



## **Beach Safety and Marine Protection**

*The below is for information only. Minutes contain the official record of Board decisions.*

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### *Final motion*

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation request that Transport Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, the Vancouver Police Department Marine Unit, and other relevant agencies review opportunities to improve swimmer safety, recreational marine safety, and marine wildlife protection adjacent to Vancouver beaches and park waters;
- B. THAT the Board advocate for:
  - i. enhanced swim safety buoys and protected swimming boundary infrastructure adjacent to Vancouver beaches, including Sunset Beach and Spanish Banks as areas of priority;
  - ii. expanded low-speed or no-wake measures adjacent to heavily used swimming beaches and recreational waterfront areas;
  - iii. clear and standardized public guidance regarding minimum distances from swimming beaches and whales, including consideration of 300m setbacks from swimming beaches and 400m setbacks from whales for high-speed personal watercraft;
  - iv. improved public signage, maps, and awareness information regarding whale protection, swimming areas, low-speed zones, and recreational marine safety at beaches, marinas, seawalls, and vessel launch locations;
  - v. review of recreational vessel operator education, certification, and safety awareness measures relating to marine wildlife protection and urban recreational waterways;
  - vi. consideration of whether additional operating conditions, exclusion areas, or restrictions are appropriate for high-speed personal watercraft in heavily used urban recreational waters; and
  - vii. improved interagency coordination, prevention, and timely response regarding abandoned, grounded, or derelict vessels affecting Vancouver beaches and nearshore recreational waters;
- C. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation express its willingness to support the placement of marine safety signage, maps, and whale awareness information at appropriate beaches, parks, seawalls, and waterfront access points under Park Board jurisdiction; and
- D. THAT the Chair of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation communicate this request to the relevant federal, port, and marine authorities on behalf of the Board.



CARRIED

*In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Jensen, Haer*

*Opposed: Commissioners Digby, Howard, Viridi*