

COVID-19 PANDEMIC - Parks & Recreation Reopening & Recovery Update

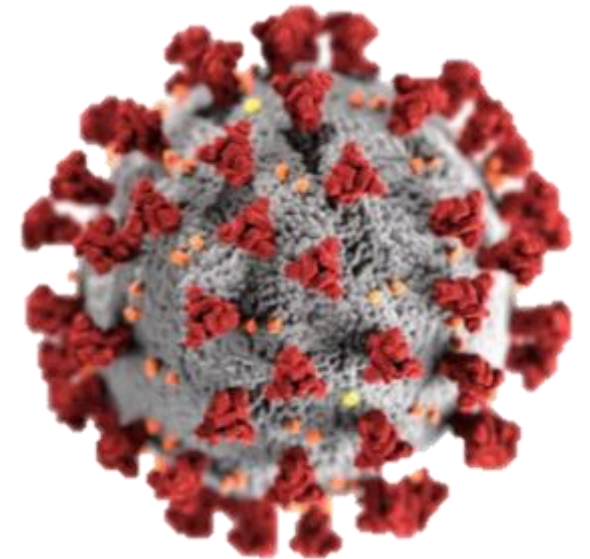
Regular Board Meeting
Monday, October 5, 2020



Purpose of Presentation



- The purpose of this presentation is to provide an update of the COVID-19 reopening and recovery strategy.



- Reopening and Recovery:
 - Overview
 - Highlights - Reopened Services
 - Next Steps
- Q&A and Discussion



Reopening & Recovery: Overview



COVID-19 Pandemic Significantly Impacted Park Board



- Initial closure of most publicly accessed facilities and services
- Deferral of non-critical investments and projects with reprioritization to recovery
- Reduced staff capacity – hiring slow down, staff layoffs, furlough, transition to remote work, balancing childcare
- Financial impacts – loss of revenue, increase costs
- Increase use of parks, beaches and open spaces (+ 177%)
- Increased monitoring and communications requirements



Vancouver Park Board: REOPENING & RECOVERY

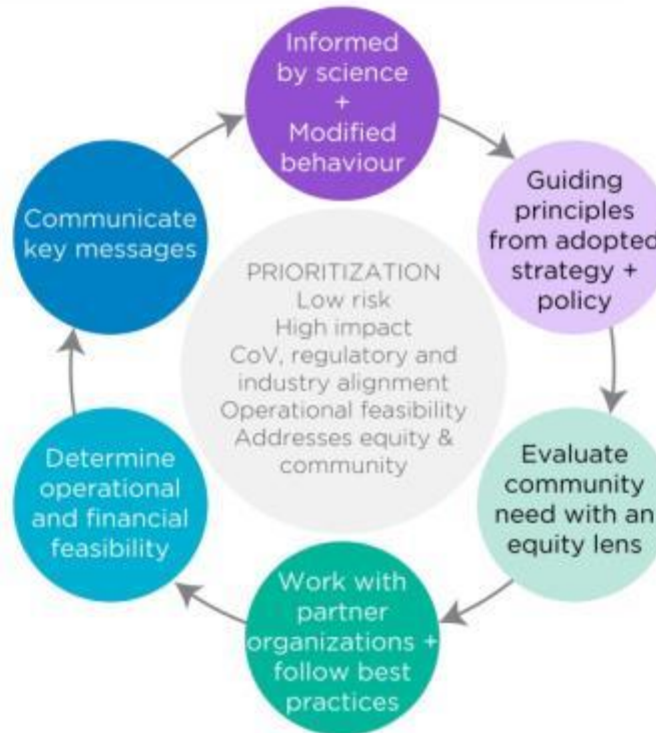
Vancouver residents have led by example over the past weeks in their conscientious response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result of this helpful behaviour, the BC government has now indicated it is safe to begin opening facilities. The Park Board, informed by existing policy and best practices, has developed a roadmap to guide decision making for reopening and recovery to ensure facilities and programs are brought back online thoughtfully and safely.

