



NEIGHBOURHOOD MATCHING FUND

Policy & Terms of Reference

Park Board Committee Meeting
Monday, February 24, 2020



Tree of Life Fence
Marpole Community Centre 2016

The NMF Policies and Procedures and the NMF Advisory Committee Terms of Reference require updating to reflect changes in scope, clarify commitments, and create alignment with the new guiding policies and strategies approved by the Board.

The purpose of this presentation is to seek Park Board approval of the proposed updated Policy and Advisory Committee Terms of Reference for the Neighbourhood Matching Fund.

Collingwood Berry Trail Mosaic, 2017



NMF Objectives:

- to facilitate community cultural development;
- to foster community stewardship of park land and other public spaces.

- Supports neighbourhood-based, not-for-profit groups in making creative enhancements to local public land.
- Actively involves community in building neighbourhood connections while enhancing parks and public spaces.
- Funds up to \$10,000 per project, matching contributions made through volunteer labour, supplies donated and/or other funds raised.
- Adjudication and approval of funds is the responsibility of the NMF Advisory Committee comprised of 8 community members.

Current Guiding Policies

- Neighborhood Matching Fund Policy & Procedures (1993)
- Neighborhood Matching Fund Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (2015)
- Park Board Arts Policy
- Local Food Action Plan
- Rewilding Vancouver
- Biodiversity Strategy
- VanPlay – Parks and Recreation Services Master Plan



Ontario Street Mural with Grunt Gallery, 2014



Community groups are awarded funds matched by volunteer labour, in-kind donations, and other cash support.

*Hives for Humanity Pollinator Garden
Cathedral Square Park, 2019*



- fund supports arts & culture projects;
- expanded to support environmental stewardship & local food initiatives (2018)

20 funded projects in 2018/19; local food & environmental stewardship projects include:

- DIGS community beehive on the roof of St. Paul's Hospital;
- Echo Park Film Collective community cinema project at Moberly Arts and Culture Centre;
- Indigenous education garden in Strathcona Park with the Indigenous Food Sovereignty Group.



Mycelial Network
Still Moon Arts 2017-18

Key policy changes:

- expanding scope to support environmental stewardship & local food initiatives;
- referencing policies, plans & strategies that inform NMF projects;
- clarifying eligibility, budget, and funding criteria;
- identifying ongoing project maintenance strategy;
- recognizing value of volunteer hours based on Vancouver living wage.

A Serviceable Shed
Riley Park 2016-17



- Committee comprised of 8 community members;
- Represent Vancouver's diverse neighbourhoods;
- Members adjudicate applications and award funds twice annually;

Key Terms of Reference changes:

- Clarifying authority, composition, and reporting requirements;
- Aligning Committee term with elected Park Board term;
- Including provision for interim replacement of Committee members.



NMF Advisory Committee Members: Term Adjustments



NMF Committee Member	Appointed Term	Proposed Adjustment
Sita Kumar (term ended)	Fall 2015 – 2019	extend term 2 years
Elaine Low	Spring 2017 - 2021	extend term 1 year
VACANT (resigned early)	Fall 2017 - 2021	appoint new member - 2 years
Susan Faehndrich-Findlay	Fall 2017 - 2021	extend term 1 year
Cyndy Chwelos	Fall 2018 - 2022	no change
Shareen Chin	Fall 2018 - 2022	no change
Julia Gellman	Fall 2018 - 2022	no change
Lori Snyder	Spring 2019 – 2023	shorten term 1 year

Welcoming Community Garden
Grandview Elementary School 2018



Key procedure changes:

- Separate operational guidelines from Policy document;
- Align with proposed Policy & ToR changes;

- Updated Policy confirms purpose of the Neighbourhood Matching Fund & clarifies project eligibility and funding criteria;
- Updated Terms of Reference outlines role and mandate of Advisory Committee;
- Updated Procedures summarizes application and selection process;

Together, these refreshed documents reflect current NMF practices and will help guide and support this valuable community engagement program moving forward.

Neighbourhood Matching Fund - Next Steps

- Feb 26 - Info Session at Britannia Community Centre;
- March - Recommendation to Board to fill Advisory Committee vacancy;
- Apr 30 - NMF spring intake application deadline
- 2020 – Board update on 2019 projects.



- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the updated Neighbourhood Matching Fund Policy, as outlined in this report and attached as Appendix A;
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the updated Neighbourhood Matching Fund Advisory Committee Terms of Reference, as outlined in this report and attached as Appendix B;

AND FURTHER THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve adjusting the terms of the current NMF Advisory Committee members, as outlined in this report, to align with the updated Terms of Reference proposed above; and

- C. THAT the Vancouver Park Board receive the updated Neighbourhood Matching Fund Procedures for information, as outlined in this report and attached as Appendix C.

Colours, Spray Park Mosaic
Hastings Community Centre, 2001



