



# Park Board's 2025 Indigenous Peoples' Month & Day Activities

Regular Park Board Meeting  
Tuesday, September 16, 2025



**National Indigenous History Month** is celebrated every June in Canada to honour the rich history, heritage, resilience and diverse cultures of the First Nations, Inuit, and Metis peoples.

This presentation showcases the work Park Board and partners did to deliver educational programming and celebrations to the public for National Indigenous History Month.







# RECONCILIATION MISSION, VISION & VALUES

## MISSION

### Decolonize the Vancouver Park Board

The Park Board recognizes the institution's colonial history and upholds the Board's commitment to the 11 Reconciliation Strategies.

## VISION

An evolvable organization in which every employee and Commissioner recognizes the humanity in themselves by recognizing and respecting the humanity of First Peoples; and an organization that sets a worldwide example in treating Reconciliation as a decolonization process.

## VALUES

These values are your compass to help guide the way you work, interact with colleagues, external partners and the public.



### PATIENCE

Colonialism didn't happen overnight. Untangling it takes time. We will pace ourselves for the marathon, not the sprint. We will adjust deadlines to ensure things are done well and respectfully.



### CLARITY

We will focus on how colonialism functions to exclude, not on how to include.



### PRAGMATISM

All staff are inheriting a system not of our making. The Park Board Reconciliation Team (PBRT) is here to assist colleagues with examining the ways colonialism continues to damage others. Blame is unproductive.



### LEADERSHIP

We will nurture and sustain each other, demonstrating Indigenous principles in the way we function as a team.



### LEARNING

We consent to learn in public. We will make mistakes. We will sit with those mistakes, be transparent about them, and use them both to learn and to teach. Our mistakes will be diagnostic tools.

- Honour the rich cultures and histories of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples
- Build a Park Board-wide leadership team to collaborate on National Indigenous History Month work
- Provide educational opportunities for staff & the public focused on local Indigenous Culture
- Give back to the Indigenous community
- Foster connection in community and highlight National Indigenous History Month initiatives across the Parks & Recreation system



