



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

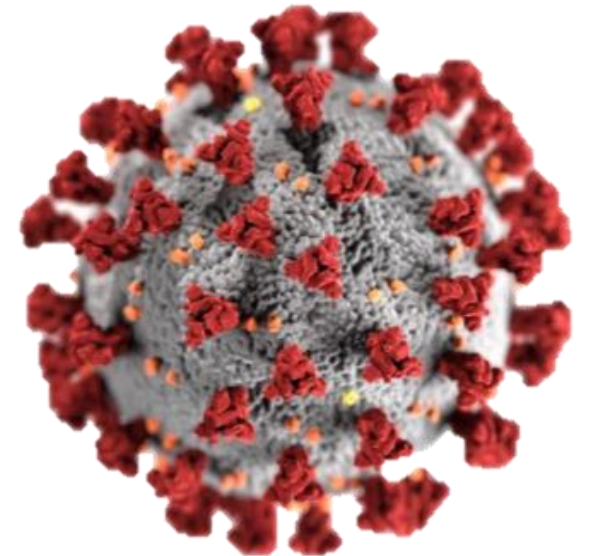
Regular Board Meeting  
Monday, November 2, 2020



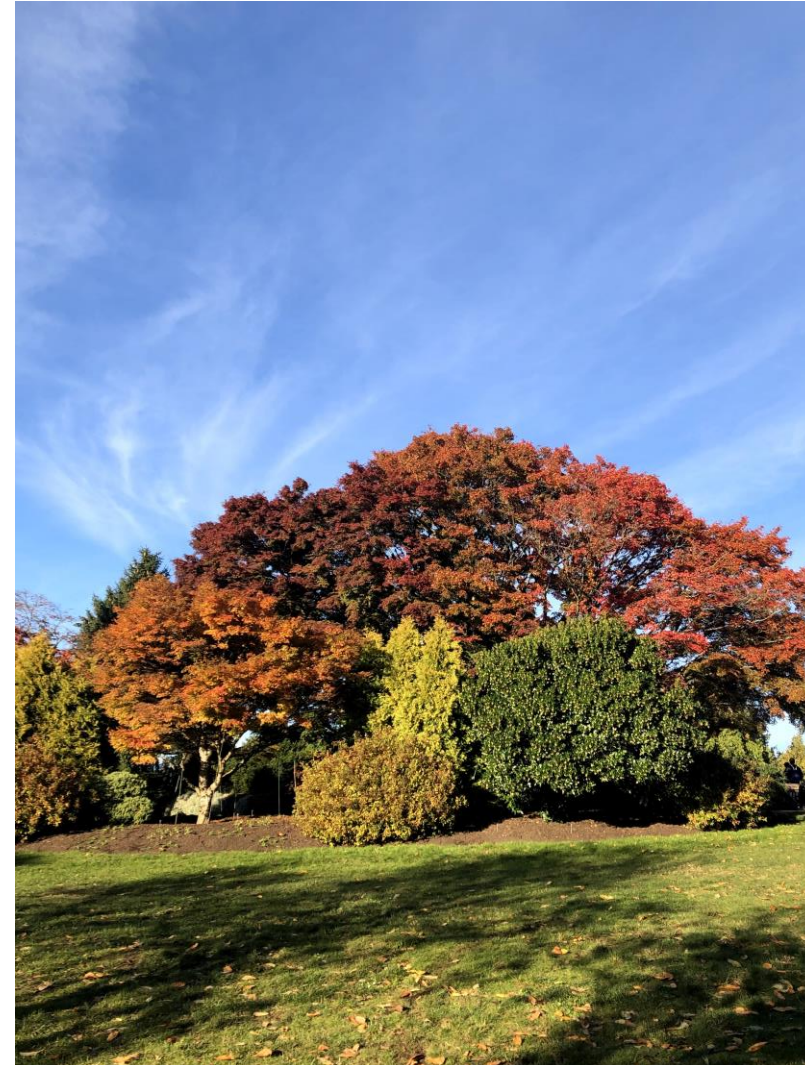
# Purpose of Presentation

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



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





Creekside  
Community Recreation Centre

← Tap & Barrel

## Reopening & Recovery: Overview

# Vancouver Park Board: REOPENING & RECOVERY

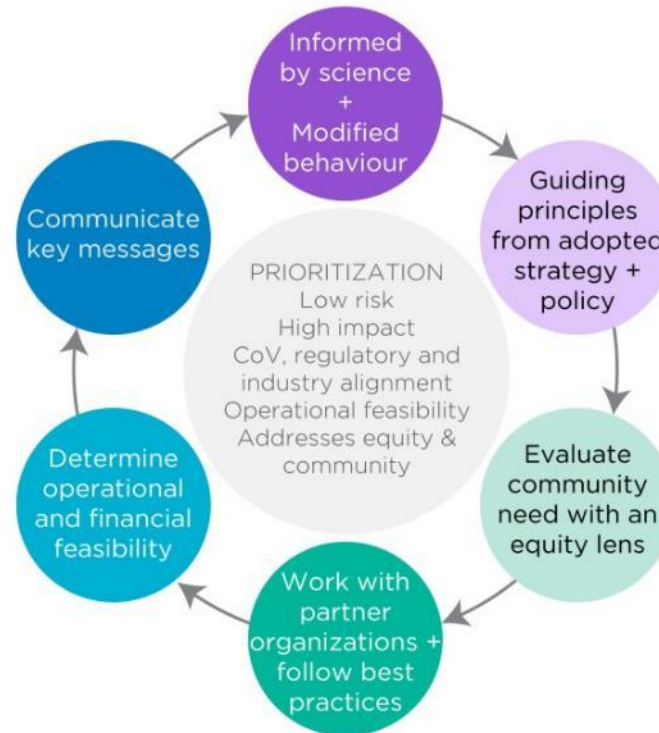
Vancouver residents have led by example over the past weeks in their conscientious response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result of this helpful behaviour, the BC government has now indicated it is safe to begin opening facilities. The Park Board, informed by existing policy and best practices, has 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

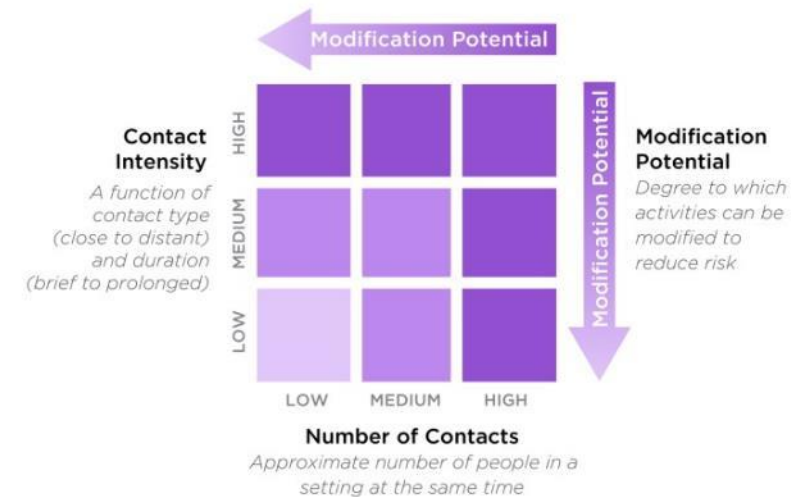


The Park Board's principles of decolonization asks us to be **transparent**, **equitable**, and to centre community **health & wellness** and **non-colonial perspectives**. These principles and current Park Board and City strategies inform the development of the guiding principles and phased reopening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

## PHASE 4

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

### REOPENING

- Events

**REOPENED**

Recognizing the growing cases of COVID-19 in BC, and Provincial Health Officer requirements to limit the spread of the virus, Park Board is:

- Closely monitoring and applying public health requirements:
  - Mask wearing is an expectation and messaging is being updated at all relevant facilities
  - ‘Bubble’ or ‘Safe Six’ programming is under review or in pilot phase
  - Online programming under development to support remote recreation opportunities
- Working with regional partners to provide consistent approaches and messages about safe use



