

March 11, 2022

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Donnie Rosa - General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : **Champlain Heights Playground Upgrades – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on the progress of the playground upgrades at the Champlain Heights Community Centre, which are being undertaken as part of the Park Board's playground renewal program.

Neighbourhood Playground

In 2019, staff engaged the community and worked with representatives from the Champlain Heights Community Association (CHCA) to develop the concept design for a new larger playground to be constructed on the south side of the community centre, adjacent to an existing outdoor programming space (see Figure 1 below).

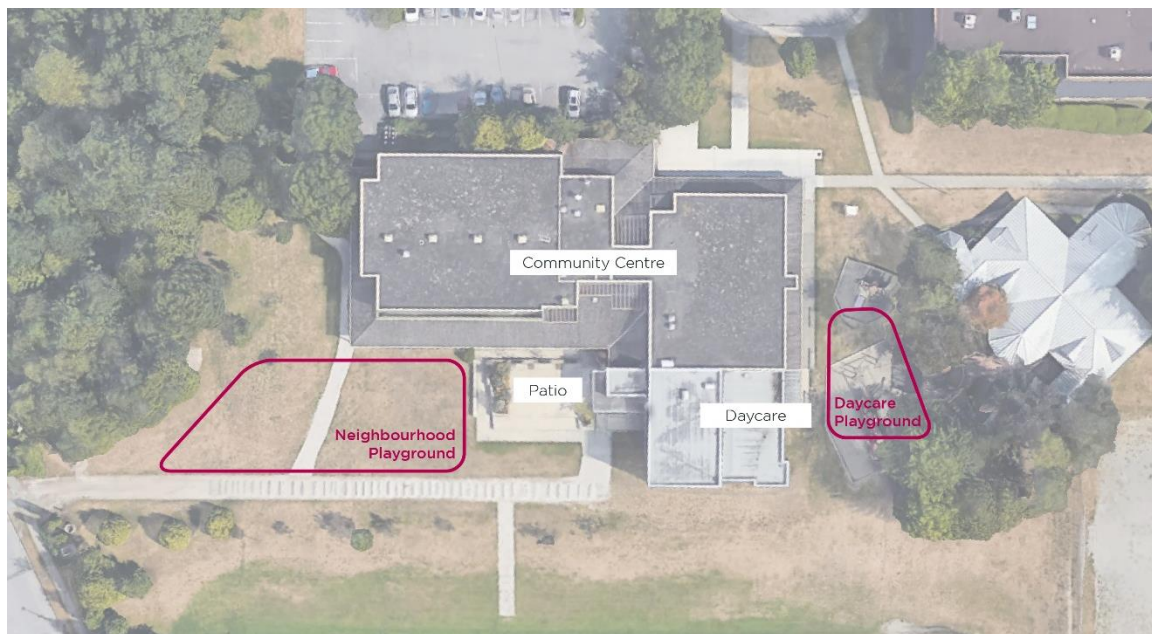


Figure 1: Champlain Heights Community Centre Playground Upgrades

The new playground design, which was approved by the CHCA in 2021, includes an array of play opportunities including embankment slides, play towers, water play, and a cooling mister for children to enjoy through the summer months. An expanded tree canopy and shade structures will also help to mitigate summer heat. The playground will be accessible, with rubberized surfacing and seating for children and caregivers.

The design team are currently finalizing the detailed design drawings.



Daycare Playground

Staff are also supporting the CHCA's request to replace equipment in the existing toddler playground (18 months – 5 years) located adjacent to the community centre daycare. Staff are aiding the CHCA in identifying play equipment suppliers, developing cost estimates, and coordinating the installation of the equipment with Park Operations staff.

The new playground equipment will be selected and purchased by the Association and will be maintained and managed by Park Board staff.

Next Steps

Staff expect that the neighbourhood playground project will be tendered this spring, and then anticipate seeking a Board decision on the contract award in summer 2022, with construction starting shortly afterwards (subject to approval). Pending current schedules, and excluding any unforeseen delays or disruptions, staff expect the project to be complete and open for use by Q1 2023.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Donnie Rosa". The signature is somewhat stylized and scribbled.

Donnie Rosa (*they/she*)

General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

/jt/amb/is/clc

Copy to: PB Leadership Team
Park Development
PB Communications