



Access to Park Board Services Without Fear
Excerpted from Minutes 2016-05-02

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MOVED by Commissioner Evans
SECONDED by Commissioner Wiebe

WHEREAS:

1. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation strives to ensure open access to all parks, recreational facilities, and services under its jurisdiction to all residents of Vancouver;
2. Some residents may be fearful of accessing these services due to having uncertain or no immigration status;
3. The Mayor's Taskforce on Immigration recommended the adoption of a policy on Access to Services Without Fear for the purposes of enabling Vancouver residents with uncertain or no immigration status to access services without the fear that information regarding their immigration status will be asked for, or provided to other public institutions or orders of government, unless required by law;
4. On April 6, 2016, the City of Vancouver Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities heard from speakers and unanimously recommended:
 - A. THAT Council approve the "Access to City Services Without Fear (ACSWF) for Residents with Uncertain or No Immigration Status" Policy (Appendix A of the Policy Report dated March 23, 2016, entitled "Access to City Services Without Fear for Residents With Uncertain or No Immigration Status") and direct staff to implement initiatives as outlined in the policy;
 - B. THAT Council encourage the boards of Parks and Recreation, the Vancouver Police, and the Vancouver Public Library to adopt a policy which supports the spirit and objectives of the "Access to City Services Without Fear of Residents With Uncertain or No Immigration Status" policy; and
5. Vancouver City Council unanimously approved these recommendations at its meeting of April 6, 2016.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation affirms that it is committed to respond to the diverse needs of people arriving and living in Vancouver, inviting their participation and engagement in the facilities and services under the jurisdiction of the Park Board, and providing welcoming and safe access to these facilities and services; and
- B. THAT staff report back to the Park Board, as soon as practicable, with recommendations for a policy consistent with the spirit and objectives of the "Access to City Services without Fear for Residents with Uncertain or No Immigration Status Policy".

CARRIED

(Commissioners Coupar, Crawford, and Kirby-Yung opposed to Item B)