



Affirmation of Park Board as Living Wage Employer

Excerpted from Minutes April 8 & 9, 2024

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MOVED by Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

WHEREAS:

1. The Living Wage is a standardised calculation done annually by the [Living Wage for Families Campaign](#) and the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. It is the hourly amount that each of two parents, both working full time, need to earn in order to afford basic expenses like food, clothing, rent, and child care once government taxes, credits, deductions and subsidies are taken into account. It is a barebones budget that does not include debt repayment or savings for future plans. The Living Wage for Metro Vancouver is currently \$25.68;
2. In July 2015 Vancouver City Council unanimously passed a public council motion to become certified as a Living Wage Employer by the Living Wage for Families Campaign;
3. In January 2023 Vancouver City Council voted in a closed door meeting to end the City of Vancouver's certification as a Living Wage Employer;
4. There remain nearly 400 Living Wage Employers in BC who have committed to ensuring their direct and contracted staff earn a Living Wage. These include 16 local governments/public bodies (including municipalities, school boards and First Nation councils) who are certified living wage employers in BC;
5. The City of Vancouver was the only municipality not to recertify as a Living Wage Employer in 2023;
6. People who work for the Vancouver Park Board should be able to afford to live here, raise their kids here, and contribute to the life of their community. Paying the Living Wage to all direct staff and contractors will help create a fairer, healthier, more affordable city for all of us.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Board affirms its commitment to have the Vancouver Park Board re-certified as a living wage employer by the Living Wage for Families Campaign.
- B. THAT the Board directs staff to report back by Q3 2024 on the steps necessary to become re-certified as a Living Wage employer in 2025 and anticipated budgetary impacts of such re-certification.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Commissioners Haer, Howard and Viridi absent for the vote)