Guiding Principles

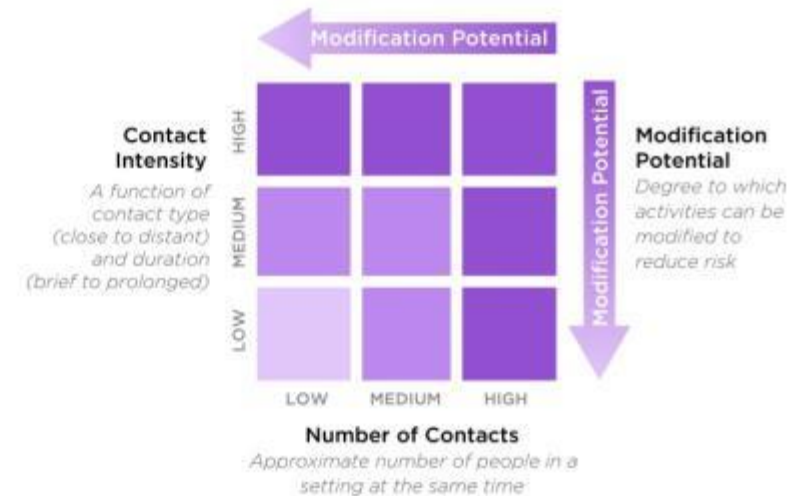


The Park Board's principles of decolonization asks us to be **transparent**, **equitable**, and to centre community **health & wellness** and **non-colonial perspectives**. These principles and current Park Board and City strategies inform the development of the guiding principles and phased reopening and recovery plan.

Reopening Process



Risk-based Decision-making



Reopening and Recovery: Roadmap

PHASE 1

-  VanDusen
-  Tennis
-  Golf
-  Off-Leash Areas

PHASE 2

-  Parking
-  Bike Park
-  Outdoor Fitness
-  Lacrosse
-  Disc Golf
-  Synthetic Turf
-  Roller Hockey
-  Volleyball
-  Skate Park
-  Basketball
-  Playgrounds
-  Pitch & Putt
-  Special Events & Film (<50)
-  Sports Field Permits
-  Swimming Beaches
-  Spray Parks
-  Stanley Park Road Reallocation

PHASE 3

-  Outdoor Pools
-  Summer Day Camps
-  Bloedel Conservatory
-  Concessions
-  Golf Clubhouses
-  Third Party Programming
-  Permitted Events & Facility Rentals
-  Community Centre Priority Programs
-  Child Care

-  Indoor Pools
-  Fitness Centres
-  Arenas

UNDER REVIEW

-  Events

PHASE 4

-  Large Sporting Events
-  Large Community Centre Programs
-  Large Special Events

REOPENED

Reopening and Recovery – Recognizing Staff



- Important to recognize outstanding efforts by staff over the past 7 months
- Our staff have fundamentally transformed the way we work
- Each closure and reopening required significant effort from each department to reopen safely including: detailed financial analysis, operational modifications, safety plans and audits, staff recall and training, new reservations and ticketing systems, PPE, signage, and communications
- Majority of over 900 staff temporarily laid off due to facility closures are now recalled
- Positive demand for our services from the public
- THANK YOU!

Change is hard
but you've done
a tremendous job,
Vancouver!



