



NAME FOR NEW PARK AT SMITHE & RICHARDS: Host Nations Engagement Process

Board Meeting Committee Meeting
Monday, June 6, 2022

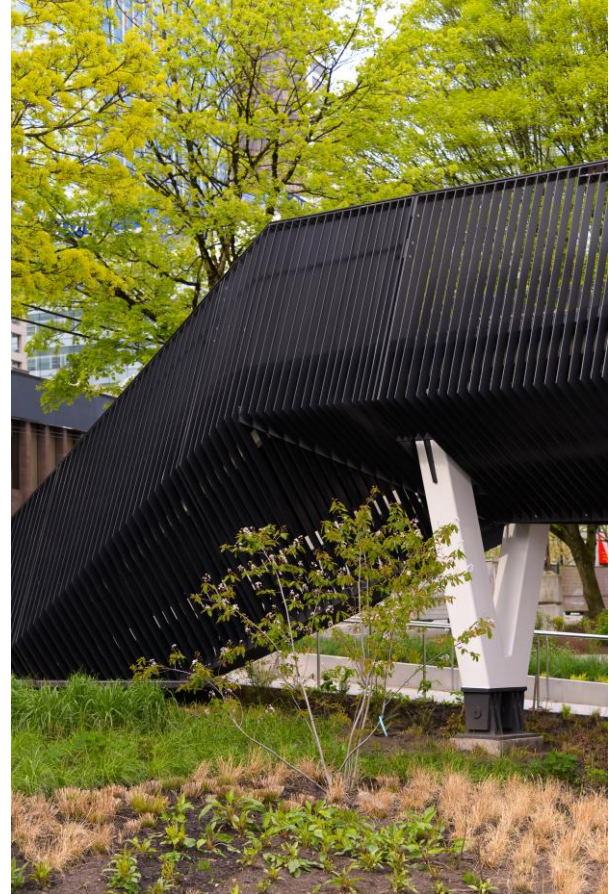


The purpose of this presentation is:

For the Vancouver Park Board to approve the plan to receive a gifted name from the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations for the new downtown park located at Smithe & Richards Streets.

For the Vancouver Park Board to receive an update on the park naming process review and endorse the Interim Park Naming Process, as outlined in the accompanying report.

1. Context
 - a. Board Reconciliation Commitments
2. Host Nations' Park Naming Process
 - a. Pilot Process
 - b. Engagement Principles
 - c. Cultural Programming
3. Engagement Key Findings
4. Interim Park Naming Process
5. Next Steps
6. Review of Recommendations



- **January 2016**, Board adopts 11 reconciliation strategies in response to the Calls to Action provided by the Truth and Reconciliation of Commission of Canada (TRC) including:
 - Adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).
 - Acknowledge that Aboriginal rights include Aboriginal language rights; that preservation, revitalization and strengthening of Aboriginal languages and cultures are best managed by Aboriginal people and communities.

- **April 2018**, Board adopts the *Reconciliation Mission, Vision, and Values* as a foundation for Reconciliation within the organization, with the mission to decolonize the Park Board.
- **September 2018**, Board approves motion for the *Recognition of Traditional Place Names*, directing staff to work with the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations on ways to acknowledge those names at Vancouver parks, beaches and other public spaces within the jurisdiction of the Park Board.





October, 2020, the Park Board approved the *VanPlay: Vancouver's Parks and Recreation Services Master Plan*.

The *VanPlay Playbook* directs Park Board to “focus reconciliation efforts on decolonizing the Park Board and relationship building with the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations”.

November 2021, Data presented in *Colonial Audit: Interim Progress Report*, illustrate the under-representation of Indigenous languages, place names and peoples.

Host Nations Park Naming Process



Pilot Park Naming Process

- Collaborative process for Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations to work with the Vancouver Park Board
- Transparency on timeline, expectations and honoraria
- Supported by an Indigenous cultural liaison





Engagement Principles

1. cultural safety
2. relationship building
3. reciprocity

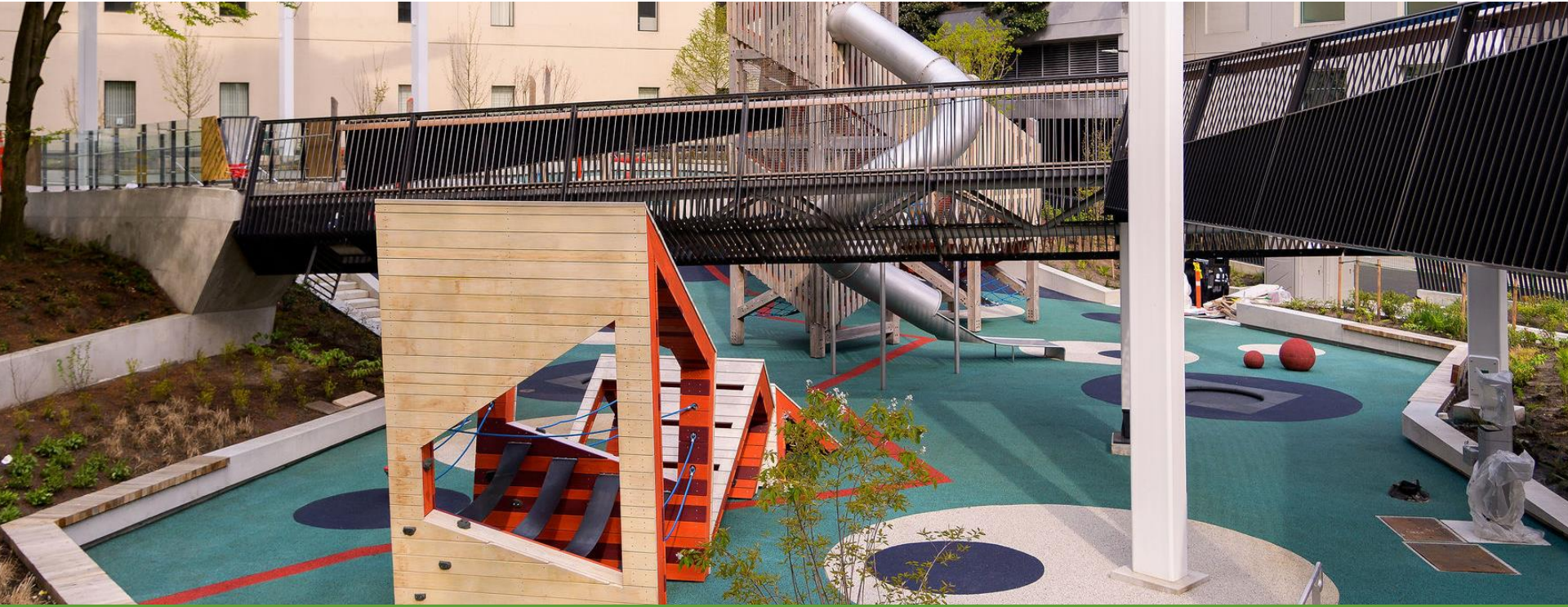
Reciprocity

Naming is a gift that should be met in reciprocity



Reciprocity for the park naming:

