

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Regular Park Board Meeting Monday, January 20, 2025



Muncie Booth Retirement



- On November 27, Muncie Booth Golf Operator at McCleery Golf Course was honored for his 33year partnership with the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation.
- Muncie was a community leader and was instrumental in creating opportunities for underprivileged kids to access the game of golf.
- He represented Vancouver Parks Golf for over 30 years and has left a positive impact in the community.
- The Park Board and Golf Operations team would like to express their thanks to Muncie Booth for his contributions to the organization and community



2025 Polar Bear Swim



- 2025 marks the 105th anniversary of the Polar Bear Swim at English Bay
- Attendance records broken with an estimated 28,000 attendees and 13,265 registered participants.
- Event enhanced by sponsorships from Destination Vancouver, Vancouver Hotel Destination Association, Sleemans, West End BIA and Native shoes.
- New features included a licensed polar 'beer' lounge and costume contest.



VanDusen Festival of Lights 2024





- The VanDusen Festival of Lights celebrated its 40th anniversary
- New lighting displays included an interactive mycelium installation, salmon run and forest floor, inspired by BC's Great Bear Rainforest
- Conde Nast Traveller included Festival of Lights as one of the world's best holiday light displays in the world for 2nd year in a row
- Wet weather and shorter event run contributed to 30% decrease in visitation
- Despite lower attendance, many accolades were received from the public on the new lighting elements

Bloedel Conservatory Pathway Reconsctruction



- Bloedel Conservatory reopened its doors to the public on January 4, 2025, following a 2-month pathway reconstruction project
- Upgrades include expanded pathway access and smoother levelled surfaces to improve accessibility
- 900 new basalt flagstones installed within 2700 sq ft of pathways



Council Items related to Parks & Recreation



- Council to receive a report on January 21, 2025, titled "Local Government By-election 2025", which would approve the appointment of the City Clerk at the Chief Election officer for the conduct of a by-election to fill two vacancies on Vancouver City Council arising from Councillor resignations.
- Council to receive a report for information on January 22, 2025, titled "<u>Contract Award for Tree Removal and Associated Services in Stanley Park</u>" regarding the change order with a value of \$3 million awarded by the Bid Committee
- Council to consider a motion on January 22, 2025, titled "<u>Effective Water Use in the City of Vancouver</u>", which would direct staff to report back on opportunities to reduce water usage and increase the installation of water meters throughout Vancouver.

Board Briefing Memos and Emails: December 9 to January 20



Date	Topic
December 18	Stanley Park Seawall
December 20	Stanley Park Train Update
January 6	Commissioner Liaison Appointments

