



## Park Board General Manager's Report November 19, 2018

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

### PARK DEVELOPMENT

#### **Vanier Park – Bike Park Expansion Project**

Vanier Bike Park was approved by the Board in 2009 and opened in 2010 in the park's woodlot. The Park Board is committed to delivering a new pump track facility, as an expansion of the Vanier Park, for use by young cyclists. This waterfront destination park is home to a pair of Bald Eagles that have unique courtship, nesting and rearing conditions, and in the spirit of balancing wildlife and recreation, the Park Board paused the project in February 2018 and again in September 2018 to accommodate eagle activities.

Staff are hosting ongoing meetings with residents concerned about the eagles and the Vancouver Dirt Jump Coalition to determine a path forward for this project. Options include moving the project to a different area of the woodlot farther away from an existing eagle's nest, and construction during work windows that don't disturb eagle pre-nesting and nesting activities. Staff are also hiring an independent biologist to assist with planning, and recently extended a contract with Joyride Bike Parks, who was retained to build the project, until the end of October 2019.

#### **Stanley Park Seawall Repairs Phase II**

The seawall is 101 years old, and subject to damage from increased storm and wave activities. In a state of phased construction from 1917 to 1980, the Seawall is now in a process of continual monitoring, upkeep, repair and replacement. Following the successful first phase of repair work in 2018, a second and larger phase of work is open for bids with contract submissions coming in early December. Work will occur during favorable tide windows between March and August 2019.

#### **Stanley Park Cliff Scaling**

A portion of the Stanley Park seawall was closed for two weeks this month to provide space for vegetation management and scaling of the soft sandstone cliffs between Third Beach and the Lion's Gate Bridge in Stanley Park. This annual maintenance program helps ensure safety for seawall users throughout the year. Work was completed last Friday, November 16.

### RECREATION SERVICES

#### **Sunset Rink Update**

Sunset ice rink closed on September 25, 2018 due to a mechanical failure in the heat recovery system. Park Board and REFM crews are currently completing work on mechanical and electrical tie-ins between the external temporary plant and the existing lines. After the unit is commissioned and permitted to operate, ice building will begin. We are expecting to have ice available for public use on December 1, 2018.

#### **World Juniors Public Skate**

The Recreation team will be working alongside the Sport Hosting and Marketing teams to deliver free public skate & rentals on December 1, 2018 at Trout Lake and Hillcrest Centre ice rinks to celebrate the road to [2019 IIHF World Junior Hockey Championship](#) taking place in Vancouver and Victoria from December 26, 2018 to January 5, 2019.



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### **Bright Nights in Stanley Park**

During the holiday season, the Bright Nights Christmas Train and Stanley Park Train Plaza sparkle with three million twinkling lights. [Bright Nights](#) is set to open on Thursday, November 29, 2018 to Saturday, January 5, 2019 and is closed on December 25 for Christmas. Visitors can buy tickets to ride the train and experience the lights or they can view the displays at the Train Plaza by donation. Donations and a portion of ticket sales go to the BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund. \$1.4 million has been raised to help burn survivors and their families since 1998.

### **VanDusen Festival of Lights**

Over one million lights will decorate 15 acres of VanDusen Botanical Garden from December 1, 2018 to January 6, 2019 for the 34<sup>th</sup> annual [VanDusen Festival of Lights](#). Visitors can stroll through interactive themed areas, ride the carousel, watch the famous dancing light show on Livingstone Lake, take a photo with Santa, light a candle at the Make-A-Wish candle grotto, savour tasty treats from food trucks and more. Last year, the event attracted 145,000 visitors.

## COUNCIL BUSINESS

### **Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grants – Fall 2018 Intake**

On November 13, 2018, Council received a report recommending approval of ten (10) new [Community Sport Hosting Grants](#) totaling \$44,800. All Sport Hosting Grant applications are reviewed by a panel comprised of representatives from the Park Board, City of Vancouver, and other key stakeholders in the sport hosting community. Applications received include five (5) local and regional sport tournaments, one (1) new sport initiative and four (4) new annual events. The current balance of the 2018 Vancouver Community Sport Hosting budget is \$119,129.

### **2018 Q3 Capital Budget Adjustments and Closeouts**

On November 14, 2018, the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities received a [report](#) recommending an increase of \$7.6 million to the 2015-2018 Capital Plan as well as funding adjustments totaling a net increase of \$ 11.1 million to Multi-Year Capital Project Budgets. Council approval will also be requested to close two capital projects that were completed with surpluses exceeding \$200,000. A total of 21 projects were completed in Q3 2018, with total Multi-Year Capital Project Budgets of \$77.2 million and a net surplus of \$2.8 million. Of note to the Park Board – two existing projects (Tree Planting and Bio-Diversity Enhancements) received approval to change the source of funding and four projects were completed and closed out on budget.



### Board Briefing Memos & Emails: October 25 to November 19, 2018

Date:	Issued By:	Topic
Nov 19	Malcolm Bromley – General Manager, Park Board	VanDusen & Bloedel Review Project – RFP Update
Nov 15	Howard Normann – Director, Parks	Elm Trees on East 6 <sup>th</sup> Avenue – Community Engagement
Nov 13	Dave Hutch – Acting Director, Park Planning and Development	Update on the False Creek Flats Community Panel Process
Oct 25	Stuart MacKinnon – Chair, Park Board	Apology to the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh nations