



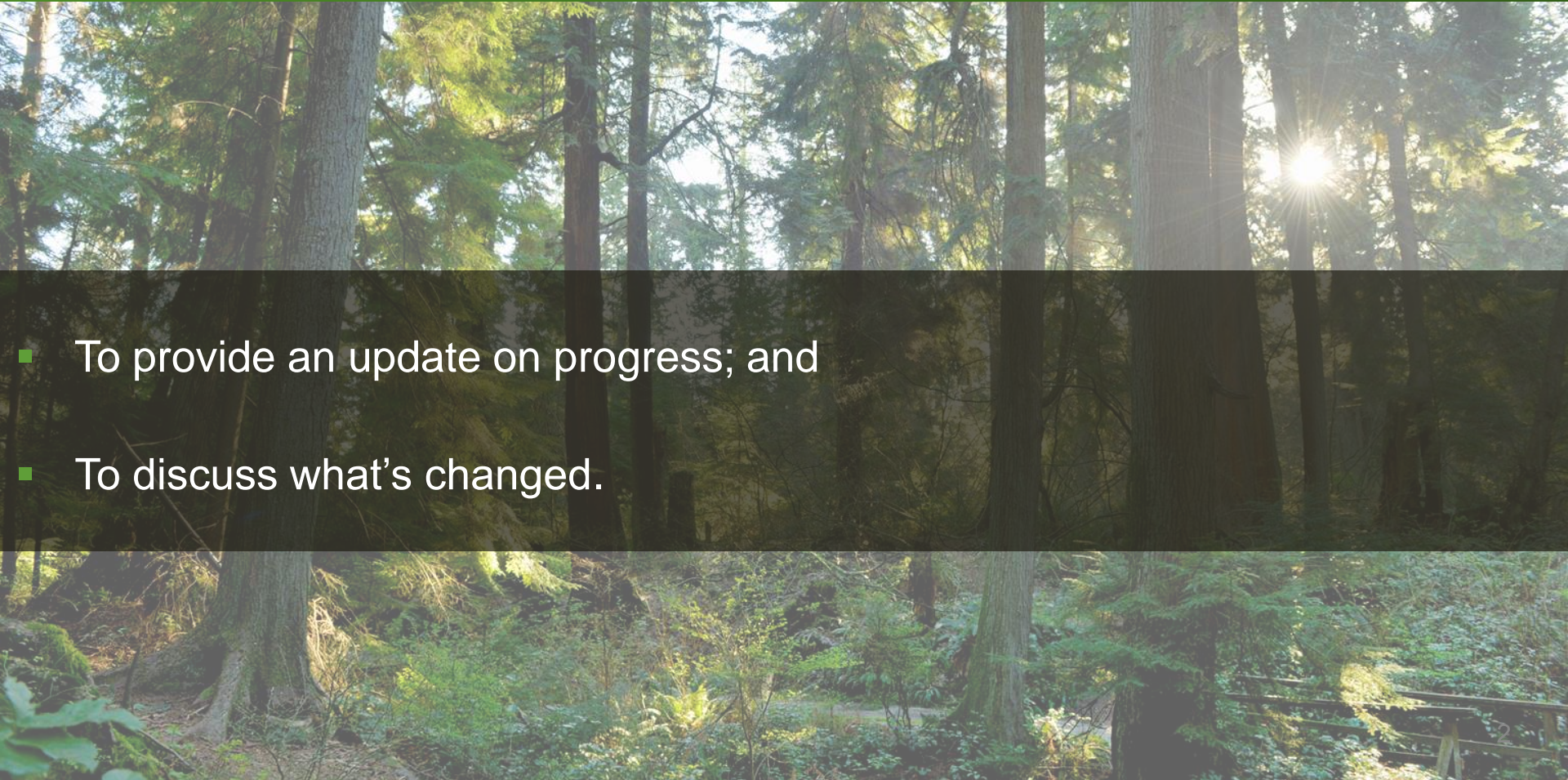
COLONIAL AUDIT

Update

Regular Park Board Meeting
Wednesday, July 20, 2022

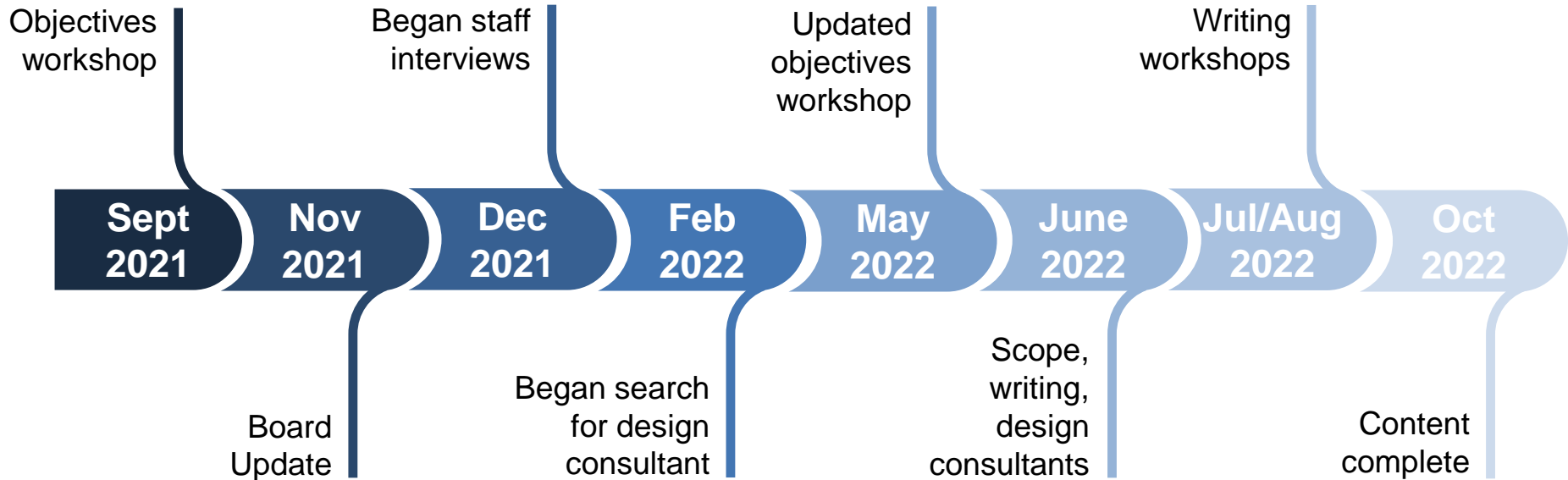


Outline/Purpose of Presentation



- To provide an update on progress; and
- To discuss what's changed.

Timeline



Team



Spencer



Caitlyn



Jess

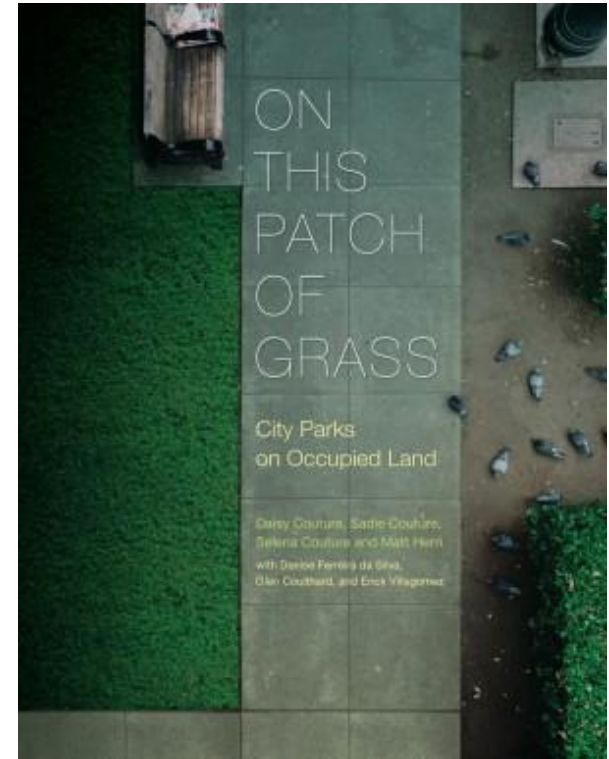


Rena

- Design Consultant:
Nahanee Creative
 - Look and feel
 - Communications strategy
 - Short video



- Subject matter expert advisor:
Dr. Selena Couture
 - Written two books about parks and colonialism:
 1. *Against the Current and Into the Light: Performing History and Land in Coast Salish Territories and Vancouver's Stanley Park*
 2. *On This Patch of Grass: City Parks on Occupied Land*
 - Sharing research, advising on structure



Source: Fernwood Publishing

Updated Directions

- Focus on Stanley Park
 - “Ground zero” of colonial impact
 - Contains examples applicable across Parks system



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- A photograph of a wooden bookshelf filled with books. The books are organized into several rows. The top row features books like 'Good Morning, New York' and 'The Wolf Conspiracy'. The middle row includes 'The Amber Spyglass' and 'The Knife'. The bottom row shows 'Scar Night', 'The God of Clocks', and 'The Running of the Bulls'. A small decorative object, possibly a skull, sits on the shelf between the top and middle rows.

- Reducing focus on “Data Driven”



- 21 interviews over 5 months
 - Across 7 departments
 - 106 pages of notes



Reflections on Process

- Resistance
- Trepidation
- Lack of capacity to support



- People have rants/things they want to get off their chests
 - E.g. roadblocks, inefficiencies, inherited decisions, inequities in the system



- Valuable questions included: *“At the end of the day, what are you setting out to accomplish in your role?”*






The background image shows a city street scene with tall apartment buildings. In the foreground, a large tree stands next to a construction site. A red banner for 'URBAN PARK' is visible, along with orange traffic cones and a yellow crane arm. A silver car is parked on the right side of the street.

*“Protect park
space”*

A wide-angle photograph of a park landscape. In the foreground, a large, well-maintained green lawn is bordered by a curved path. To the left of the path, there are vibrant flower beds with yellow, orange, and red blooms. The background is filled with a dense forest of tall evergreen trees, including spruce and fir. A small, white, weeping tree stands prominently on the right side of the lawn. The overall scene is a beautiful example of a clean, safe, and aesthetically pleasing park space.

***“Make clean, safe,
aesthetically pleasing
park space”***



***“Wellness
and
healing”***

Effects on Staff

- Expectation that the Audit will solve other department's stagnancy in addressing Reconciliation



Next Steps

- Decolonization Strategy
 - More external facing
 - Will set direction of the organization
 - Requires investment of time and resources into community engagement



Photo Credit Rena Soutar

- Applying audit learnings
 - Auditing as practice
 - Addressing resistance
 - Sharing responsibility
 - Addressing knowledge gaps
 - More groups like *Reconciliation in Recreation*
 - Address burden on Indigenous staff
 - Role of Reconciliation team



Reciprocity Event, 2020

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Next Steps – Audit Delivery



