



TEAM URBAN PARKS

TeamUP Activations

Regular Park Board Meeting
Monday, November 29, 2021



Purpose of Presentation



To provide an update on the work of Team UP and on Urban Park Activations in 2020-2021.

Urban Parks – Current Context



Factors contributing to increased park use, and scope and complexity of service needs include:

- Rapidly densifying and diversifying communities
- Pressures of gentrification, displacement, and housing precarity
- Closures and restrictions on indoor public spaces due to COVID-19, resulting in an increase in gathering and connecting outdoors

Team UP Purpose and Objectives



Team UP takes an interdisciplinary, team approach to identifying and addressing immediate needs in key parks, while developing innovative ways to work strategically in the long term to:

- Expand park programming and access for diverse populations by activating spaces through arts, recreation, connection to nature and stewardship
- Develop strategies to sustain park activations, alleviate tensions and improve safety and park user experiences
- Increase urban park cleanliness through strategic improvements and operational interventions

Purpose and Objectives continued



- Improve internal communication and collaboration
- Work with communities and partners to develop and implement projects and solutions
- Measure progress, act on best practices and report out

Principles



- We bring a Decolonization and Reconciliation lens to our work that includes centering community voice and foregrounding equity and cultural sensitivity.
- We frame challenges as opportunities, and seek to learn about spaces and the people who use them.
- We act as system navigators, people connectors and environmental champions.
- The legacy that we work toward is people and park centered.

Examples of work to date

- Work with Crosstown School on a more child-focused area around playground
- Support for RayCam CC safe summer programs in CRAB Park
- Collaborative approaches to ongoing work in Strathcona Park
- Operations and policy staff training on topics related to harm reduction, equity, decolonization, and anti-oppression





Urban Park Activations



Summer 2019: Pilot Activations in Andy Livingstone Park



21 days of crafts, active games and sports for children and family

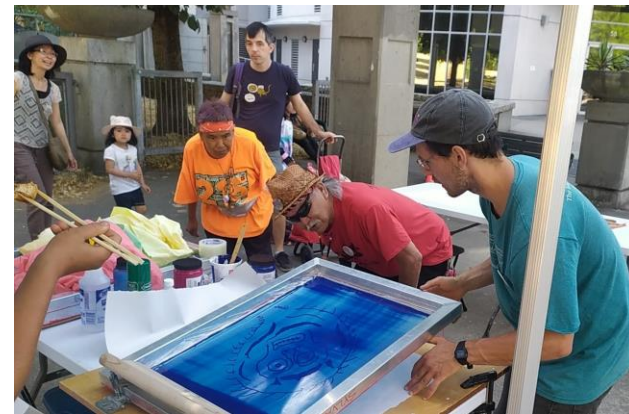


8 pop-up intergenerational community dance events for dancers from 8 to 80



Directly delivered:

- Indigenous food landscape at Strathcona Park - Ongoing
- Skate Host program at Strathcona Park, June - October
- Our Park Project at Andy Livingstone Park, June - September



Supporting community priorities:

- Oppenheimer Park – community-engaged park re-opening
- Strathcona Park – West Coast Family and Powwow Nights
- Andy Livingstone Park – Circles Hip Hop Festival
- Pigeon Park – Survivors Pole Restoration



Residential School Survivor Blanketing Ceremony
West Coast Family Night 2021. Photo credit: REACH Clinic



Photo: Survivors Pole Restoration, Pigeon Park

- Working with partners and community to review park priorities, actions and partnerships
- Continue work in Andy Livingstone and Strathcona Parks
- New focus on Grandview and Smithe & Richards Parks
- Strategic capacity build in priority spaces and communities

Questions?





Presentation Concurrences



Division/Department	Name & Title	Concurrence Date
Recreation – Community Development	Jessica Land, Manager	
Decolonization, Arts & Culture	Rena Soutar, Manager	
Planning & Park Development	Dave Hutch, Director	
Recreation Services	Steve Kellock, Director	
Park Operations	Amit Gandha, Director	
Finance (FP&A)	Director FP&A Parks & Rec	
Strategic Ops & Board Relations	Sarah Iacoe, Director	
Business Services	Steve Jackson, Director	
GM's Office	Donnie Rosa, GM	GMO to obtain