



COMMISSIONER ENQUIRIES – SUMMARY REPORT

Date Received	Topic	Submitted By	Summary of request	Board Update
June 2, 2025	Revitalize the Park Board Motion - Update	Commissioner Bastyovanszky	In light of the City's pause on Park Board transition planning, can staff provide a progress update on the implementation of the September 23, 2024, motion titled "Revitalizing the Park Board": https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2024/20240923/DECISION-RevitalizingParkBoard-20240923.pdf	Answer in progress.
June 16, 2025	RFP Process - Park Board Booking Software	Commissioner Virdi	How was the RFP process followed for selecting the company to make software for the park board booking system? Were Canadian vendors approached? Did Canadian vendors apply? I am aware of some local companies that do this. Were they considered? Was there a company selected already?	The open RFP for Recreation software has closed and staff are currently evaluating bids. All qualified bidders were able to apply. A report is expected to come to the Board on the recommendations.
October 6, 2025	Review of Trusts, Bequests and Leases Pertaining to Vancouver Parks Motion - Update	Commissioner Bastyovanszky	When is the report back on the motion re: Review of Trusts, Bequests and Leases Pertaining to Vancouver Parks scheduled to come back to the Board?	Answer in progress.

October 20, 2025	WECC Parking Lot - Update	Commissioner Bastyovanszky	The parking lot at the West End Community Centre remains closed and an update is required on when it is scheduled to be repaired and opened, especially given that the renewal has been put on hold indefinitely	<p>The parkade at West End Community Centre is closed to all vehicle traffic. To mitigate impact to Community Centre operations, staff have worked to secure additional accessible street parking (located on Haro Street), and are currently working with Engineering to explore the feasibility of adding a drop-off location.</p> <p>The long-term solution requires a Capital investment which will be requested in the upcoming 2027-2030 Capital plan process that will be brought to Park Board and Council with the capital plan considerations.</p>
November 3, 2025	Information on Indigenous Land Claims and Park Board Managed Lands	Commissioner Haer	<p>Given the significant public interest following the recent Cowichan Tribes v. Attorney General of Canada ruling, and the questions it has raised about land tenure, property rights, and municipal assets in British Columbia, could staff please provide information identifying whether any Park Board managed lands, facilities, or leases are currently subject to claims, negotiations, or legal challenges by Indigenous groups, and outlining how these matters are being monitored and reported.</p> <p>My intent is to ensure that the Park Board is proactive in protecting taxpayer owned assets and transparent in communicating with the public about any potential implications for Park Board properties and community spaces, while continuing to uphold reconciliation commitments in a clear, legally consistent, and fiscally responsible manner.</p>	Answer in progress.

November 3, 2025	Question on Voting Procedures and Interpretations of Abstentions in Park Board Decisions	Commissioner Haer	<p>I'm concerned regarding an apparent contradiction between the Vancouver Charter and the Park Board's procedural by-laws as it pertains to how abstentions were treated in the recent vote concerning the \$25 seasonal parking fee at VanDusen Gardens during the Festival of Lights.</p> <p>The official minutes indicate that an abstention was counted as an affirmative vote, resulting in the motion being declared carried on a tie. However, Section 145 of the Vancouver Charter on voting and procedures only permits that interpretation where it is expressly defined in a governing by-law.</p> <p>The Vancouver Park Board has historically conducted its meetings under Robert's Rules of Order and its own procedural by-laws, both of which establish that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An abstention is not a vote; and• A tie vote defeats the motion, because a majority has not been achieved. <p>This creates a genuine procedural ambiguity between the Charter's interpretation clause and the Board's established parliamentary practice.</p>	<p>The Park Board Procedure By-law is clear that:</p> <p>Abstaining from Vote 9.6 A Commissioner present at the meeting at the time of the vote who abstains from voting is deemed to have voted in the affirmative, as per Section 145.1(3) of the Vancouver Charter.</p> <p>Requirement to Pass 9.7 Passage of a main motion or amendment requires the affirmative vote of a majority of Commissioners present at the meeting, unless a provision of the Vancouver Charter or the Procedure By-law requires a greater majority, in which case such provision shall govern.</p> <p>The vote for the Park Board Parking Strategy - Report Back was as follows: support: 2 oppose: 2 abstain: 3</p> <p>The motion passed. The decision has been reviewed by the PB clerk and the City Clerk. Staff reviewed a number of past decisions with similar voting patterns and can confirm that this procedure guidance has been applied consistently in all cases.</p>
November 3, 2025	Question on Implications of Cowichan Tribes v. Canada Decision for Park Board Lands & Acknowledgement Practices	Commissioner Haer	<p>In light of the recent B.C. Supreme Court ruling involving the Cowichan Tribes and the Attorney General of Canada, and the public concern about its potential implications for private and public land security, including family homes and municipal assets, I believe it is prudent that we proceed with both clarity and transparency.</p> <p>Therefore I respectfully request that staff provide information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• any potential impacts of this ruling or related appeals on Park Board managed lands and leases; and• whether current acknowledgement practices have any legal or constitutional implications regarding land certainty or Crown sovereignty. <p>My intent is not to question reconciliation, but to ensure we are informed, transparent, and acting in the best interests of all Vancouver residents within our constitutional framework.</p>	<p>Answer in progress.</p>