



## **Park Board General Manager's Report June 20, 2022**

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

### **Kitsilano Pool Opening – Weather Dependent**

Kitsilano Pool sustained extensive damage during the January 7, 2022 storm that saw a confluence of a King Tide, an intense low-pressure system, and sustained winds upwards of 70km/hr (for up to 8 hours). With substantial debris in English Bay from the fall Atmospheric Rivers, this storm battered the seawall, turning logs and tree stumps into battering rams, and impacted the adjoining Kitsilano Pool. While on that day, staff saw waves reach the pool deck, they were unable to fully inspect the pool until March. This is because the pool had to be fully drained which required waiting for the tide and groundwater table levels to subside. Early inspections showed substantial cracks, movement of cement slabs, gaps in the expansion joints, and led to concerns that there could be voids under the pool tanks.

An engineering consulting team was assembled to evaluate the extent of damage looking at the structures, the ground conditions below the pool's concrete deck, and marine engineers were brought in to assess the seawall and connecting infrastructure. The geotechnical evaluation for void assessment utilizing ground penetrating radar required dry soil conditions to collect reliable data. Due to the unusual rainy spring this year, this work could not be scheduled until a stretch of drier weather. The findings from the geotechnical evaluation is that there are no significant voids under the damaged concrete pool deck, which will allow for the pool to safely be filled.

To provide the community with access to Kitsilano Pool this summer, expedited repairs (filling cracks and sealing the pool) will be undertaken, with comprehensive repairs scheduled to occur after the September long weekend. These more in-depth repairs will be to rejuvenate the pool's structure back to what it was before the storm and could include more extensive maintenance for the deeper cracks that went through the entire thickness of the pool, which will be chipped out for the addition of new rebar. To complete the expedited work to allow reopening this summer, a week of uninterrupted dry weather is required as the sealant and pool deck coating require dry substrate for bonding and curing. After repairs, staff will require two weeks to fill and prepare the pool before it can be opened.

Kitsilano Pool is anticipated to open Saturday, July 30 for the August long weekend, and remain open through until the September long weekend (closing Monday, September 5).

We know we are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, rising sea levels, etc., however the storm event this past winter demonstrated climate change is happening faster than we anticipated. Staff are assessing the site to better understand how to protect it and other important infrastructure from the increasing effects of the climate emergency. We will also continue working with the City, other levels of government, and the Nations to improve climate resilience in the long term. Planning for this is underway, such as with our [West End Waterfront Master Plan](#) and [Kitsilano Beach Renewal Plan](#), where we are exploring different design solutions.

### **Grays Park – Lawn Bowling Clubhouse Deconstruction**

As shared in the July 19th, 2021 GM's Report, the existing lawn bowling clubhouse building within Grays Park will be deconstructed as it has been deemed unsafe for occupancy. Deconstruction is anticipated to begin early this summer and be completed by fall with the impacted area being returned to public use by spring 2023. Staff are currently exploring potential uses for the former building site and lawn bowling green.



The park's separate washroom building, picnic shelter and other park amenities will remain in place and continue to service the community.

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

Council to receive a report regarding [Resilient Neighborhood Grants: Summer Heat Preparedness](#) on June 21, 2022. Applications for these grants include community-led initiatives to create, improve and green outdoor cooling spaces, offer peer-based extreme-heat supports, and develop heat response plans.

Council to reconvene on June 22 for the remainder of the debate and decision for the [Broadway Plan](#).

**Board Briefing Memos and Emails: June 8 to June 20, 2022**

Date	Topic
June 15	<a href="#">Outdoor Lifeguarding at Trout Lake</a>
June 15	<a href="#">Marpole Community Centre &amp; Outdoor Pool Update</a>