



Park Board Meetings Code of Conduct

The City of Vancouver is committed to providing a work environment in which all individuals are treated with mutual respect and dignity. The City also recognizes that employees have the right to work in an environment that is free from harassment as prohibited by the BC Human Rights Code.

Conduct of the Public

As per Section 6 of the Park Board Procedure By-law, to ensure a respectful workplace for all present, members of the public attending Board meetings are asked to refrain from disruptive, disrespectful, or inappropriate behaviour. During a meeting, a member of the public must not:

- Address Commissioners without permission of the Chair;
- Approach the table of the Board during the sitting of the Board without permission of the Chair;
- Applaud or otherwise interrupt a speech or action of Commissioners or a Speaker addressing the Board; or
- Otherwise engage in improper conduct.

The Chair may expel a member of the public who engages in improper conduct, as per Sections 165.5 and 165.7 of the Vancouver Charter

Speaking at a Park Board Meeting

As per Section 15 of the Park Board Procedure By-law, speakers must maintain a respectful dialogue when communicating with staff and elected officials and refrain from behaviour that can be interpreted as offensive, malicious, intimidating, ostracizing, insulting, or humiliating, including but not limited to:

- Public ridicule or humiliation;
- Verbal or written abuse or threats;
- Insulting, derogatory, or demeaning comments, jokes, or gestures;
- Profanity or violent language;
- Interference with or vandalizing personal property; and
- Aggressive or threatening gestures.

Additionally, the following rules apply:

- requests to speak to a recommendation before the Board must be received by noon of the day of the meeting;
- Speakers may not speak for more than five minutes in total or more than once, unless the time has been varied by the Board (requires two-thirds support);
- Speakers shall not speak until recognized by the Chair;
- Speakers must state their name and organization they represent (if applicable);
- Commissioners may only ask Speakers questions to clarify information they presented.



Human Rights and Harassment

Harassment of staff and elected officials by members of the public is also prohibited. This form of discrimination is defined as behaviour that a reasonable person would find unwelcome, has a negative impact on the workplace, and is related to any of the characteristics listed as prohibited grounds of discrimination in the BC Human Rights Code:

- Age
- Ancestry
- Colour
- Criminal Offence / Summary Conviction
- Family Status
- Gender Identity or Expression
- Marital Status
- Physical or Mental Disability
- Place of Origin
- Political Belief
- Race
- Religion
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation