



## BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**MARCH 31, 2025**

A Committee meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation was held on Monday, March 31, 2025, at 6:49 pm, in the Boardroom at the Park Board Office, and via videoconference.

**PRESENT:**

Commissioner Scott Jensen, Chair  
Commissioner Brennan Bastyovanszky  
Commissioner Laura Christensen  
Commissioner Tom Digby, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Angela Haer  
Commissioner Marie-Claire Howard  
Commissioner Jas Virdi

**GENERAL MANAGER'S  
OFFICE:**

Steve Jackson, General Manager  
Jessica Kulchyski, Manager, Executive Office and Board Relations  
Carol Lee, Meeting Clerk  
Victoria Tyers, Board Support and Meeting Assistant

*\* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.*

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

### Motion to Suspend the Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Haer  
SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

THAT the Vancouver Park Board suspend the rules to reduce the length of time permitted for speakers from five minutes to three minutes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#### 1. Board Committee Meeting – March 10, 2025

MOVED by Commissioner Digby  
SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Minutes of the Board Committee meeting on March 10, 2025, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Bastovanszky advised that today is the annual International Transgender Day of Visibility and congratulated Commissioner Tom Digby who is a candidate in the April 28, 2025 general federal election.

Commissioner Digby reported that he has sent the report of the City of Vancouver Integrity Commissioner regarding a breach of the Code of Conduct to the BC Privacy Commissioner, requesting an investigation into the use of the Signal app which does not enable the retention of records in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPPA) by all municipal elected officials in BC.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications related to the Vancouver Aquatic Centre Renewal – Report Back were received via email or the [Contact Park Board Commissioners](#) web form:

- One in support
- 34 opposed.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **1. Vancouver Aquatic Centre Renewal – Report Back**

The General Manager introduced the item. The Planner III, Strategic Initiatives, along with Ted Watson, Consultant, provided a presentation on the Vancouver Aquatic Center (VAC) renewal.

Following the presentation, consultants and staff responded to questions related to:

- The process to be followed to expand the existing footprint of the VAC
- Alternate swim facilities to be utilized during the construction of the VAC renewal
- Arrangements will be made for sports clubs who require the use of a 50 metre pool to utilize Hillcrest Community Centre
- The risks of keeping the VAC open in its current state.

### **Recess**

The meeting recessed at 7:59 pm and reconvened at 8:01 pm.

The Committee heard from 17 speakers, of which two spoke in support of the recommendation and 15 spoke in opposition to the recommendation.

### **Recess**

The meeting recessed at 9:04 pm and reconvened at 9:14 pm.

## **Main Motion**

MOVED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to proceed with the February 24 ,2025 recommended program, as presented in the report titled, [Vancouver Aquatic Centre Renewal – Recommended Program](#); and
- B. FURTHER THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve a Capital Plan reallocation of \$7,600,000 from the West End Waterfront Parks Phase 1 Implementation Project.

## **Amendment to the Main Motion**

MOVED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

That Item A be replaced with Items A and B, as follows, and subsequent items be renumbered:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to submit a request to the Province to expand the footprint to accommodate a 50-metre pool;
- B. FURTHER THAT the Vancouver Park Board request to City Council for additional funding be secured to deliver an aquatic centre with a 50-metre training pool.

DEFEATED

*In Favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Haer, Viridi*

*Opposed: Commissioners Christensen, Digby, Howard, Jensen*

## **Amendment to the Main Motion**

MOVED by Commissioner Christensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

That Items C to E be added as follows:

- C. THAT the Vancouver Park Board affirm its commitment to providing a 50 metre aquatic facility within Vancouver;
- D. THAT, as the 2019 VanSplash recommendations do not reflect current state, the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to update the “Recommendations for Service Delivery” section of VanSplash, including a 25-year vision, to reflect the current state of the Park Board aquatic inventory, studies to-date, and alignment with other strategies/plans, including the Community Centre Strategy renewal prioritization update; and

- E. FURTHER THAT this update shall include provision for a 50 metre pool within the next 10 years.

**Amendment to the Amendment**

MOVED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky  
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT Item E be replaced, as follows:

- E. FURTHER THAT should the Kitsilano Pool not require a capital plebiscite question, that Park Board request to Council that another aquatic center be on the ballot in its place.

DEFEATED

*In Favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Haer*

*Opposed: Commissioners Christensen, Digby, Howard, Jensen, Virdi*

**Amendment to the Amendment**

MOVED by Commissioner Virdi  
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT Item F be added, as follows:

- F. That the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to report back on the feasibility of adding a temporary pool basin to the VAC to accommodate swimmers displaced from the VAC during its renewal.

CARRIED

*In Favour: Commissioners Haer, Howard, Virdi*

*Opposed: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Jensen*

*Abstained: Commissioners Christensen, Digby*

**Motion to Extend**

MOVED by Commissioner Digby  
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT the meeting be extended to the conclusion of the March 31, 2025 Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Question on the Amendment, as Amended**

THAT Items C to F be added, as follows:

- C. THAT the Vancouver Park Board affirm its commitment to providing a 50 metre aquatic facility within Vancouver;

- D. THAT, as the 2019 VanSplash recommendations do not reflect current state, the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to update the "Recommendations for Service Delivery" section of VanSplash, including a 25-year vision, to reflect the current state of the Park Board aquatic inventory, studies to-date, and alignment with other strategies/plans, including the Community Centre Strategy renewal prioritization update; and
- E. FURTHER THAT this update shall include provision for a 50 metre pool within the next 10 years.
- F. That the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to report back on the feasibility of adding a temporary pool basin to the VAC to accommodate swimmers displaced from the VAC during its renewal.

CARRIED

*In Favour: Commissioners Christensen, Digby, Jensen, Viridi*

*Abstained: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Haer, Howard*

### **Amendment to the Main Motion**

MOVED by Commissioner Digby

THAT Item D be replaced, as follows, and subsequent items be renumbered:

- D. That the foregoing be approved subject to City Council's final decision on whether additional funds, to be quantified but estimated at between \$50 to \$100 million, can be made available to expand the facility footprint to include a 50 metre competition size pool, and to complete necessary archeological investigations, soil remediation, and provincial re-zoning requirements without putting at risk the target date to begin construction in Q4/2026.

The Chair ruled that the amendment was out of order.

### **Challenge to the Chair**

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

THAT the ruling of the Chair be sustained.

CARRIED

*In Favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Haer, Jensen, Viridi*

*Opposed: Commissioner Digby*

*Abstained: Commissioner Howard*

### Question on the Main Motion, as Amended

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to proceed with the February 24 ,2025 recommended program, as presented in the report titled, [Vancouver Aquatic Centre Renewal – Recommended Program](#);
- B. FURTHER THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve a Capital Plan reallocation of \$7,600,000 from the West End Waterfront Parks Phase 1 Implementation Project;
- C. THAT the Vancouver Park Board affirm its commitment to providing a 50 metre aquatic facility within Vancouver;
- D. THAT, as the 2019 VanSplash recommendations do not reflect current state, the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to update the “Recommendations for Service Delivery” section of VanSplash, including a 25-year vision, to reflect the current state of the Park Board aquatic inventory, studies to-date, and alignment with other strategies/plans, including the Community Centre Strategy renewal prioritization update;
- E. FURTHER THAT this update shall include provision for a 50 metre pool within the next 10 years; and
- F. That the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to report back on the feasibility of adding a temporary pool basin to the VAC to accommodate swimmers displaced from the Vancouver Aquatic Centre during its renewal.

CARRIED

*In Favour: Commissioners Christensen, Digby, Howard, Jensen, Viridi*

*Abstained: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Haer*

The Committee meeting adjourned at 10:03 pm.

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Steve Jackson  
General Manager

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Commissioner Scott Jensen  
Chair