



October 16, 2020

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

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

SUBJECT : **Community Centre Strategy – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to brief you on the plans for developing a new Community Centre Strategy and to notify you of an upcoming posting for a Request for Proposals (RFP) to assemble the project team. This city-wide strategy will establish prioritization principles and processes for community centre renovations, additions, and renewals based on VanPlay service need objectives.

In 2001, the Park Board prepared a Community Centre Renewal Plan to prioritize renewal of community centres. The new Community Centre Strategy will update this document with an additional focus on equity and the optimum level of service to meet community needs. The process will rely heavily on our Community Centre Association (CCA) partners, recreation staff, and the community to ensure all perspectives are considered when determining both optimum service levels and priorities.

Specifically, the Community Centre Strategy will:

- Explore the current state of the community centres by describing the current level of service (using factors such as services provided, capacity, demand and building condition);
- Conduct a current and future needs assessment (city-wide) to develop optimum level of service targets for community centres (targets can be met through new builds, retrofits and renewals and renovations);
- Propose a methodology based on an agreed set of principles for the prioritization of renewal, in collaboration with CCAs and supported through community and stakeholder engagement;
- Describe a process for renewal of individual community centres, including needs assessment, functional planning, and associated community, First Nations Rights Holders and stakeholder engagement;
- Identify and propose a plan approach for collection and management of data required to facilitate planning for individual centres.

As community centres are large-scale financial commitments in the City of Vancouver and Park Board capital plans and budgets, they need a comprehensive, city-wide and long-term approach to planning and budgeting for their renewal or new construction. As such, project work will be managed in order to inform preparation of the 2022-2026 Capital Plan and the 10 Year Capital Strategic Outlook. In addition, this long term service level planning is needed to ensure that Community Amenity Contributions can be leveraged appropriately and in a timely manner to ensure the City and Park Board keep pace with growth.



The Community Centre Strategy project will be managed by a Park Board Project Manager. A Working Group will be created primarily from the CCA All Presidents Group (CCA APG). This group will be extensively involved in creation of the strategy and will be engaged to work with the project team regularly throughout the project.

Work with the project team is expected to commence in November 2020, with Working Group meetings with CCA representatives to start in December. In Spring 2021, staff expect to present Working Group input, engagement results, and other updates and to seek Board feedback on draft recommendations. The final proposed strategy and report is then expected to be presented to the Board for consideration in Summer 2021.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Donnie Rosa
General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

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Copy to: PB Senior Leadership Team
PB Planning, Policy & Environment
PB Communications