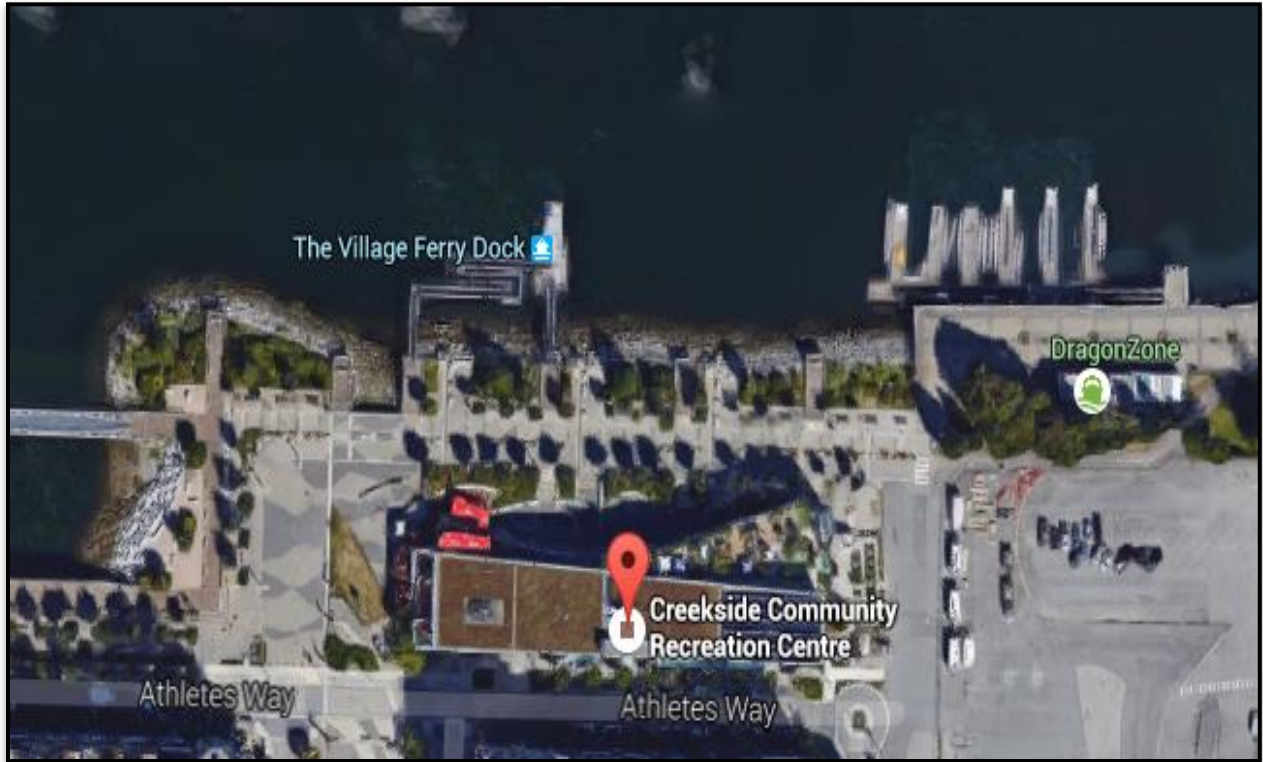
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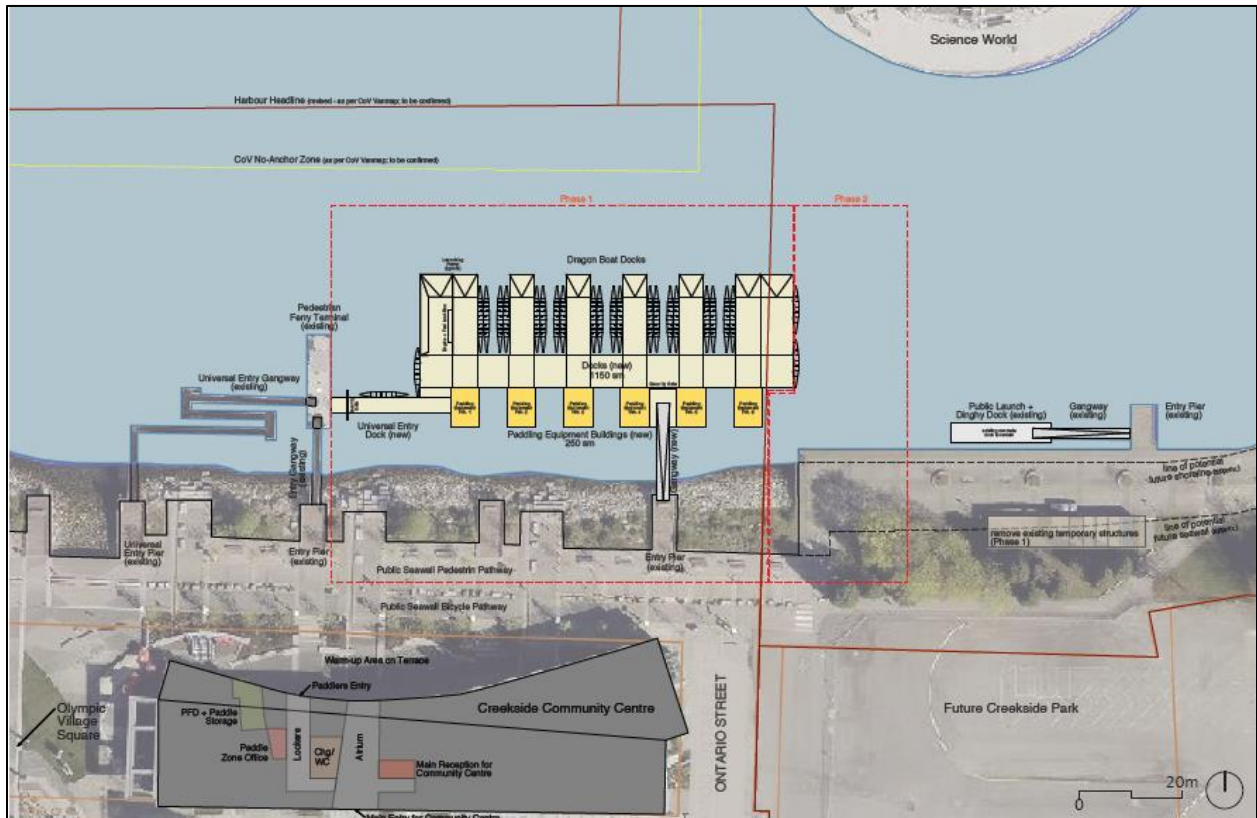
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CREEKSIDE COMMUNITY CENTRE

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CREEKSIDE PADDLING CENTRE



CREEKSIDE PADDLING CENTRE SPACE ALLOCATION