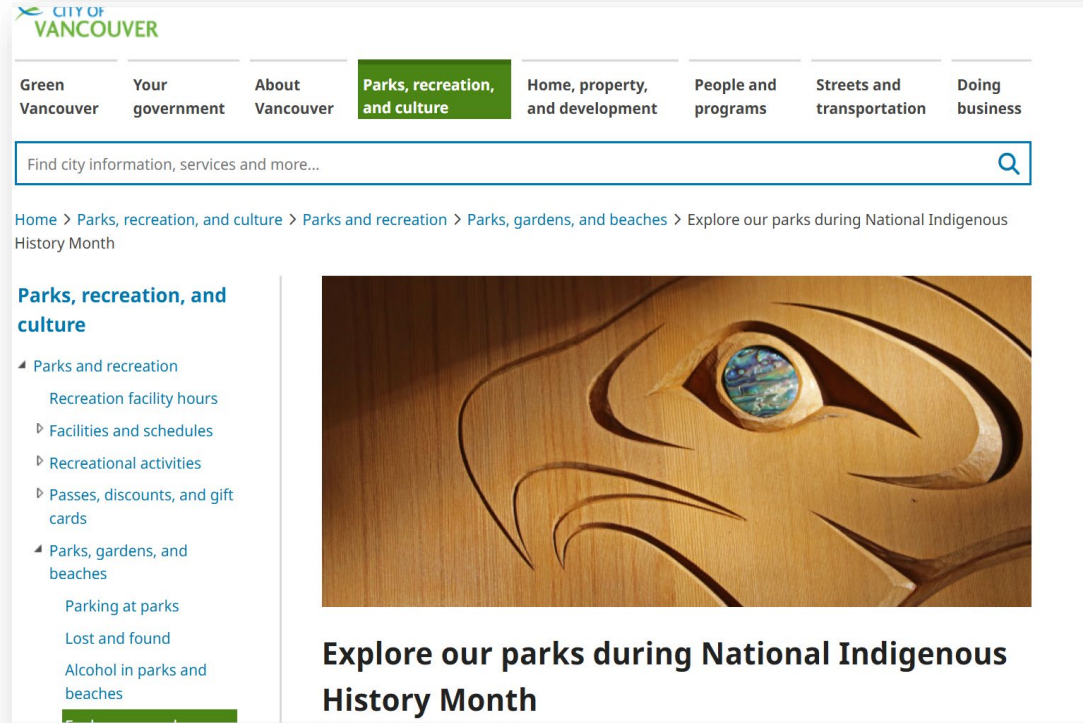




- Park Board and partners hosted and supported 24 events and initiatives across the Parks & Recreation system
- Developed a new CoV webpage for the NIHM Park Board initiatives & events

## Events included:

- 1 city-wide arts event
- 17 events and activations in community centres, in parks and on city streets
- 3 Recreation Sport and Wellness initiatives
- 1 staff education program
- Flags in Morton Park



The screenshot shows the City of Vancouver website. The navigation bar includes links for Green Vancouver, Your government, About Vancouver, Parks, recreation, and culture (highlighted), Home, property, and development, People and programs, Streets and transportation, and Doing business. A search bar is located below the navigation bar. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail: Home > Parks, recreation, and culture > Parks and recreation > Parks, gardens, and beaches > Explore our parks during National Indigenous History Month. Below the breadcrumb trail, the section is titled "Parks, recreation, and culture". A left sidebar lists various links under "Parks and recreation" and "Parks, gardens, and beaches". The main content area displays a large image of a wooden carving of a person's face, with a small globe integrated into the eye. Below the image, the text reads: "Explore our parks during National Indigenous History Month".

CITY OF VANCOUVER

Green Vancouver | Your government | About Vancouver | **Parks, recreation, and culture** | Home, property, and development | People and programs | Streets and transportation | Doing business

Find city information, services and more...

Home > Parks, recreation, and culture > Parks and recreation > Parks, gardens, and beaches > Explore our parks during National Indigenous History Month

**Parks, recreation, and culture**

- ▾ Parks and recreation
  - Recreation facility hours
  - Facilities and schedules
  - Recreational activities
  - Passes, discounts, and gift cards
- ▾ Parks, gardens, and beaches
  - Parking at parks
  - Lost and found
  - Alcohol in parks and beaches

**Explore our parks during National Indigenous History Month**

# NIHM Highlights: Indigenous Park Art Hunt (June 1-30)

The 21 Instagram stories had 15,564 total views during the month.

- 1**  **ART HUNT a):**  
Hint: Find the trio of towering portals that in you to walk through Coast Salish teachings where ancestors, spirits, and stories live on
- 2**  **ART HUNT b):**  
Hint: You're looking for a pole rooted in memory, community, and carved with deep love — steps away from where Rose once ca
- 3**  **ART HUNT c):**  
Hint: Seek out the gathering of sea and land creatures that seem to resting, and listening — where joy, story, and imagination come to
- 3**  **ART HUNT d):**  
Hint: In a park full of playful shapes and so look up to find a rainbow of stories fluttering — a colourful welcome held in six arms of s
- 4**  **ART HUNT e):**  
Hint: Step inside a 'pleasant' place where a community centre and Look up to find this artwork shining down on you, framed in glass.
- 5**  **ART HUNT f):**  
Hint: Seek the polished steel leaf that catches the sky and reflects look for the star within a familiar Canadian symbol renowned for its
- 6**  **ART HUNT g):**  
Hint: Look for a teal wave of stories flowing along a wall between the school and playground — where the cycles of salmon, plants, and people meet in one powerful mural.
- 7**  **ART HUNT h):**  
Hint: Follow the scent of cedar and the pulse of creativity to a place where stories are shaped by hand, and a fierce protector guards the threshold.
-  **ART HUNT i):**  
Hint: Seek the space where one heart and one mind meet, and where a pole stands in welcome just west of the rink.





