

# Vancouver Parks and Recreation Foundation Update

REPORT REFERENCE Regular Board Meeting October 2, 2017



#### Purpose



The purpose of this presentation is to provide the Board with a project update on the Vancouver Parks and Recreation Foundation.



#### Goals





# Background



- June 8, 2015 Board direction to develop a plan to establish a Vancouver Parks and Recreation Foundation and report back within five months
- November 2, 2015 Board approval of implementation plan and project funding of \$250,000 from the donation reserve

#### Implementation plan: November 2015 Report



- 1. Obtain advice for tax, legal and financial management
- 2. Obtain charitable status
- 3. Develop a strategic plan
- 4. Develop a fundraising plan
- 5. Develop the case for support
- Develop a gift acceptance and donor recognition policy

- Recruit and develop a foundation board of directors
- 8. Develop board governance
- 9. Determine the foundation board's role in fundraising
- Develop a public awareness campaign
- Engage the public, partners and stakeholders



# Steps Completed or Underway



#### 1. Obtain Advice for Tax, Legal and Financial Management



- Legal and governance framework for the foundation has been established:
  - Foundation constitution
  - Foundation bylaws
  - Base budget
  - Foundation incorporation
- Items under development for completion by end of 2017:
  - Investment policy statement
  - Strategy for asset allocation and annual disbursements

#### 2. Obtain Charitable Status



- Application was submitted to the CRA to register the foundation as a charity – July 2017
- Completion of the application was dependent on developing other key components including:
  - Base budget
  - Strategic plan
- Application being processed Expect approval by January 2018

## 3. Develop a Strategic Plan



- Consulting firm KCI retained to help create a three year launch focused strategic framework
- With staff input, key components of the plan were developed including:
  - Vision

Strategic goals

Mission

- Objectives
- Core values
- Key funding areas of focus
- Completed in September 2017

#### 4. Develop a Fundraising Plan



- KCI also retained to help create a draft three year strategic fundraising plan
- Areas reviewed included:
  - Current Park Board fundraising areas including benches, endowments, bequests, campaigns and partnerships
  - Donor base
  - Revenues and expenses
  - How fundraising could be structured in the new foundation
- Completed

## 5. Develop the Case for Support



- In June 2017, the project team commenced developing the 'case for support'
- A tool used:
  - To communicate key fundraising objectives
  - To introduce the foundation to prospective donors
  - To create awareness of causes and campaigns
  - Includes stories, testimonials and images
- Will be completed in October 2017

## 6. Develop a Gift Acceptance and Donor Recognition Policy



- Gift acceptance policy:
  - Helps provide a framework for accepting or rejecting donation requests
  - Completed in June 2017
- Donor recognition policy:
  - Outlines terms by which donors are recognized for their contributions
  - Completed in September 2017



# Remaining Steps to Complete



## Building to Launch



- Remaining steps require transitional leadership:
  - Part time leadership of the remaining project steps and launch
  - Funded from project budget
  - To initially report to the Deputy General Manager, Park Board, and then to the Foundation Board of Directors once recruited
  - Work with the new Board of Directors to hire the permanent Executive Director
- Resourcing of this role is being finalized and will be announced shortly

#### 7. Recruit and develop a Foundation board of directors



- Transitional leader will develop a strategy to select and recruit a Foundation board of directors
- Foundation board of directors are responsible for:
  - Designing and overseeing the overarching principles that hold the Foundation together
  - Establishing polices and guidelines for operation
  - Upholding the legal and fiscal duties while ensuring fund disbursement is effective



#### 8. Develop Board Governance



- Foundation board will have a legal responsibility to ensure the foundation is:
  - Complying with all laws (municipal, provincial and federal)
  - Stays on track with the mission
  - Sets the strategic direction
  - Financially sound and fiscally prudent
- Transitional Leader will develop a strategy for board governance including:
  - Plans on how to achieve the mission, vision and strategic objectives
  - Operating and capital budgets oversight
  - Interaction with the community
  - Risk management

#### 9. Determine the Foundation Board's Role in Fundraising



- Foundation board members typically leverage their networks, contacts and garner support to advance the mission of a foundation
- Transitional Leader will develop a strategy to determine Foundation board's role in fundraising



#### 10. Develop a public awareness campaign



- Significant public awareness is required to promote the Foundation and its purpose
- Transitional Leader will develop and deliver:
  - Communications strategy
  - Marketing (including brand identity) strategy
  - Public relations strategy



#### 11. Engage the public, partners and stakeholders



- Engagement with current supporters has already commenced through the case for support interviews
- Envisaged that as the Foundation is launched, opportunities developed to engage the public, partners and stakeholders through open houses, focus groups and community events
- Transitional Leader will include this in the public relations strategy



#### Next steps

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BOARD OF PARKS
AND RECREATION

- Complete Transitional Leader resourcing
- Continue with the remaining steps of implementation plan
- Next Board update will be for approval prior to Foundation launch
  - Board governance and recruitment strategy
  - Public awareness and marketing programs
  - Contingent on CRA approval