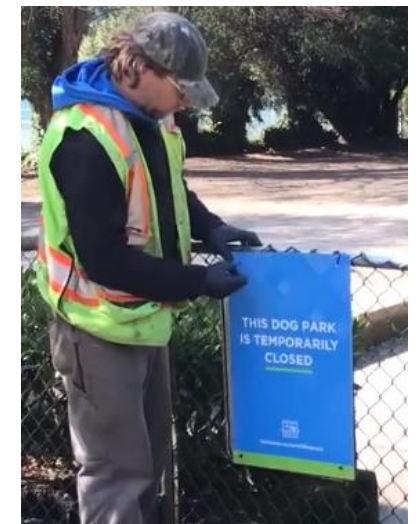
Reopening Highlights



Park Operations Overview



- Park Experience team maintained over 100+ park washrooms with 2x day surface sanitation cleaning.
- Piloted “Beach Crew” at busy locations for 6 weeks to significantly reduce public complaints.
- Operations staff created over 8,000 COVID-19 related signs, installed 1,000 closure signs, reopened playgrounds, and most other outdoor recreation amenities.
- Doubled Park Rangers staffing levels to monitor compliance with public health orders, focused on DTES, seawall, beaches, Stanley Park, and downtown parks.



Highlights - Outdoor Recreation Facilities



- Tennis opened with new guidelines for play May 9.
- Outdoor recreation facilities began reopening May 29 after the Park Board voluntarily closed the facilities.
- These amenities have provided safe, mostly free and equitable access to outdoor recreation to the public.
- Park use ~40% increase noted in park surveys.



Highlights - Golf, Pitch & Putt & Clubhouses



- Despite 6-8 week closure, unprecedented demand for golf, meeting or exceeded financial projections for rounds played and driving range use.
- Clubhouses closed March 19 - July 6. Opened with a smaller menu and reduced capacity.
- Golfers and general public were very happy Clubhouses re-opened and financial results are exceeding targets.
- Redeployed staff used Clubhouses to support the food hamper program, successfully creating 13,365 food hampers containing 143,844 meals for the Carnegie Community centre.



Highlights - Bloedel Conservatory & VanDusen Gardens



- Bloedel Conservatory reopened July 13, 2020 with new COVID safety protocols welcoming over 8,000 visitors in July and August.
- VanDusen Botanical Garden reopened May 1, the first Vancouver tourist attraction to reopen following the voluntary closures, with over 66,000 visitors May through August.
- VBGA Daycamps ran July & August for children 5-10yrs. Almost sold out, with 428 participants from 237 families.



Recreation Services Overview



VANCOUVER | News

Vancouver golf clubhouses to feed needy

Jon Woodward Reporter, CTV Vancouver
@CTV_Jon | Contact



- In March most services closed, and staff pivoted to provide other important community services:
 - Outreach with vulnerable populations (youth, families & seniors) by offering wellness check-ins over the phone.
 - Emergency COVID-19 self-isolation sites, operating at Coal Harbour & Roundhouse.
 - Essential childcare space, at Ray-Cam and Creekside.
 - Britannia operating a “food store” for the local community & providing outreach for vulnerable populations.
- Services restarted in June and July under new protocols, including daycamps, aquatics, field sports, and community centre priority programming, indoor pools, fitness centres and arenas.

Highlights - Childcare, Day Camps & Youth Engagement



- Childcare was able to resume at community centres on September 1, 26 centres are providing care for 1,315 children between the ages 3 and 12.
- 17 community centres offered day camps in July and August supporting 2,729 children.
- Outdoor programs offered at 19 community centres in August, ranging from tennis, boccee, yoga to gentle fit, family Zumba and line dance.
- A 6 week youth summer outreach program resulted in over 5,400 engagements



Highlights - Outdoor Aquatics



- Four pools reopened July 13 to September 7 welcoming over 157,000 visitors, exceeding expected demand. Daily demand was often greater than COVID reduced capacities and pools would “sell out” many sessions.
- LAP users, made 13,000 visits to our pools this season
- Lifeguarded designated swimming beaches operated for 8 weeks, weekdays were as busy as pre-pandemic weekends
- Spray Parks, began opening earlier than normal on June 27, and stayed open until September 13 in response to demand.



