



This publication is also available in Chinese at your local community centre.

您當地的社區中心有提供這刊物的中文版本。

This book contains information about the Vancouver Park Board's services and achievements in parks and recreation during the past year. Please translate it for family members who cannot read English.

這本書包含有關過去一年溫哥華公園局在公園和康樂方面的服務及成績的資料。請為不懂英文的家人翻譯。

Ce livre contient des renseignements concernant les services et les réalisations du Vancouver Park Board en matière de parcs et de loisirs durant l'année écoulée. Veuillez le faire traduire pour les membres de votre famille qui ne lisent pas l'anglais.

ਇਸ ਕਿਤਾਬ ਵਿਚ ਵੈਨਕੂਵਰ ਪਾਰਕ ਬੋਰਡ ਦੀਆਂ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਪਿਛਲੇ ਸਾਲ ਵਿਚ ਪਾਰਕਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਮਨਬਹਿਲਾਵੇ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਹੋਈਆਂ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤੀਆਂ ਬਾਰੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੈ। ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਨਾਲ ਇਸਦਾ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰਕੇ ਆਪਣੇ ਪਰਿਵਾਰ ਦੇ ਉਹਨਾਂ ਮੈਂਬਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ ਜੋ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਪੜ੍ਹ ਸਕਦੇ।

Este libro contiene información acerca de la Comisión de Parques de Vancouver y sus servicios y logros en el área de parques y recreación durante el año pasado. Se le ruega traducirlo para aquellos miembros de su familia que no leen inglés.

Tập sách này có chi tiết về các dịch vụ và thành quả về công viên và giải trí trong năm qua của Hội Đồng Công Viên Vancouver. Xin dịch cho những người trong gia đình không đọc được Anh ngữ.

Message from the Chair & General Manager

It is our pleasure to bring greetings to you on behalf of the Commissioners and staff of the Vancouver Park Board. Our Annual Report gives us an opportunity to share what we have accomplished over the last year with the people we serve - you, the residents of Vancouver.

This has been an exciting year for the Park Board. We achieved some significant goals and laid the foundation for important future projects.

We renewed facilities—Champlain Community Centre and Renfrew Pool and redeveloped neighbourhood parks—Falaise, Pandora and Quilchena. We opened a stunning new restaurant and service facility on popular Kitsilano Beach. Open houses for park projects, community art projects and ground breaking ceremonies for new facilities at Sunset and Mount Pleasant also marked our progress toward improving our parks and recreation system.

Last fall, a new Board was formed after the civic election that included five new and two returning commissioners. The Park Board also received approval of an historic high of \$80 million in Capital Plan improvements for 2006 – 2008, due in part to opportunities presented through the 2010 Olympics Games. These include new ice rinks at Trout Lake and Killarney Community Centres. Plans are underway for the Olympic Curling Venue at Hillcrest Park. This will become a legacy facility with a new community centre, a new pool, ice rink, curling club and community library.

After more than a year of consultation with staff, partners and residents, the Park Board adopted a new Strategic Plan for 2005-2010 that reaffirms the Park Board's commitment to public involvement in decision making, increasing accessibility to our parks and facilities, planning for future growth, environmental leadership and fiscal responsibility.

Through these commitments the Park Board supports personal and community health and well being and we encourage you to take part in helping us to meet these commitments.

Attend a board meeting, share your ideas at an park development open house, participate in a community art project or volunteer through Park-Partners. Visit our award winning web site and you will find a wealth of information about upcoming events and programs.

We also encourage you to take on the challenge of adopting a more active lifestyle. We all know that regular moderate exercise improves our health. Visit one of our pools, join a fitness class or start a walking group.

Parks and recreation is essential to keeping our city livable and our lives in balance. Working together we can achieve these goals.

We hope you take the time to read on and learn more about the many ways the Board and staff are supporting the health and well being of our residents.



Heather Holden,
Park Board Chair



Susan Mundick,
General Manager



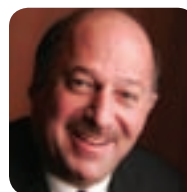
Heather Holden, Chair, (left) and Susan Mundick, General Manager, tour the newly-built Killarney Leisure Pool.



Commissioner
Heather Holden, Chair



Commissioner
Ian Robertson, Vice Chair



Commissioner
Allan De Genova



Commissioner
Spencer Herbert



Commissioner
Korina Houghton



Commissioner
Loretta Woodcock



Commissioner
Marty Zlotnik

Stretch

Feel the power and the peace of yoga



Dive

Get wet all over in a learn-to-swim class



Swing

Practice your putts on the par three

Keeping Our Lives in Balance

Vancouver is a beautiful and exciting city. Its residents treasure the parks and recreation facilities that help make this an outstanding place in which to live.

Take an ocean dip at sunset on Second Beach, plan a family picnic in your neighbourhood park, walk the 8 kilometre Stanley Park Seawall with your dog, enjoy the seasonal floral displays at the Queen Elizabeth Quarry Gardens, take your kids ice skating at Sunset Ice Rink. What do all these have in common? They are all activities you can enjoy for free or for a very small cost and they are all brought to you by the Vancouver Park Board.

Our Role

We are champions of personal and community well-being, connecting neighbours and advocating for ecological sustainability and economic prosperity. We are responsible for:

- **People** – leisure and sports, education, arts and culture, youth, children and seniors, ensuring accessibility
- **Places** – community centres, rinks, pools, fitness centres, restaurants, concessions, marinas, club-houses
- **Parks** – destination parks, neighbourhood parks, remnant woodlands, beaches, public gardens, play fields, VanDusen Garden, Bloedel Conservatory, golf courses, street trees

A Long, Proud History

We are as old as Vancouver itself. In the late 1800s, City Council established a board to oversee Stanley Park, and the Park Board was born. The Vancouver Park Board is one of the only elected bodies of its kind in Canada. Seven commissioners are elected to the Board at the same time and for the same term as City Council. This unique position has played a big role in the evolution of our city's parks and recreation system for over 118 years.

Working with Our Communities

Vancouver is a mosaic of 23 close-knit neighbourhoods anchored by the local community centre. We work in each community, side by side with our residents, partners and local groups to make decisions about our parks, programs and facilities.

Healthy Lifestyles, Environment and Economy

The Park Board supports the health and wellness of families and communities. We help balance the stress of urban life. We promote a healthy environment, protect green space and habitat, and take the lead in sustainable practices. We have helped create a quality of life here that has led Vancouver to a ranking as one of the most livable cities in the world as well as attracting millions of tourists each year.

Report for 2005

We were busier than ever in 2005! The excitement of planning and preparing for the 2010 Olympics and Paralympic Winter Games is building and the plans and design concepts for some major facility projects have been laid.

Vancouver's residents helped to make those plans a reality - by attending planning workshops, e-mailing us with ideas or supporting the Capital Plan in the civic election. These are projects that will well serve the future needs of Vancouver's growing population.

More than 6 million visits were made to our community centres in 2005, a 13 percent increase over the previous year and 2 million visits were made to our pools and rinks. Hundreds of residents took the time to help us re-design some of our neighbourhood parks. With input from staff, residents and stakeholders, the Park Board updated its Strategic Plan that will guide our work for the next five years. This report highlights the key accomplishments, programs and new services of the Park Board in 2005.



You helped us! More than 6,000 volunteers work in parks and recreation in our city - from sitting on association boards, to assisting in the adapted aquatics program to helping in park clean ups.

Preparing for the Future

Our population is growing, it's getting older and more diverse. The trend is toward fewer kids and more young adults living in Vancouver. Seniors are living longer and are more active than ever.

Many of our existing facilities require updating and new ones need to be built to keep pace with future needs. A number of outstanding recreation facilities were completed this year.

New Parks

We opened two new neighbourhood parks in 2005 that are welcoming green spaces where children play and friends meet over a cup of coffee.

- Rosemary Brown Park, named after the former MLA and women's activist, is located on an historic brewery site in Kitsilano. It features rose gardens, flower beds, shrubs, trees and benches.
- Sahalli Park, located at 8th and Fraser has a picnic site, playground, viewing knoll, lawns, trees and shrubs and offers magnificent views of the North Shore Mountains.

Park Renewals

Residents played an active role in planning the renewal of several parks in need of updating.

- Pandora Park at Nanaimo and Pandora Streets was upgraded with a new playground and walkways
- The renewal for Falaise Park at Grandview Highway and Falaise Street features a unique wetland garden.
- Kingcrest Park at Knight Street and 26th Avenue was updated with basketball courts, a new plaza and new playground with support from the Friends of Kingcrest Park.
- Construction neared completion on a new skate board facility, Hellenic garden and plazas for Quilchena Park, located at Cypress Street and 33rd Avenue.

The local community has developed ideas for a new park for Marpole to be built on Park Board purchased land located at West 72nd Avenue and Osler Street. A much needed redevelopment plan for Nelson Park in the West End is close to completion after more than two years of review and the involvement of residents, local groups and the school.

