



## PARK BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

— January 18, 2021 —

*The following information is intended to provide a brief overview of the Board's governance work at the Committee and Board meetings. The full agenda, meeting materials, video clips and official minutes can be found on the [Park Board website](#).*

### STAFF PRESENTATIONS

#### **Climate Emergency Response, Green Operations, & Climate Change Adaptation Strategy**

The Board received three presentations from staff at the City of Vancouver's Sustainability Department on [Climate Emergency Response](#), [Green Operations](#), and [Climate Change Adaptation Strategy](#). The presentations highlighted current and planned future initiatives of the City, many with relevance to Park Board.

#### **Vancouver Aquatics Strategy & Blue Flag - Report Back**

Staff provided [additional program and financial information](#) on the Blue Flag certification in response to a motion titled "[Vancouver Aquatics Strategy & Blue Flag](#)" that was referred to staff on December 7, 2020. The Board direct staff to write to Swim Drink Fish to express appreciation for their offer to assist with the Blue Flag award application process for the 2021 season, and to advise that while pursuing this initiative is not aligned with our current service plan priorities and commitments to ongoing Reconciliation work, the Park Board looks forward to other collaborative opportunities to promote environmental stewardship and support our water quality goals.

### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The General Manager presented an overview of topics included in the [GM's Report](#):

- **Bright Nights 2020** – as this special event was unable to proceed this winter due to the pandemic, videos of the train ride were made so viewers could still enjoy the experience. The Burn Fund raised \$525,000 for their 50/50 draw and additional \$75,000 was raised through regular donation channels.
- **Festival of Lights 2020** – this special event was also affected by the pandemic and a short video was shared on social media channels on Christmas Eve.
- **101<sup>st</sup> Polar Bear Swim** – this New Year's Day event took place virtually for 2021 due to the pandemic; over 1400 participants chose to take the Polar bear dip at home.
- **VanDusen & Bloedel Strategic Plan & JOA** – engagement work was put on hold last year due to the pandemic but will be restarting with the intention to finish the Strategic Plan in 2021.
- **John Hendry (Trout Lake) Park Master Plan** - Staff will bring an updated draft of the John Hendry Park Master Plan to the public for a final round of public engagement by mid-2021 and anticipate presenting the final draft Master Plan to the Board for decision by late 2021.
- **Dog Waste Pilot Program** - This program successfully diverted 31 tons of dog waste in 2020 away from landfills to the sanitary sewer system; Park Board staff will continue to support this project with potential program expansion in areas with high levels of dog activity.
- **East Park Advisory Group** – Staff are currently seeking participants for an advisory group to support the community engagement and design process for the new waterfront park in Southeast False Creek.



- **Council Agenda Items** of interest to the Park Board include:
  - Motion on [Vancouver's First Public Safety Strategy](#)
  - Report on the Contract Award for PS20200434 – Provision of a Sewage and Rainwater Management Plan (SRMP) for Vancouver – recommending approval which is a necessary step towards developing the SRMP to address recent Council and Park Board directions, including accelerated action on combined sewer overflows mitigation, implementation of the Rain City Strategy and other directions that fundamentally shift the way that water is valued and managed within the city.

### **NEXT MEETINGS**

The next Committee and Board meetings are scheduled for February 8, 2021, and will be held via video conference.