# Reopening & Recovery: Reopened Services





# Reopened Services

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Indoor Pools



Arenas



Fitness Centres



Community Centre  
Expanded Programming

# Indoor Pools - Overview

- Park Board Pool reopenings:
  - September 8: Vancouver Aquatic Centre, Kerrisdale & Britannia
  - September 14: Hillcrest
  - October 13: Killarney, Templeton, Lord Byng & Renfrew
- Over 30,000 public visits to date with 87% average reservations utilization for public, length, and 55+ swims, as well as aquafit, 13% of patrons are LAP holders.
- Additionally, pools support over 20 user groups (e.g. swim clubs, synchronized swimming, etc.), with over 10,000 visits to date
- Currently piloting “Bubble swim” at Templeton, Britannia & VAC



# Indoor Pools – Safety Measures

- Physical distancing encouraged:
  - Reduced number of people visiting at one time
  - Timed swim sessions; 45 min lap swims, 90 min casual swims
  - Tickets reserved and presold online
  - Lane swims only in double-wide lanes with maximum capacity of 6 swimmers and 5m distancing
- Clearing and cleaning the pool after every 90 min session
- Swimmers arrive ready to swim, limited change room access
- No towel, kickboards, pull buoys, or other equipment rentals
- Saunas and steam rooms closed



# Fitness Centres - Overview



- Park Board fitness centre reopenings:
  - September 14: Champlain Heights, Creekside, Dunbar, Hillcrest, Kitsilano, Mount Pleasant, and Trout Lake
  - October 13: Strathcona
  - October 14: Renfrew Park and Vancouver Aquatic Centre
  - October 19: Kensington
- Fitness centres operated independently by Community Centre Associations in various stages of reopening.
- Average attendance (reserved spots & drop ins) across all sites since reopening is 59% overall and 75% on weekends.



# Fitness Centres – Safety Measures



- Physical distancing encouraged:
  - Reduced number of people visiting at one time
  - Reduced fitness equipment, spaced apart into training pods
  - Limiting people to a single one-hour workout session per day
  - Tickets reserved and presold online
  - Arrive ready, change rooms not available.
  - Extensive signage educating people on new processes, procedures, and safety measures
- Masks encouraged when not doing intense exercise
- Hand sanitizer provided throughout the fitness centre
- Fitness centre deep-cleaned 2x/day high-touch areas sanitized often



- Park Board arenas reopening:
  - Sept. 21: Britannia, Kerrisdale, Sunset, Trout Lake
  - Sept. 28: Hillcrest, Killarney
  - Oct. 5: Kitsilano
  - Nov 2: West End
- Arenas currently open for minor sports associations and adult user group bookings.
- Ice allocation revamped, increased fill rate to 95% for prime-time ice.
- Public programming starting Nov.7 including public skating, figure skating, and family hockey.



Skating lessons begin Nov.7 at Killarney & Trout Lake.

# Arenas – Safety Measures

- Physical distancing encouraged:
  - Reduced number of people in the arena at one time
  - Limited the duration, and number of facilities offering public programs (e.g. 45 min public skate)
  - No spectators allowed in the arena
  - Tickets reserved and presold online
  - Extensive signage educating people on new processes, procedures, and safety measures
- Rental skates and helmets cleaned & disinfected after use
- Arena lobbies cleaned , high-touch areas sanitized after each session
- Hand sanitizer provided at the entrance of the arena



- Masks are expected when visiting the facility

# Community Centre Programming

- Community centres starting reopening September 8 focusing on child, youth, seniors and food security programs.
- Programming expanded as operating hours extended, with more sports, arts and culture, and programs for adults added.
- Current programs are running at ~50% of pre-pandemic levels. Program enrollments doubled this month with over 12,000 people now enrolled.
- Demand is highest for seniors and youth programs, e.g. food programs, fitness, dance and leadership. Demand is growing, increasing requests for more space and sporting options.
- Online programming platform currently in pilot phase



Staff continue to adapt and modify programs in response to safety guidance, demand, facility schedules, space available and user feedback.