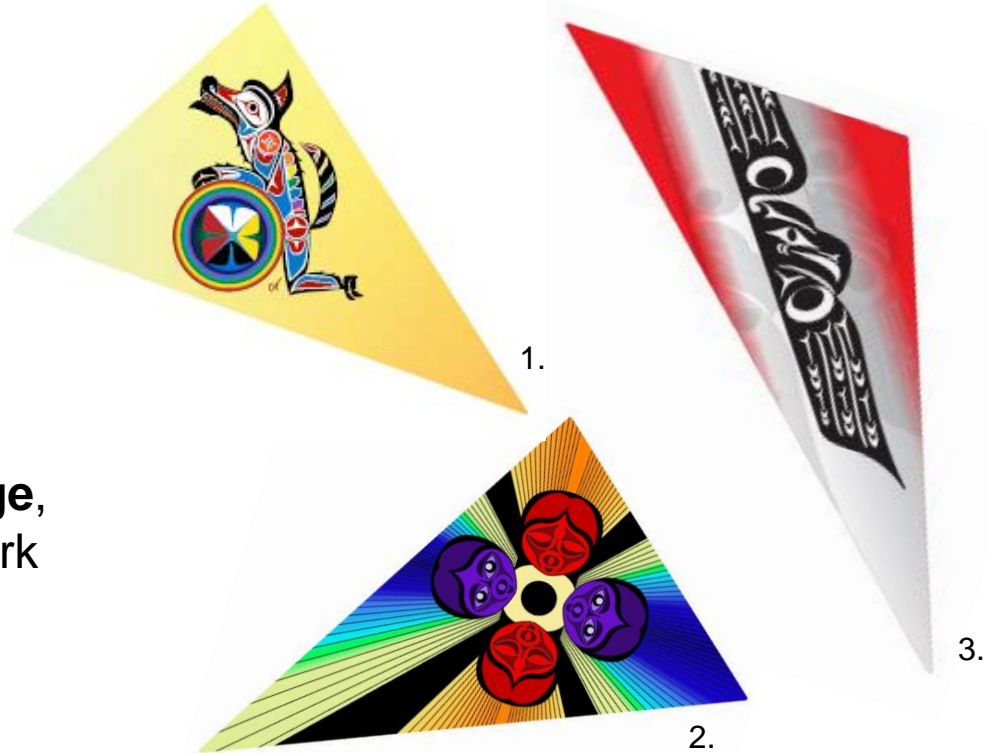
1. Document and share the pilot naming learnings so others can learn from this process.
2. The park name be reflected throughout the park in a diversity of arts and cultural expressions: including **language**, **public art**, **cultural programming**, **native plants** and more.



Cultural Programming



- **Public Art Call:** Spring 2022 staff completed a public art call for the inaugural Host Nations' temporary public art banner program.
- The designs will also be used in the forthcoming permanent **park signage**, which will welcome visitors to the park and display the park names in hə́ŋqəmiḥəm' and Sḵw̱x̱wú7mesh Snichim.



1. Candace Thomas, səliwətał
2. Kitty Guerin, xʷməθkʷəy̓əm
3. Ray Natraoro, Sḵw̱x̱wú7mesh

Indigenous Planting:

the park planting list was revised in consultation with Host Nations' knowledge holders and 20% of the plants used in the park were changed to native species. Through a partnership with the DV BIA, the Park Board is contracting an Indigenous plant specialist to create a plant guide.






Playground Leader Program:

Starting in summer 2022, a playground leader program will offer free drop-in arts, cultural and recreational programs for children, youth and their families. As part of this program, staff will actively connect park users to park programs and experiences that celebrate and honour the cultures of the local First Nations. Priority hiring has been given to people who self-identify as Indigenous.

- The pilot naming process and public art were included in the project costs related to the Smithe & Richards park development.
- These included naming process honoraria and facilitation (\$25K); public art (\$50K); naming ceremony (\$25K).

The background of the slide is a vibrant, abstract artwork by Candace Thomas. It features a central four-pointed star shape in a light blue color. The four quadrants of the star are filled with different colors: yellow in the top-left, white in the top-right, black in the bottom-left, and red in the bottom-right. The star is surrounded by a thick, multi-colored border consisting of concentric rings of purple, blue, and green. The overall style is bold and graphic.

