



Walk for Reconciliation - Canada 150+ Event

Park Board Committee Meeting
Monday, June 19, 2017



Purpose

- Present and review the Walk for Reconciliation initiative, a Canada 150+ event
- Seek Board approval to host the Walk for Reconciliation completion event at Strathcona Park



Background

- 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
- Walk for Reconciliation event is a Canada 150+ signature initiative



Background

- First Walk for Reconciliation held in 2013
- Attended by over 70,000 people
- Brainchild of Chief Dr. Robert Joseph, O.B.C.
- Conceived as a healing tool for Indigenous peoples and all Canadians in the aftermath of the Indian residential school system
- 2017 event will be programmed and produced in partnership with Reconciliation Canada



Proposal

- Canada 150+ project team seeking approval to host the event completion at Strathcona Park on September 24/17 from 2:00pm - 3:30pm
 - Site set-up on Sep 23;
 - Site tear-down on Sep 25
- Program will include:
 - On-stage Cultural Protocols and speeches
 - Indigenous artists, cultural performances & food and beverage services



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



BRANDLIVE

Walk for Reconciliation - Conceptual Site Layout



Additional Considerations

- Park Operations team will service Strathcona Park prior to and after the event
- Event organizers will be responsible for
 - Neighborhood and stakeholder notification
 - Development of comprehensive event plans (site and traffic management, Green Events, etc.)



Summary

- Canada 150+ initiatives aim to recognize and celebrate Aboriginal culture in Vancouver
- Walk for Reconciliation will bring together Indigenous peoples and all Canadians to heal and move forward together in the aftermath of Indian residential schools
- Park Board staff confident event can be executed successfully as intended
 - Carefully considered application
 - Recommend approval as outlined in report



Recommendation

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the request from the City of Vancouver Canada 150+ project team to host the Walk for Reconciliation event at Strathcona Park on September 24, 2017, from 2:00pm to 3:30pm, with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager of the Park Board.



