



September 27, 2016

**TO:** Park Board Chair and Commissioners  
**FROM:** General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
**SUBJECT:** "Uninterrupted" Cinematic Project - Special Event

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## RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve an application from Canada Wild Productions, as part of the Canada 150+ Celebration, to exhibit "Uninterrupted", a film presentation at Coopers Park, Wednesday through Sunday evenings, from June 24 to September 24, 2017; and to host an opening night hospitality event on June 23, 2017, at the same location, with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager of the Park Board.

## 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

In 2017, Canada will celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Confederation. Communities from across the country will celebrate this major national milestone with a range of events and activities. One of the celebratory activations in Vancouver will be a cinematic production called "Uninterrupted". This unique initiative will use the underside of a city bridge to bring British Columbia's Adams River into the heart of Vancouver, immersing audiences in the journey home of the wild Pacific salmon and reminding all participants of nature's wonder, resilience, and vulnerability. The production will explore the connection between nature and our cities, and the links between human action and the environment. The production will also raise awareness about the importance and fragility of wild salmon, an essential element of Canada's Pacific ecosystem. "Uninterrupted" will use leading edge technology and be delivered by a highly talented and accomplished team of filmmakers, producers, cinematographers, editors, technologists and artists.

On May 9, 2013, the Park Board Special Events & Filming office issued a permit for a proof of concept of this cinematic initiative in Coopers Park. Facing south from the playground area, the images were projected across the entire one kilometre undersurface of the Cambie Bridge. The test run was successfully delivered by two medium-intensity projectors with stock footage.

## DISCUSSION

### Evening Film Presentations

Canada Wild Productions is now seeking approval to exhibit their free 30-minute cinematic initiative in Coopers Park in summer 2017. The performances will occur Wednesdays through Sundays from June 23 until September 24, with film showings beginning at 10pm between June 23 and August 17, and at 9pm between August 18 and September 24. There will be a 15 minute pre-show prior to the start of the main performance.

The viewing area for spectators will be under the north side of the Cambie Bridge in the playground area of Coopers Park. The site can accommodate approximately 1,000 guests. Digital mapping of the film's images and audio (which will use up to eight projectors and small focused speakers) has been completed to ensure the surrounding neighbourhood is not affected by light or sound emissions.

"Uninterrupted" performances will be set up and taken down each evening with minimal impact to park and playground users. VIP seating (30 seats or less) will be available on selected nights. No performances will occur on evenings with Celebration of Light firework shows and the producers will work collaboratively with event activations in nearby parks to avoid any potential programming conflicts.

### **Opening Night Hospitality Event**

Canada Wild Productions is also seeking approval to host its opening night activities at Coopers Park on June 23, 2016. In addition to the film showing, this event will feature remarks from key stakeholders, as well as First Nations acknowledgements.

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

As part of the planning process, Canada Wild Productions has engaged property managers of the five residential towers located nearest to Coopers Park. To date, no concerns have been expressed. The organizers have been advised that the playground and basketball court areas must be managed in a manner that does not impact public access to those spaces. The seawall pedestrian pathway will need to be closed during the show and pedestrians re-routed to the north pathway. Subject to Park Board approval, safety and traffic management plans will be developed to support the event.

The event organizers have also worked closely with a broad range of Park Board staff (Park Operations, Arts & Culture, Park Planning, and Special Events & Filming) and conducted numerous site visits with the City of Vancouver's Traffic Management, Real Estate and Facilities Management, Engineering, Special Projects and Filming & Special Events teams. Key agencies including the Vancouver Police Department, Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services, and Transport Canada have also been engaged. All groups are supportive of the project.

Additionally, the three First Nations have been engaged by the producers of "Uninterrupted" and additional aboriginal programming may be incorporated in the future.