*Detail of Candace
Thomas' artwork*

Host Nations Engagement Key Findings

Initial Park Naming Key Findings

- core principle of *reciprocity*
- naming should be *grounded in the land*
- naming must be done in collaboration with and *directed by the Host Nations*



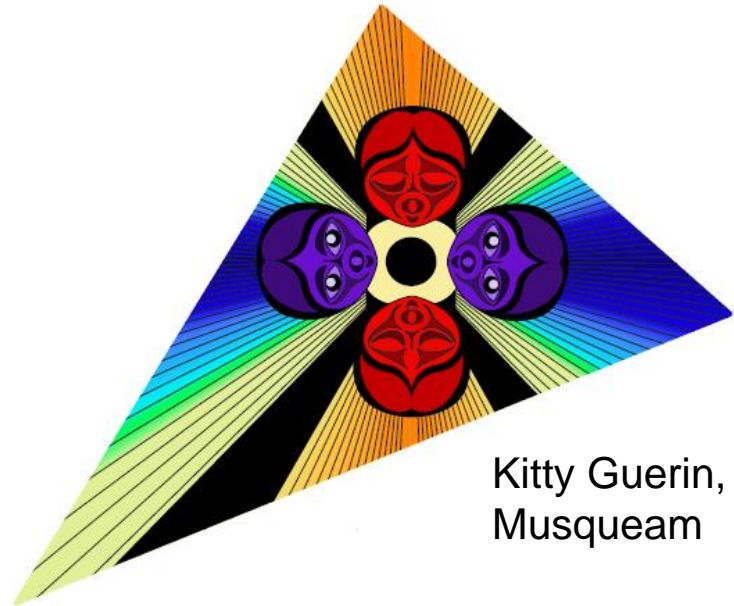
Next Steps



In accordance with Indigenous protocol the park will be *officially gifted* its name through a **naming ceremony.**

Ceremony is scheduled for **June 17, 2022**, at which time the park name and meaning will be made public.

- **Public Art Program:** temporary public art program for Host Nations' artists.
- **Park Signage:** permanent park signage will display the park name in hə́ŋqəmiḥəm' and Sḵw̱x̱wú7mesh Snichim.
- **Indigenous Curator in Residence:** to be piloted late summer/fall 2022 for Indigenous performance-based art.
- Public release of commissioned **short film** on the meaning and pronunciation of the park name.



Kitty Guerin,
Musqueam

Initial Park Naming Key Findings

Timeline: naming needs to be considered at the earliest stage in a park planning and development process, with a minimum of 12 months allocated for a supportive naming process.

Reciprocity: naming Committee should be paid for their time; the name should be woven into the park or asset through multiple cultural expressions.

Interim Park Naming Process



- **July 2022**

- Post-ceremony debrief with Host Nations
- Draft discussion paper on process and learnings

- **Aug 2022 - Q4 2023**

- Continuation of pilot projects as directed by Interim Process
- Consultation with Host Nation, Urban Indigenous Peoples and broader public through Commemoration Framework Phase 2

- **Q1-Q3 2023**

- Continuation of consultation with Host Nation, Urban Indigenous Peoples and the broader public through Commemoration Framework Phase 2-3
- Alignment with the Co-Management Implementation Plan

- **Q4 2023**

- New park naming policy to be presented for Board consideration as part of the Commemoration Framework Phase 4

Through the generosity of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh language staff and cultural leaders, a *hə́n̓q̓əmiṇ̓əm̓* and *Sḵw̓x̓w̓ú7mesh* name has been gifted to the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation from the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.



- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the plan to receive a gifted name from the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations for the new downtown park located at Smithe & Richards Streets, to be formally presented at a special naming ceremony to be held at the park on Friday, June 17, 2022.

- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board receive the update on the park naming process review and endorse the Interim Park Naming Process, as outlined in this report.



Presentation Concurrences



Division/Department	Name & Title	Concurrence Date
Decolonization, Arts & Culture	Rena Soutar, Manager	June 3, 2022
Planning & Park Development	Dave Hutch, Director	
Recreation Services	Steve Kellock, Director	
Park Operations	Amit Gandha, Director	
Finance (FP&A)	Natalie Froehlich, Director	
Strategic Ops & Board Relations	John Brodie, Director	
Business Services	Steve Jackson, Director	
GM's Office	Donnie Rosa, GM	GMO to obtain

- Should generally align with concurrences required for report; adjust as needed.
- ALL concurrences up to Park Board GM level to be obtained prior to submitting to PBGMO for final review & GM concurrence.