# Arts, Culture and Engagement

- During September and October, the Arts, Culture and Engagement Team:
  - Restarted 9 Artist in Residence projects in community centres, focusing on eco-arts and seniors
  - Collaborated with 19 artists/groups to present online and outdoor projects in Parks
    - 165 outdoor workshops, walks, concerts, film screenings, and performances
    - 58 online workshops, meet-ups, demonstrations, and discussions
    - 3,300 outdoor engagements and 1,750 online connections



# Youth Services, Access and Inclusion

- The Youth Outreach program restarted as a 6 week program this summer. During September and October:
  - 1,462 in-person program sessions offered with 3,350 youth registered ranging from sport, social and leadership programs including Youth in Action, Youth Leadership in Equity, and Killarney Youth Spaces Project
  - 11,747 virtual engagements and 737 over the phone engagements
- Staff working with 75+ unique groups to form new and revitalize existing partnerships. Groups include Urban Native Youth Association Street outreach, BC Housing, VSB and Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society



# Youth Services, Access and Inclusion

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- Supporting people with disabilities who find the new COVID-19 safety protocols and registration process a participation barrier
- Developing adapted programming training modules for volunteers at MoreSports and Sunset CC.
- Updating Park Board Adapted and Integrated programs website to assist residents in finding accessible programs.
- Developing children's programs such as Professional Day daycamps and Arts, movement, and family programming for children with disabilities for winter 2021

# Flexipasses

- Over 16,000 Flexipass holders with passes on hold since March.
- As of Oct. 31, Flexipass holders can change the status on their pass. Holders may also choose to:
  - Restart the pass
  - Remain on hold
  - Convert Flexipass value to credit on account
  - Refund pro-rated value pass
- Flexipasses offer best value for regular users with unlimited access through one, three, and twelve month passes.
- Current pass holders can submit change requests online at [Vancouver.ca/Flexipass](https://vancouver.ca/flexipass)

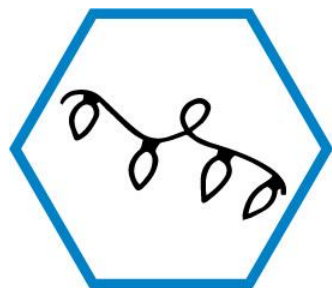


# Reopening & Recovery: Reopening



# Reopening Services – Under Review

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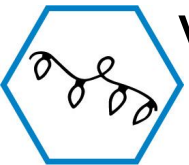


Park Board Events

# VanDusen Festival of Lights



- 36<sup>th</sup> annual winter wonderland event at VanDusen Botanical Garden will run November 27 to January 3, 2021, [www.vandusenfestivaloflights.ca](http://www.vandusenfestivaloflights.ca).
- Over one million lights will illuminate the ten acre outdoor garden with themed areas, unique light features and holiday music.
- Staff worked closely with Vancouver Coastal Health and the Provincial Health Office to ensure the event can be experienced safely.
- Tickets, at newly reduced rates, must be purchased online for a designated entry time.
- Entry times run every half hour, from 4 pm, visitors have 45 minutes to enjoy the festival.

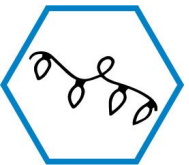


# VanDusen Festival of Lights – Safety Measures

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- Visitors will enter at Gate 2, and exit through the Visitor Centre
- Pre-purchased tickets only, no tickets sales on site
- Maximum 45 minute visit, on one-way outdoor path
- Washroom at Visitor Centre only available at exit; portable washrooms and hand washing stations available in the parking lot and inside the garden
- Reduced touch points and gathering spots - no carousel, photos with Santa, live entertainment, Make-a-wish candle grotto, or dancing light show
- Masks are expected







# Reopening & Recovery: Next Steps

Recognizing the COVID-19 situation in BC is changing, and the Provincial Health Officer regularly updates requirements and guidance, Park Board will continue to:

- Continue to monitor and adjust to changes in public health guidance and implement operational improvements accordingly.
- Continue to monitor performance of operations including public demand and feedback on our services
- Board and public will continue to be updated in the new year.



# Q&A

