Gathering of Canoes - Pulling Together Canoe Journey - Canada 150+ Event

Park Board Committee Meeting
Monday, June 19, 2017
Purpose

- Present and review the Gathering of Canoes - Pulling Together Canoe Journey initiative
- Seek Board approval to host their traditional landing at Hadden Park & Beach
Canada is celebrating the 150th anniversary of Confederation in 2017

Vancouver’s celebration is branded as ‘Canada 150+’
  • Focused on strengthening relationships with the three Host Nations, and the urban Aboriginal community
  • Promoting Aboriginal peoples, arts, culture, awareness, and understanding

Gathering of Canoes event is a Canada 150+ signature initiative
City of Vancouver is partnering with the Pulling Together Society to deliver this event

Evolved from the Vision Quest Canoe Journey, first held in 1997

- Envisioned as opportunity for healing and reconciliation
- Now an annual event to foster reconciliation at a grass roots level

In 2017, pullers from the Pulling Together Canoe Journey plan to travel from Ambleside Park to Hadden Park & Beach
Proposal

- Canada 150+ project team seeking approval to host their traditional landing at Hadden Park & Beach
  - July 14, 2017 between 11:00am and 4:00pm
  - Site set-up on July 13; tear down immediately after the event on July 14

- Program will include:
  - Traditional landing by up to 30 canoes
  - On-shore and on-stage Cultural Protocols
  - On-site entertainment, children’s activities, vendors, and community booths
Proposal

- Event will be managed by BrandLive
- Leading event producer and creative agency based in Vancouver
- Produce some of the most innovative events in the region
- Strong track record of working collaboratively with the Park Board and its stakeholders
Additional Considerations

- Park Operations team will groom and re-purpose the beach and adjacent grass area prior to and after the event.
- Event organizers will be responsible for:
  - Neighborhood and stakeholder notification
  - Preparation of comprehensive event plans (site and traffic management, Green Events, etc.)
Canada 150+ initiatives aim to recognize and celebrate Aboriginal culture in Vancouver

Gathering of Canoes event will bring together families and friends for an afternoon celebratory event

Park Board staff are confident event can be executed successfully and as intended

- Carefully considered this application
- Recommend approval as outlined in report
Recommendation

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve a request from the City of Vancouver Canada 150+ project team to host the Gathering of Canoes - traditional landing of the Pulling Together Canoe Journey, at Hadden Park & Beach on July 14, 2017, from 11:00am to 4:00pm, with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager of the Park Board.