# National Indigenous People's Day Celebration on June 21 at Main and Hastings



- A full day of ceremony, performances, feasting and community connection presented by Carnegie Community Centre and the City of Vancouver with support from Park Board Urban Park Activation for the last three years.
- Over 20 presenters and 5,000 attendees.



## Art in Andy Livingstone Park

- Urban Park Activation's Art in the Park with Elders Les Nelson and Marr Dorval and current artists in residence BigTop Art Tent takes place weekly from June to September
- Launch at NIPD introduces this popular annual artist's project to the neighbourhood





- Free Indigenous swim at New Brighton Pool (June 25)
- Free Indigenous Skate at Hillcrest Community Centre (June 27)
- 200 Recreation drop-in passes gifted to Indigenous organizations for community members



## Celebrations and events in Community Centres included:

- Film screenings
- Bannock Socials
- Diverse events and workshops sharing Indigenous Cultural Practices
- Indigenous Markets
- Community BBQs and more!





# NIPD and Solstice Celebration at Moberly Arts and Culture Centre June 21



A day of dancing, feasting,  
celebration and ceremony at  
Moberly Arts & Culture Centre  
in partnership with South  
Vancouver Neighbourhood  
House and Nisga'a Two-  
Spirit knowledge keeper  
Travis Angus

Dawn Cranmer from the Namgis Nation of Alert Bay B.C. led a Traditional Medicine Team Workshop on June 24 where participants sampled traditional medicine teas and learned about the properties of different medicines.





Every Child Matters & Survivors  
flags flown at Morton Park for  
the month of June.





- Staff education on the Park Board's 11 Reconciliation Strategies
  - Weekly emails to staff
  - Highlighted and expanded on 1 strategy weekly
  - Goal was to make the 11 Reconciliation Strategies more relatable/accessible to staff and their work



- Increase interdepartmental leadership and involvement
- Grow existing projects and work to increase public and staff participation
- Grow opportunities to benefit Indigenous organizations and individuals

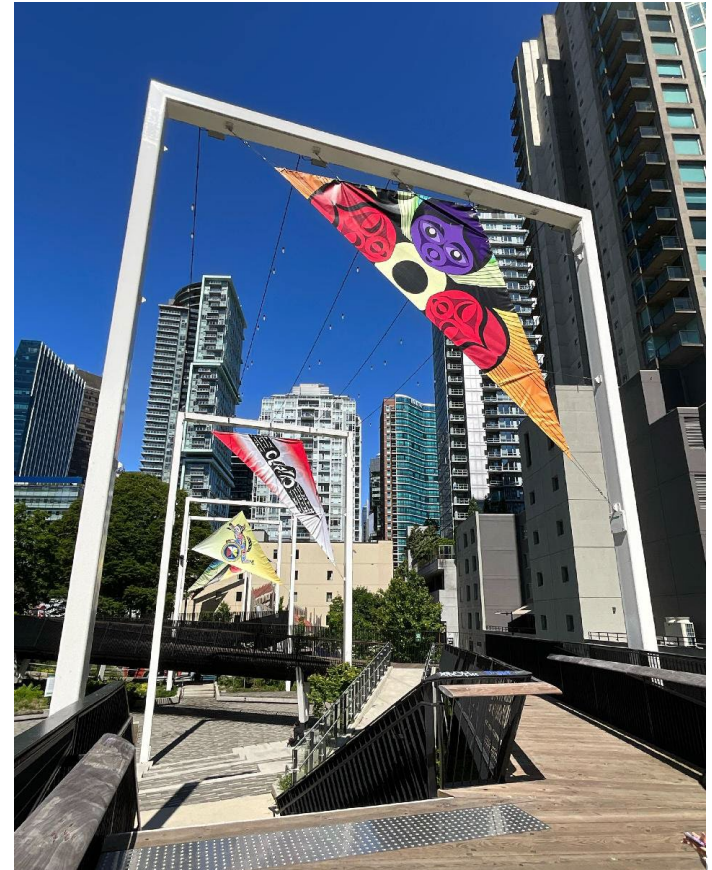


Photo credit: Josephine Daumich

