



Park Board General Manager's Office Report March 8, 2021

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

East Park Update

The planning and design phase is currently underway for East Park, a new waterfront park in Olympic Village, which includes the renewal of a portion of the seawall south of Science World. The project aims to be centred on Indigenous values, reflect diverse community interests, and demonstrate resiliency to a changing climate. The project will also help improve connectivity and enhance the biodiversity and ecological health of the land and water in False Creek's east basin. First public engagement will be launched on March 13 through the Shape Your City. Second and third public engagements will occur in Q3-Q4.

Coopers' Park Dog Off-Leash Area Renewal

Public Engagement for renewal of the dog off-leash area in Coopers' Park will commence on March 19, 2021. Proposed improvements are guided by design recommendations in the People, Parks and Dogs Strategy for neighbourhood sized, urban off-leash areas. Staff will also be informing the public of the Portland Loo washroom being installed this summer as identified in the Parks Washroom Strategy. Other improvements proposed for Coopers' Park include a new fitness area and full renewal of the playground under the Cambie Bridge, which were presented to the public in 2019. Following engagement for the dog off-leash area all proposed improvements for Coopers' Park will be presented to the Board for decision in spring 2021.

Queen Elizabeth Park Master Plan – Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEOI)

A public RFEOI for consultants' team for the Queen Elizabeth Park Master Plan is expected to be posted within the next week. Scope of the work for the Master Plan and key themes of Nature, Culture, Horticulture, Connectivity and Service Needs were approved at the January 20, 2020 meeting of the Park Board. The goal of the project is to develop a comprehensive master plan that anticipates growth and increased demand while preserving and enhancing the qualities of Queen Elizabeth Park. Request for Proposals (RFP) is expected to be issued in the spring to qualified teams shortlisted through the RFEOI process.

International Women's Day – March 8

Falaise Park Fieldhouse artists in residence group Girls Rock Camp will host a DJ Live set from the fieldhouse featuring local, national and international women-fronted bands. The evening will start with a broadcast of their co-op radio show at 7:00pm and then the DJ set from 8:00pm to 9:30pm.

Echo Park North Film Centre, the artists in residence at Moberly Park Fieldhouse, will be screening work by women film makers from around the world in the windows of the Moberly Fieldhouse all evening on March 8.

x^wməθk^wəy^əm (Musqueam) Coast Salish artist Chrystal Sparrow who is artist in residence in the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Cultural Residency at the AFrame Fieldhouse in Stanley Park will be on live video on her Facebook page, beading and sharing words of encouragement for Indigenous women.

Spring Activities at VanDusen:

VanDusen Spring Camps - The Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association is offering their popular Spring Break camps this year from March 16 to 26 and enrollment sold out within hours of opening up registration.



VanDusen “Guardians of the Garden” - Starting March 12, VanDusen Botanical Garden will be launching Guardians of the Garden, a new add-on activity to educate and connect children with nature. The program will start-off with the Bee Strong Challenge for spring break, teaching children about the importance of pollinators and how they can do their part to protect them. Children who complete the self-guided route and Bee Strong activity sheet will receive a Bee Strong badge, as well as a treat and take-home DIY garden-inspired activity.

Staff Highlights – Park Board Extended Leadership Team

I want to highlight the Park Board Extended Leadership Team who have been working tirelessly to lead through this challenging time, with a global pandemic, a change in leadership and exceptionally high demand on our parks, recreation and culture services. On February 24, the team all wore Pink Shirts to stand together against bullying. Celebrated annually around the globe, Pink Shirt Day began in Canada in 2007 when two students, David Shepherd and Travis Price, took a stand against homophobic bullying after a new student was harassed and threatened for wearing pink.

Upcoming Council Business (related to or impacting parks & recreation):

- [Motion](#) on Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the City of Vancouver
- [Motion](#) on Understanding COVID-19 Recovery Through Economic and Cultural Stimulus Projects
- [Motion](#) on Don't Feed the Wildlife
- [Report](#) on Women's Equity Strategy Updates and Next Steps recommending that Council direct staff to send this report to the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, Vancouver Public Library and Vancouver Police Department Board for information.

Board Briefing Memos and Emails: February 23 to March 8, 2021

Date	Topic
Feb 23	Dude Chilling Sign Vandalism
Feb 24	Kensington Community Centre Childcare Programs
Mar 1	Data Sharing MOU with VSB – Joint COV, PB, VPL Update
Mar 2	Strathcona Park Update
Mar 6	Parking Data for Stanley Park & Beach Ave
Mar 6	Stanley Park 2020 Survey Data Analysis Report & 1996 Transportation & Recreation Report