Highlights - Sport Field & Court Permits



- Permits issued as of July 1
- Over 500 seasonal permits restarted (1 permit = seasonal bookings for a sport user group)
- There are over 40,000 active field sport users in Vancouver, who participate as members of clubs, teams and community programs.
- Users play soccer, football, baseball, softball, field hockey, Ultimate frisbee, cricket, lacross, volleyball, basketball and others.
- ViaSport Return to Play guidelines continue to deliver guidance and updates to facility owners, Provincial Sport Organizations and players on the evolving nature of sports and safety protocols during the pandemic.



Highlights - Third Party Programming



- From June to Sept the Vancouver Park Board Arts Culture and Engagement Team worked with 28 artists/group to present work outdoors in Parks.
- Together over 450+ events and workshops occurred
- This work provided safe, socially-distant entertainment and community engagement for nearly 6000 participants in Vancouver Parks



Highlights - Community Centre Programming



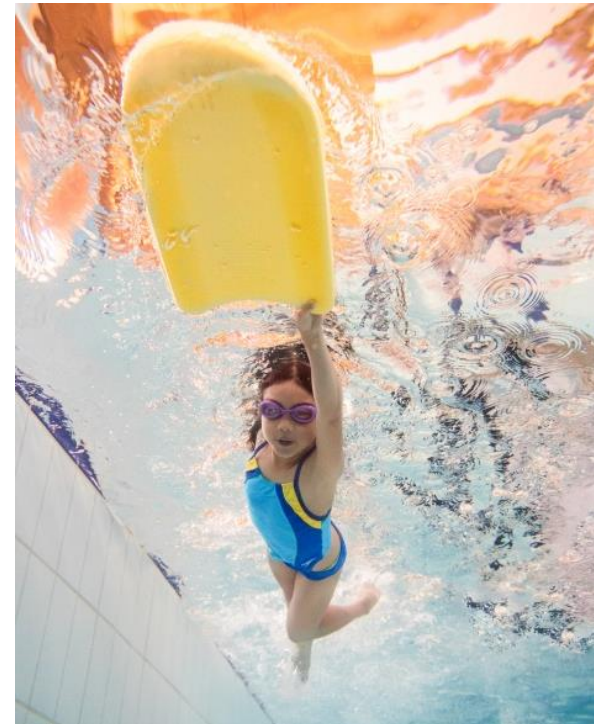
- Recreation centres began reopening on a rolling basis September 8th to support priority programming for children, youth and seniors
- Programs are offered through Community Centre Associations, with over 5,000 individuals currently enrolled in available spots, rolling registration will continue into the fall.
- Programming focused on children, youth, seniors and food security programs including: afterschool kids club, seniors tea time, therapeutic strength training, and youth sports.



Highlights - Indoor Aquatics



- Vancouver Aquatic Centre, Kerrisdale and Hillcrest indoor pools reopened September 14.
- Killarney, Templeton, Lord Byng & Renfrew, will open Oct. 13
- 94% of all online swim times were booked, 23% are LAP holders
- Permitted bookings for user groups almost fully booked, staff working on additional allocations in preparation for October 13 pool reopenings



Business Services Overview



- Essential services such as farmers markets continued while major events in April and May, as well as over 90% of smaller activities such as community events, weddings and picnics were cancelled.
- Special events framework and guidelines created to enable the industry to reopen safely respecting capacity, congregating, flow and physical distancing guidelines.
- Motion picture filming activity dropped 75% in March and 100% in April & May after voluntary closures. Provincial and industry guidelines enabled the safe restart of filming.
- Restaurants and Concessions in Parks initially closed in response to PHO order and incorporated new capacity and safety requirements upon reopening.
- Introduced temporary patio program to enable expanded seating outdoors.



