



July 21, 2016

TO: Park Board Chair and Commissioners  
FROM: General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
SUBJECT: Park Naming for Main & 18th and Yukon & 17th Park Sites

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## RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board initiate the naming process for the park located at Main Street and 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue;
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board initiate the naming process for the park located at Yukon Street and 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

## POLICY

The Park Board has jurisdiction over Vancouver Parks, including the naming of parks as guided by the [Park Naming Process](#) adopted in 2007.

## OVERVIEW

The Park Board's newest park located at Yukon Street and 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Appendix A) will open in the fall of 2016. The opening of this park presents an opportunity to engage the community in the park naming process for this park, as well as for the nearby park at Main Street and 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

## BACKGROUND

The Park Naming Process adopted in 2007 sets out clear [naming guidelines](#) and a consistent process that incorporates input from the public as well as a review and recommendations from the [Park Naming Committee](#). The Park Naming Committee is made up of representatives from local interest groups and neighbourhood organizations.

### **Yukon Street & 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park**

The park site at Yukon Street and 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue was purchased by the City of Vancouver in spring 2013 to serve the surrounding neighbourhood and provide a feature on the Yukon Street cycling route. In 2014 and 2015, Park Board staff held open-houses, developed park concepts, and finalized the site design. Construction began early in 2016, and the park will open in the fall of 2016. Site features include:

- A mini timber framed adventure playground
- Separated bike lane as an enhanced section of the Yukon bikeway
- Bike repair station, bike racks and drinking fountain
- A bioswale to manage stormwater
- Nine new trees in addition to the four existing mature trees

- New planting beds with mostly native species
- Planted street bulges and new speed humps for street calming
- Grass berms and a passive lawn area
- Raised concrete curved benches and new seating
- Planted trellis to separate the park from the laneway

#### **Main Street & 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park**

The Park Board opened a new park at the corner of Main Street and 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue in 2013. Commonly referred to as ‘Poodle Park’, a reference to its public art installation, this award-winning park acts as a gateway to the mid-Main district and serves both the Riley Park and Mount Pleasant communities. Design elements in the park include:

- Stormwater infiltration features
- Mature trees, incorporated into the site design
- New trees and shrubs
- Grass berms for relaxing and picnicking
- Abundant tables and chairs for sitting and enjoying the park
- Public art (Poodle) designed by Gisele Amantea.

#### **PARK NAMING PROCESS - TIMELINE**

Following the initiation of the Park Naming Process by the Park Board, staff will take the following steps as outlined by the policy:

Summer 2016	Staff solicits for volunteer ad hoc members of the Park Naming Committee from the local community.
Early Fall 2016	Names of ad hoc members of Park Naming Committee recommended to the Park Board for approval.
Fall 2016	Staff prepares public engagement plan to solicit park name ideas.
Fall 2016	The first meeting of the Park Naming Committee to review the park histories and the engagement plan.
Late Fall 2016	Staff leads public engagement, including advertising, and online surveys using Talk Vancouver.
Early 2017	The second meeting of the Park Naming Committee to review the park name ideas submitted, and make a recommendation to the Board.
Early 2017	Staff prepares a final report.
Early 2017	Park Board makes a decision on Park Names.

## SUMMARY

With the public interest that will be generated by the opening of the Park Board's newest park at Yukon Street and 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, staff recommend taking advantage of this opportunity to further engage the that community in the park naming process.

As well, since the nearby park at Main Street and 18<sup>th</sup> has yet to be officially named, including its park naming in the same process will make good use of the ad hoc committee appointments and be respectful of all the committee members' time. Upon Board approval of the initiation of the park naming process for these sites, both parks could have official names by early 2017.

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Location Maps - Park Naming

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