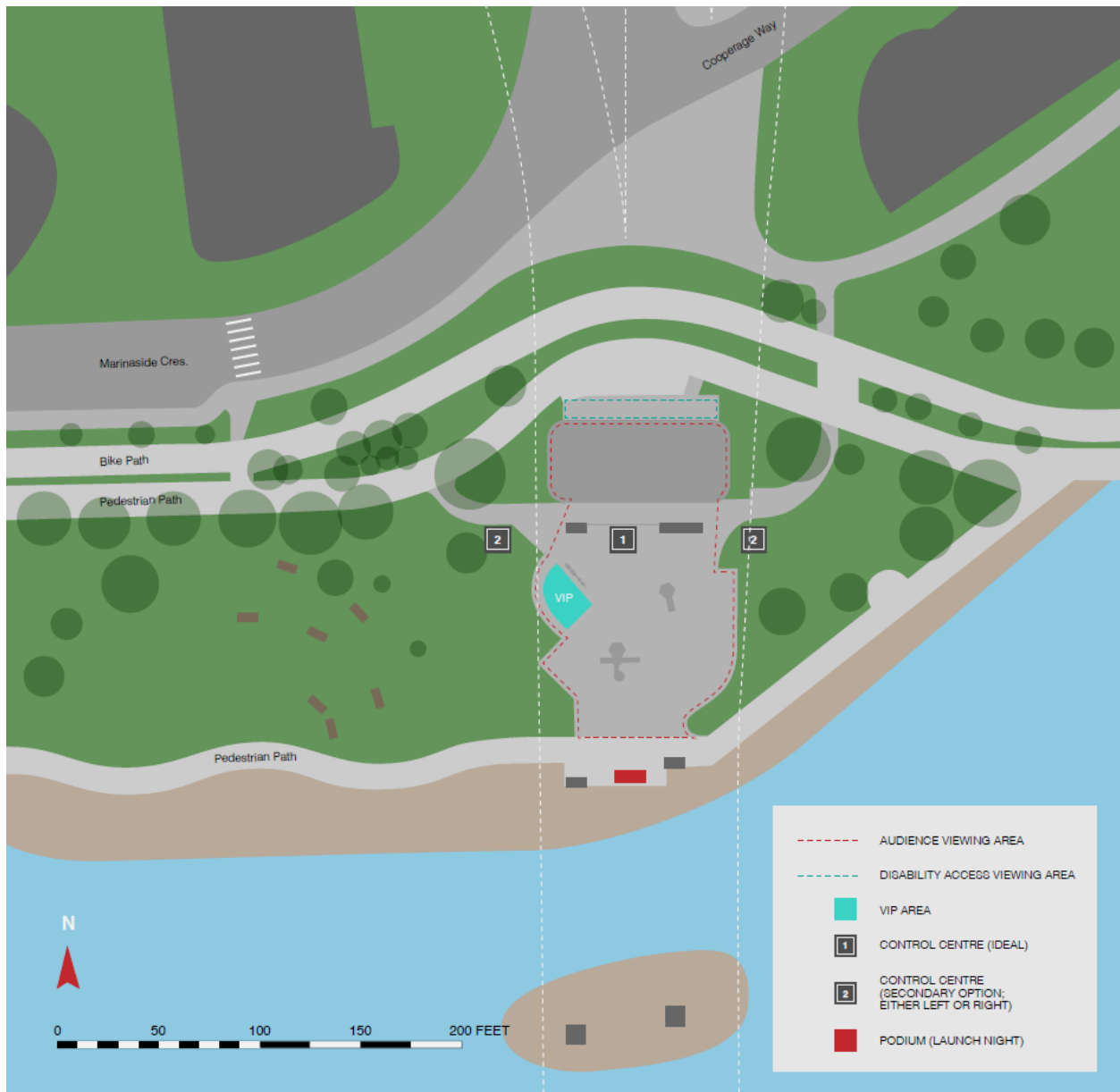
### **SUMMARY**

"Uninterrupted" represents an exciting new initiative that seeks to use a lesser-used public space to host a dynamic cinematic spectacle. The initiative will enhance the vibrancy of our city, engage Vancouverites and visitors, and through its execution, help commemorate a major milestone in Canadian history. Park Board staff have thoughtfully considered the many aspects of this application with the organizers and stakeholders, and are confident that this initiative can be executed successfully. Accordingly, staff recommend that the Board approve the application from Canada Wild Productions as outlined above.

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“Uninterrupted” Preliminary Site Plan - Aerial View



**“Uninterrupted” Preliminary Site Map - Park Level View**

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