



# SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR 2025

## Major Events

Park Board Committee Meeting  
Monday, February 3, 2025



## PURPOSE/OBJECTIVES

- Present and review the 2025 Calendar of Major Special Events
- Seek Board approval for the Calendar



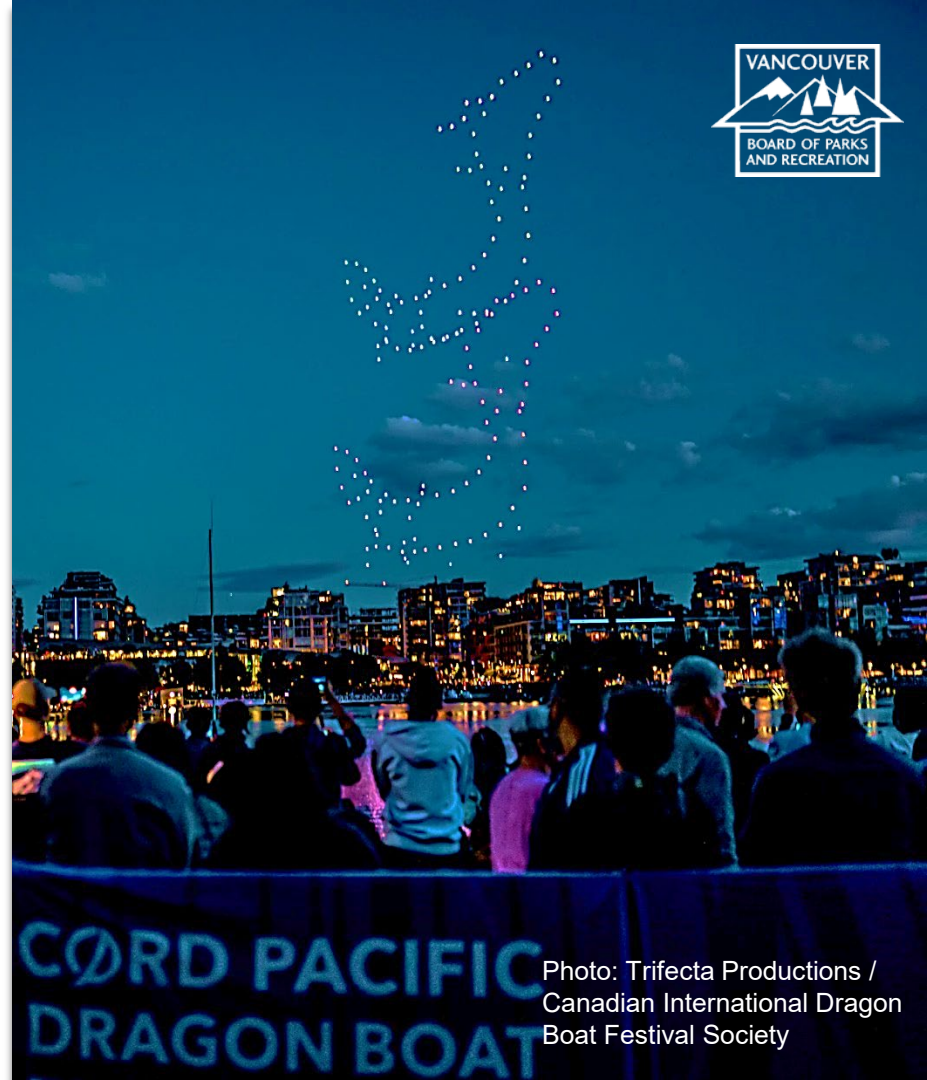
# BOARD AUTHORITY, POLICY & PREVIOUS DECISIONS



- **Board authority:**
  - Jurisdiction and control over all areas designated as permanent and temporary parks (Vancouver Charter)
  
- **Policy:**
  - Park Board reviews annual list of major special events
  - Board approval required for new events and/or events in variance of bylaws (Special Event Guidelines)
  
- **Previous decisions:**
  - May 2019 – moratorium approved on new commercial events/activations
  - December 2022 – moratorium lifted on new commercial events/activations
  - January 2023 – Think Big Revenue Strategy motion passed

## 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 (1,500+ events/year)



## BACKGROUND | Permit Process

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



Photo: Vancouver Fireworks Festival Society

## 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



Photo: Vancouver Folk Festival

## 2025 CALENDAR | Overview

- Includes events which confirmed intention to move forward in 2025 at time report was prepared
- Calendar also includes approved annual special events without confirmed 2025 dates
- 2025 Calendar anticipates the return of majority of annual major events and robust season



Photo: Amber Pacific Studios

## 2025 CALENDAR | Overview

- Contains 104 major special events
- Events distributed throughout the year and the Park Board network:
  - 6 Park Board organized/delivered events
  - 2 events at VanDusen Garden
  - 96 events across Vancouver parks
- Seasonal peak in spring/summer; concentration in Stanley Park, downtown and waterfront parks
- Calendar also lists road closures in Stanley Park to host marquee events



Photo: Alex Trujillo



## 2025 CALENDAR | Financial Considerations

- Financial terms and conditions will be finalized in accordance with the Park Board's annual Fees & Charges framework
- All expenses related to third party events production and delivery will be covered by the organizers; there will be no cost to the Park Board
- All expenses related to the delivery of Park Board organized events will be funded through the 2025 operating budget and supported by corporate sponsorship where available



Photo: Renata Calderón

## SUMMARY

- Major special events provide a range of public benefits
- Park Board staff have carefully considered requirements and potential impacts of the 2025 major events calendar
- Confident events can be executed successfully and as intended



Photo: Tina Chin Photography & Dave Patterson Photography

## RECOMMENDATION



THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the Special Events Calendar 2025 – Major Events as outlined in this report and attached as Appendix A.

