



## VANCOUVER PARK BOARD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>VanDusen Botanical Garden &amp; Bloedel Conservatory First Nations, Inuit &amp; Metis Access Policy</b>	
<b>CATEGORY:</b>	<b>Park Board</b>	<b>POLICY NUMBER:</b> <i>PB 2025-03</i>

### PURPOSE

xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations are the original inhabitants of the unceded land that is now known as the City of Vancouver. Unceded means that the land was never legally ceded, or surrendered, to the Crown through a treaty or other agreement.

For the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, Truth and Reconciliation is more than a ceremonial acknowledgement of these territories.

It's an opportunity to:

- Learn the true history of Vancouver and acknowledge the unjust treatment of the people whose lands we occupy
- Reconcile and build better relationships with the sovereign Nations of these lands and Indigenous peoples who call Vancouver home
- Create parks that centre non-Indigenous and Indigenous peoples in better relations with each other

This complimentary admission policy for First Nations, Metis and Inuit guests, visiting VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory, is informed by the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, the Vancouver Park Board's Reconciliation Vision, Mission and Values as well as the eleven reconciliation strategies, and Local Food System Action Plan in addition to the City of Vancouver's UNDRIP Action Plan.

### SCOPE

The scope of this complimentary admission policy applies to VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory.

This policy does not apply to special events outside of regular daytime operating hours such as Festival of Lights.

This access policy does not apply to any other Park Board facilities.

### POLICY STATEMENTS

This policy is intended to provide greater access to Indigenous peoples. It aligns with precedent set by similar policies at other local attractions and cultural institutions such as Science World, the H.R. MacMillan Space Centre, The Royal British Columbia Museum, the Museum of Vancouver and the Museum of Anthropology, among others.

### PROCEDURES

Any individual who self-identifies as Indigenous, First Nations, Metis or Inuit when they visit VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory during daytime operating hours will be offered complimentary admission. A point-of-sale button will be created in ActiveNet to track usage of this offer.

## RELATED POLICIES

### [VanPlay 10 Goals to Shape the Next 25 Years](#)

Goal 8: Foster a system of parks and recreation spaces that are safe and welcoming to all

Goal 9: Seek truth as a foundation for reconciliation with Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations

### [Park Board Reconciliation Mission, Vision and Values](#)

### [Park Board 11 Reconciliation Strategies](#)

### [Local Food System Action Plan – Update \(2021\)](#)

Goal 1: Centre Indigenous voices in food system work that honour the teaching that “food is medicine”

Goal 2: Improve equity in Park Board food assets, services, and programs

### [City of Vancouver UNDRIP Action Plan 2024-2028](#)

Action Group 13: Cultural Access. The City works with Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh to support the right of cultural access, review existing policies and legislation that are barriers to this right, and recommend necessary changes.

## APPROVAL HISTORY

<b>ISSUED BY:</b> Business Services	<b>APPROVED BY:</b> Board of Parks and Recreation	<b>DATE:</b> <b>Jun 2, 2025</b>
<b>AMENDED BY:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>