



Report from the General Manager's Office January 14, 2019

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

Holiday Events

2018 was another successful year for Park Board Holiday events, highlights include:

- The 34th annual VanDusen Festival of Lights enjoyed another successful season welcoming over 125,000 Vancouverites and city visitors. The event was very well received by the public and featured record online engagement.
- Bloedel Conservatory was home to Holiday Heights for the fourth year in a row, set inside the warm and dry dome at the peak of Queen Elizabeth Park, the experience attracted over 27,000 visitors.
- It was the 21st year of the Park Board's collaboration with the BC Professional Fire Fighters Burn Fund and the Bright Nights in Stanley Park. 100,000 people rode the train which celebrated the theme of an inclusive Christmas.

Wind Storm – December 20

On December 20 the Lower Mainland was hit by a significant wind storm damaging trees throughout the city with the majority of the damage focused on the South section of the city. Park Board crews responded to multiple issues throughout this time including damaged cars, damaged houses and blocked sidewalks. Of note, 4 large trees came down on East 12th Ave causing the street to be closed for 3 days. Park Board crews with the assistance of a large crane and City Engineering crews safely removed the trees. This is extremely dangerous and technical work, the Urban Forestry team carried out the work safely and with no additional damage to the homes or property.

Seawall Closure

At approximately 8am on the morning of January 7, Park Operations crews shut off access to a portion of the Stanley Park seawall. Unexpected high winds from the Northwest alongside a high tide created extensive flooding from Third Beach to the Lions Gate Bridge. This section of the seawall was closed for approximately 5 hours and no damage was reported to the seawall.

Warming Centre

On Monday January 7, West End Community Centre was opened as a Warming Centre due to cooler temperatures. Staff worked with the Community Centre Association to prepare and have reported that 15 individuals attended the Warming Centre on Monday night. There were no incidents or major concerns.

Board Briefing Memos & Emails: December 17, 2018 – January 14, 2019

Date	Topic
Jan 14	Playing Fields Upgrade project - Board Update