



August 21, 2026

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Director, Recreation Services
Director, Facilities Management and Operational Excellence (REFM)

SUBJECT : **Britannia Infrastructure Renewal & Pool Closure – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this joint memorandum from Real Estate and Facilities Management (REFM) and Vancouver Park Board staff is to provide additional information regarding the capital maintenance work being undertaken by REFM at Britannia Community Centre and the mitigating measures that were put in place to reduce community impact.

As part of the 2023–2026 Capital Plan Mid-Term Update, \$17.5 million was approved for capital maintenance projects at the Britannia site to address aging infrastructure, improve facility performance, and ensure these important community recreation facilities can continue serving children, youth, families and residents for years to come.

These upgrades represent an investment in the long-term health, recreation and wellbeing of the community by helping ensure Britannia remains a reliable and welcoming destination for swimming activities.

The Britannia Pool closure is associated with the significant capital renewal project being delivered by Real Estate and Facilities Management (REFM) as part of the broader \$17.5 million investment in the Britannia site. The work includes upgrades to critical mechanical, electrical, plumbing, pool, and building systems required to support the continued operation of the facility into the future. The anticipated pool closure period is from November 2026 to Fall 2027.

Allocation of Britannia Space

At the time Fall 2026 aquatic allocations were finalized, Park Board staff proceeded with allocating available pool space at Britannia in accordance with established processes and the information available at that time. As project planning advanced and construction schedules were confirmed, it became clear that a closure beginning in mid November would be required to safely undertake the capital renewal work.

Mitigating Factors

To minimize impacts on user groups, the closure timing to undertake the Capital Maintenance project was aligned with the annual refit period for Britannia Pool (November). As a result, the fall allocation period will experience relatively limited disruption. This approach avoided a closure during the middle of a major allocation cycle and helped reduce impacts on Fall 2026 programming.

Staff are currently reviewing capacity across the aquatic system and working directly with affected groups to identify opportunities at other facilities where feasible.



Looking ahead to Winter 2027 allocations beginning in January, access to available pool space will be determined through the recently adopted [Allocation Policy](#). The policy prioritizes community benefit and equitable access, with youth-serving organizations receiving significant consideration. As a youth-focused aquatic organization, the Canadian Dolphin Swim Club would be expected to score highly under the allocation framework and be prioritized for available pool space relative to lower-priority uses.

We recognize the challenges that aquatic user groups are facing due to reduced system capacity and are committed to working with organizations to maximize available access while ensuring fair and transparent allocation decisions.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S Kellock".

Steve Kellock (he/him)
Director, Recreation Services

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "C. Hughes".

Carrie Hughes (she/her)
Director, Facilities Management and
Operational Excellence

Copy to: PB Leadership Staff
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