



Park Board General Manager's Report December 19, 2017

The following report is intended to provide an overview and update on recent and upcoming activities within the Park Board.

PARK DEVELOPMENT

Renfrew Ravine and Community Parks Renewal

Renfrew Ravine Park is the only park in Vancouver with a creek in a natural ravine setting. A [master plan for both the Ravine and Community Park](#) was completed in 2013. Community priorities identified in the plan included increased recreational and educational opportunities, and preserving and enhancing the ecology of the parks, ravine and Still Creek.

With these factors in mind, staff prepared construction drawings and tendered a package of construction works for a park renewal in late November 2017. Works include educational signs, a new enclosed dog off leash area, new trails, and fencing to protect environmentally sensitive areas. The construction tender will be awarded at a Park Board meeting in the New Year and construction is expected to be completed in 2018.

Kitsilano Community Centre/Connaught Park Spray Pad

A donation agreement has been finalized with the Kitsilano Community Centre Association for the design and construction of a small [renewal of the children's spray park](#) project in Connaught Park, located just east of the Community Centre and north of 10th Avenue. Engagement will begin in the spring months of 2018 with construction to follow in late 2018, targeting a 2019 spray park re-opening.

PARK PLANNING AND RESEARCH

On Water (Non-Motorized Boating Strategy)

The project team is currently compiling inventory, asset analysis and utilization information, and framing the regulatory context for the [study area](#). Staff will convene the Staff Advisory Committee, Stakeholder Working Group, and the Regulatory Working Group in January 2018 to review baseline information and inform the upcoming engagement process for 2018.

Track and Field Strategy

A public request for proposals has been issued for a consulting team to support staff in developing a long-range [strategy for track and field](#) sports. Staff are aiming to commence the strategy in early 2018 and to bring forward a report for Board consideration by summer 2018. Public consultation is anticipated for the spring 2018 track and field season.

Marpole Community Centre Renewal Study

A staff workshop was held in mid-November to review needs and gaps in terms of facilities and programs at the [Marpole Community Centre](#). The External Advisory committee has met twice and provided input to staff regarding upcoming community engagement efforts. A community open house is planned for January 17, 2018, and several pop-up activities are planned for early February. The Talk Vancouver survey goes live the second week of January.



Northeast False Creek Update

Staff continue to engage with Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, urban aboriginal communities, Chinatown stakeholders, and others. The NEFC team has confirmed the desire for an Indigenous Peoples' gathering space in Creekside Park, including opportunities for indigenous foodscapes/gardens, cultural gatherings and water access for First Nations canoes. The [NEFC Area Plan](#) will be presented to Council in early 2018, with Park Board staff input. Staff expect to bring the refined Park Concept Design for consideration of the Park Board mid-2018, subject to First Nations consultation progress.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING

VanDusen Botanical Garden Wins Wedding Industry Award

[VanDusen](#) was named the "Best Wedding Reception Venue" in British Columbia in 2017 at the [BC Professional Wedding Awards](#) in late November. The Garden was also a finalist in the "Best Wedding Ceremony Venue" category. The BC Professional Wedding Awards celebrates suppliers in BC's wedding industry and are awarded annually. The judging panel is made up of industry professionals from Canada and the United States.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

2018 Capital and Operating Budget

The General Manager, Finance, Risk & Business Planning, provided a presentation on the proposed [2018 budgets](#) at a Special Council Meeting on December 6, 2017. Council heard from nine speakers. Council discussed and approved the budget, with amendments, at their Regular Council meeting on December 12, 2017.

City of Reconciliation Update

On December 13, Council will received for information an [update on the City of Reconciliation](#) and Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action. This report highlights actions and learnings for 2017, and includes reference to Park Board initiatives, including the hiring of our Reconciliation Coordinator. An update on the Park Board's TRC Calls to Actions will be provided to Commissioners early in the New Year.

Vancouver Commemorates Canada 150+ Final Report

Also on December 13, Council received a report that summarizes the goals, actions, outcomes and indicators of [Vancouver Commemorates Canada 150+](#) in the context of the City of Reconciliation long-term goals. The creation of a Reserve fund for Cultural Reconciliation projects was approved unanimously, along with six quick starts recommended to support recurring and new Indigenous-led activities that carry forward the Canada 150+ legacy and spirit of reconciliation. One of the recommendations directs staff to assist and collaborate with the Park Board to support projects that carry forward the spirit of reconciliation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Holiday Heights at Bloedel Arctic Oasis](#) - December 15, 2017 to January 7, 2018



Board Briefing Memos - Nov 17 - Dec 11, 2017

Date:	Issued By:	Topic
Nov 29	Donnie Rosa - Director, Recreation	CCA Joint Operating Signing Update
Nov 30	Dave Hutch - Manager, Research & Planning	Oakridge Redevelopment
Nov 30	Donnie Rosa - Director, Recreation	Park Board Authority to Terminate Joint Operating Agreements