

Commissioner Board Meeting Enquiries

Date Received	Topic	Submitted By	Summary of request	Board Update
27-Feb-23	Childcare	Commissioner Digby	<p>Commissioner would like staff to provide a response to the following questions regarding commitments to a universal system of childcare and early learning ("childcare") that have been made by the federal and provincial governments, and have recently been supported by Vancouver City Council and the Vancouver School Board.</p> <p>Please provide a summary of current Park Board support/engagement of childcare in Vancouver, and any future plans. If you can, please include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does PB have statutory authority/obligations towards childcare? 2. What is the existing scope of childcare services we support, or have recently supported, at community centres and other park board managed locations. 3. Are there any existing proposals (or blue sky option lists) for new childcare services and/or facilities observing that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The new Vancouver Aquatic Centre has a potentially significant contribution for childcare spaces listed in the Capital Plan 2023-26. (Can childcare funding be used to support Community Centre renewal elsewhere in the city?) 4. Do Community Centres need special authorization under their JOAs to initiate childcare support? 5. Has there been any assessment done about whether childcare services are a good strategic fit for park board support? 	<p>1. Park Board does not have any specific obligations regarding childcare.</p> <p>2. Park Board is the "small p" partner where childcare occurs in Park Board buildings, however it is the Community Centre Associations (CCA's) and third parties (i.e. leasees) that are the operators. Similarly, Park Board staff work closely with City staff from Arts, Culture and Community Services (ACCS) as the City is the lead on childcare. Currently across the network there are: (1,472) Preschool spaces, (830) Out of School Care spaces and (91) Full Day Care spaces. There are also a number of park locations where park playgrounds are used by adjacent or childcare centres for outdoor play.</p> <p>3. Embedded in the Community Centre Renewal Strategy is a provision that that for any new or renewed facilities that childcare space is to be incorporated. https://vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/community-centre-strategy.aspx</p> <p>There are several current initiatives that PB staff are currently working on in collaboration with ACCS, working with our CCA partners, to increase childcare spaces. Examples include: funding for preschool conversion to all day care and licensing changes that would allow for higher enrolment for school age services.</p> <p>4. CCA's do not require any special authorization to increase and/or change childcare spaces as Childcare is under their purview. However, if a licensing requirement for expanded childcare (0-5yrs) that outdoor space is needed, then additional dedicated green space would need to be allocated.</p> <p>5. There has not been a formal assessment to date. The ACCS team has completed the Making Strides - Vancouver's Childcare Strategy that supports the need of expansion of childcare https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/making-strides-vancouvers-childcare-strategy-2022-overview.pdf</p>
27-Feb-23	Crosstown Elementary School - Playground	Commissioner Jensen	<p>Can staff review the fence at Crosstown School to consider making the playground space larger? Could this be achieved by working with engineering services to move the fence closer to pacific boulevard?</p>	<p>Park Board staff are presently reviewing this request with staff in the City's Engineering Department and will provide a further enquiry update when more information becomes available.</p>
27-Feb-23	Riley Park Farmers Market - Location	Commissioner Jensen	<p>Has staff worked with Riley Park Farmers market to consider other suitable locations, for example the top of QE park?</p>	<p>Answer in progress</p>
27-Feb-23	Tennis Canada	Commissioner Howard	<p>Can staff provide an update outlining discussions that have occurred with Tennis Canada and Tennis BC in relation to tennis court renewals? With the update to include proposed scope of work, timing and location of renewals.</p>	<p>Answer in progress</p>
27-Feb-23	Monument Donations	Commissioner Haer	<p>Enquired regarding the process to consider the donation of monuments to parks.</p>	<p>Answer in progress</p>
27-Feb-23	George Park - Washroom	Commissioner Haer	<p>Requested an update on the installation of a temporary washroom in George Park.</p>	<p>Answer in progress</p>