Highlights - Special Events



- Special events were restored first week of June
- Over 390 initiatives were permitted between June and September using new COVID-19 Special Event Framework
- Enabled the safe and successful delivery of appropriate special events, activities, and programs in physically distanced and lower risk outdoor locations
- Fostered inclusivity and social connectedness for thousands of Vancouverites
- Large events and gatherings still restricted



Highlights - Motion Picture Filming



Photo: Vancouver Courier



Photo: Vancouver Sun

- Filming operations restored early July
- Small productions re-established in late July/early August; larger productions returned in September
- Several major productions hosted in Vancouver parks during September (Stanley Park, VanDusen Botanical Garden, Bloedel Conservatory, and western beaches)
- Future outlook for sector is very positive due to BC's handling of the pandemic
- October was a record month with more than 60 projects shooting simultaneously in Metro Vancouver



Highlights - Expanded Patios & Outdoor Operations



- Introduced temporary expanded patio program for restaurants in Vancouver parks
 - Tap & Barrel Olympic Village, Stanley Park Brewing Restaurant & Brewpub, and The Teahouse Restaurant
- Provided restaurant partners with critical assistance to reopen and recover while adhering to physical distancing orders during the pandemic
 - Inspired confidence in consumers to return to restaurant dining
 - Improved park user and visitor experiences through activation of public spaces and provision of services/amenities
- Province has extended program until October 31, 2021; COV has approved extension to end of winter 2021



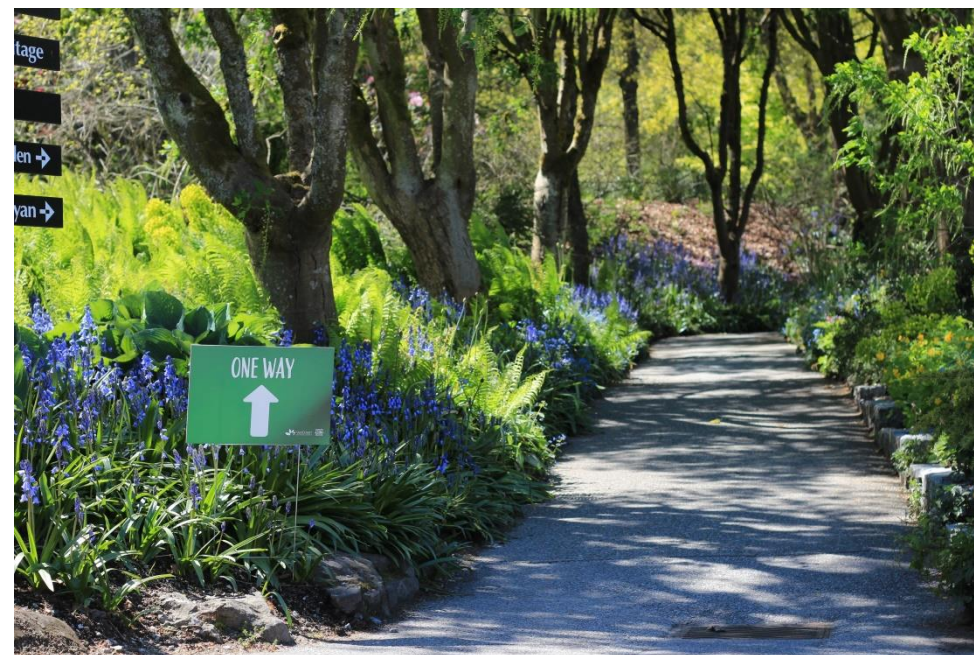
Reopening & Recovery: Next Steps



Reopening and Recovery – Next Steps



- Monitor trends in public health
- Incorporate emerging regulatory and industry best practice guidance
- Monitor effectiveness of safety plans and procedures
- Monitor operations including public demand, financial performance and metrics and implementing adjustments accordingly
- Continue to update as appropriate



Stanley Park COVID-19 Response Update



Stanley Park COVID-19 Response – Update



- Cyclists allowed back on seawall and temporary Traffic Management Plan removed as of Saturday, September 26th
- A temporary traffic management plan is still in place between North Lagoon Drive and Park Lane in coordination with Beach Avenue Room2Move Initiative
- Staff will report back to the Board with survey results and data collected over the summer later this year





Q&A

