Alcohol Consumption at Vancouver Parks & Beaches

Excerpted from Minutes 2018-12-17

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

MOVED by Commissioner Demers
SECONDED by Commissioner Dumont

Amendments (adding D and revising C) MOVED by Commissioner Barker
Amendment (revising B) MOVED by Commissioner Irwin

Final motion as amended:

WHEREAS:

1. A growing segment of the population of Vancouver has no access to a private yard and thus relies on parks and beaches for gatherings of friends and family;

2. 79% of survey respondents for the 2018 review of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation’s Concession Strategy agree or strongly agree with the sales of alcoholic beverages in concessions;

3. The Concession Strategy’s alcohol sales pilot to be initiated in 2019 through two existing Park Board restaurant operators is limited in its reach due to space restrictions and financial barriers;

4. Consumption of alcoholic beverages at parks and beaches within the Park Board’s jurisdiction is currently prohibited through the Parks Control By-laws;

5. Any significant changes to Parks Control By-laws around alcohol consumption would require public consultation and supportive empirical evidence.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation directs staff to conduct a feasibility study for a pilot project that would allow the public to consume their own alcoholic beverages on select parks and beaches;

B. FURTHER THAT potential sites be considered for the pilot;

C. THAT staff report back to the Board by the end of 2019 with the study findings, including consultation results and any potential legal, logistical, societal, enforcement, and financial considerations; and

D. THAT staff will include the results and public feedback from the previously approved 2019 Concession alcohol pilot and incorporate those findings as part of the report back.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY