



SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR 2023

Major Events

Park Board Committee Meeting
Monday, January 30, 2023



PURPOSE/OBJECTIVES

- Present and review the 2023 Calendar of Major Special Events
- Seek Board approval for the Calendar



BOARD AUTHORITY, POLICY & PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- Board authority:
 - Jurisdiction and control over all areas designated as permanent and temporary parks (Vancouver Charter)
- Policy:
 - Park Board compiles and reviews annual list of major special events
 - Board approval required for new events and/or events in variance of by-laws (Special Event Guidelines)
- Previous decisions:
 - May 2019 – moratorium approved on new commercial events/initiatives
 - December 2022 – moratorium lifted on new commercial events/initiatives

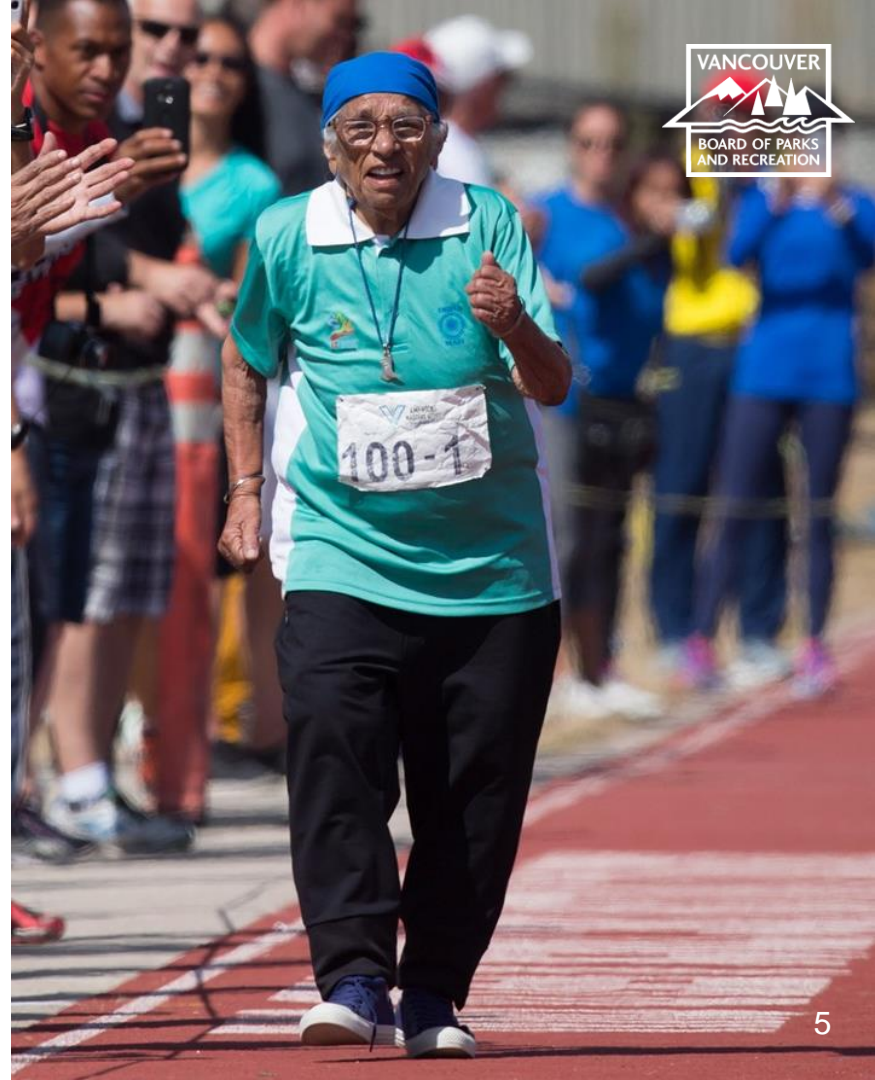
BACKGROUND | Events in Parks

- Parks are popular locations for entertainment and celebrations
- These activities fall within the Park Board's mandate
- Special events:
 - Activate public spaces, foster community connectedness, provide enriching cultural experiences
 - Deliver important economic benefits
- Park Board's role is largely that of a host (1,200+ events/year); also deliver several community events



BACKGROUND | Permit Process

- Designating use of park space is accomplished via the special event permit process
- Special Event Guidelines and current practices set out:
 - Permit application requirements
 - Define process for evaluation
 - Inform terms and conditions
- Events involving space outside Park Board jurisdiction are coordinated in partnership



BACKGROUND | Approval Process

- Park Board reviews and approves:
 - New major special events
 - Changes to existing events
- Major events defined:
 - Significant impacts on public access to park space
 - Neighbourhood impacts
 - Require approval of specific event features
- Events added to annual calendar pending successful execution and Board report back



2023 CALENDAR

- Includes events which confirmed intention to move forward in 2023 at time report prepared
- Calendar also includes approved annual special events without confirmed 2023 dates
- 2023 Calendar anticipates a significant recovery of major events over the coming year



2023 CALENDAR | Overview

- Contains 96 major special events
- Events distributed throughout the year and the Park Board network:
 - 7 Park Board organized/delivered events
 - 2 events at VanDusen Garden
 - 87 events across Vancouver parks
- Seasonal peak in spring/ summer; concentration in Stanley Park
- Calendar also sets out road closures in Stanley Park to host marquee events



2023 CALENDAR | Key Changes

- African Descent Festival:
 - Recurring event since 2015
 - Traditional location at Thornton Park disrupted due to construction
 - English Bay Beach selected as the 2023 festival location; August 12 & 13, 2023
 - Site has strong historical connection and significance to the Black community
 - Event activations at this location involve higher complexity and diligent execution
 - Park Board staff will work with organizers and partners to mitigate potential issues



2023 CALENDAR | Key Changes

- Carnaval del Sol:
 - Recurring event since 2008
 - Successfully held at Jonathan Rogers Park in 2022
 - New location required due to festival size and site logistics
 - 2023 event will be held at David Lam Park or Jericho Beach Park; July 14, 15 & 16
 - Both locations are recognized event sites
 - Park Board staff will work with organizers to ensure successful execution



2023 CALENDAR | Other Considerations

- Both event relocations will be subject to Board report back and review before being added to the annual Special Events Calendar
- Anticipated to occur in late 2023 or early 2024



CONCLUSION

- Major special events provide a range of public benefits
- Park Board staff have carefully considered requirements and potential impacts of the 2023 major events calendar
- Confident they can be executed successfully and as intended



RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the 2023 Calendar of Major Special Events as outlined in this report and attached as Appendix A.