Community and Recreation Centre Upgrades

The Park Board has a renewal plan for community centres, rinks and pools. A number of upgrades to facilities were completed and opened in 2005.

- The Millennium Sports Centre, located on Nat Bailey Stadium Park, houses the Phoenix Gymnastics Club and Pacific Indoor Lawn Bowling. Funds came from the City, the Canada/BC Infrastructure Fund, the community and the Park Board.
- A new addition to the Champlain Heights Community Centre provides city-funded child care space, a multi-purpose room and a bigger fitness centre.



- The renovated Renfrew Pool was the first step in the Park Board's aquatics renewal plan.

Other Facilities

The new Watermark Restaurant was opened on Kitsilano Beach in time for summer. This project is the result of a public/private partnership that included construction of a year round concession, change and washrooms and a life guard tower. A new synthetic turf playing field neared completion at Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary School to better meet requirements of field sport users.

Under Construction

Under construction at year end were the Killarney Leisure Pool, the first new pool in the city in twenty five years; the new Sunset Community Centre, replacing one of Vancouver's oldest facilities and #1 Kingsway, the civic centre which will include the new Mount Pleasant Community Centre.

Nine children's playgrounds were redeveloped in 2005 with input from the public: Cariboo Park, Robson Park, CRAB Park at Portside, Charleson Park, Killarney Park, Pandora Park, Teaswamp Park, Trafalgar Park and Creekside Park.

Run

Jog or train on the scenic seawall and park trails



Dig

Harvest flowers and friends in a neighborhood community garden



Move

Relax and strengthen the body with Tai Chi



Dance

Kick up your heels at a Seniors Tea Dance



Drum

Keep the beat at a community festival

Ride

Try out some tricks at the street style skate plaza



Getting Greener & More Sustainable

Sustainability means living and working in a way that does not harm the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The Park Board has taken a leadership role in addressing these issues for over twenty years.

Environmental Leadership

- The Park Board partnered with community groups, volunteers and over 2,000 participants to celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd with tree plantings and celebrations in Everett Crowley Park.
- With support from the community, the Park Board carried out an erosion control project on the Kitsilano foreshore west of Kitsilano Pool.
- New water conservation measures were adopted, including how we water our play fields, operate water features and keep our rinks cold, resulting in significant savings.
- Energy conservation and use of alternative energies continued to be a high priority, leading to the replacement of aging vehicles, purchase of a SMART car, and high efficiency boilers at two pools.
- “Green” building technology was approved for the designs of the new Sunset Community Centre and #1 Kingsway Civic Centre projects.

Sustainability Practices

The City policy on ethical purchasing was adopted, demonstrating the Park Board’s ongoing commitment to sustainability and fair trade. The Community Gardens Policy was reviewed and updated, to better reflect the diversity of sites, and changing community and recreation needs. Staff began research on planting fruit trees in parks for their environmental, educational and community benefits. More than 100 entries were received for a writing contest for residents, called “Tree Tales”, aimed at raising awareness of the

important role our urban forest plays in keeping our city healthy and beautiful.



You Told Us about Staying Active

“ All my life I have been active - tennis, aerobics, biking, walking, yoga, and recently Nordic walking. They have all helped me to maintain flexibility. I recently have taken up tap dancing at age 59. I would like to maintain... good health as I get older.

- Dunbar Community Centre Regular

Most of my life I have been swimming, walking, taking classes, doing deep water running. One of my challenges in staying active is doing it on my own. Exercising has helped me to lose weight, tone up and feel better about myself. I like coming to the community centre because there are so many choices of things to do.

- Swimmer, walker

I try to make time to workout because I feel better after I workout and I enjoy it. I play hockey and golf and I exercise 4 to 5 times a week. When I was little, kids would go out and play... Nowadays,... it has to be fun and interesting... anyone who wants to get more active should do something that they enjoy... because what is the point of doing it when you don’t want to?

- 20-year-old Hockey Player

I think, as a parent to encourage your kids to be active has to be intentional. I would walk everyday to get them to walk a certain amount... because of how I was when I was a child,... it is important for my boys to be active.

- Thirtysomething Parent

I exercise to keep my blood pressure low. I have been taking cardio classes at the community centre for nine years. You can’t meet people at home or get the proper exercise. In my spare time I garden and bowl to keep up my active lifestyle. Being active plays a big role in helping me feel energized everyday.

- Active Senior



How Donations Make a Difference

Over the years, Vancouver residents have made a difference for parks and recreation through donations and lasting gifts. Malkin Bowl in Stanley Park was a gift made in 1934 by W.H. Malkin in memory of his wife, Marion. Jean Beaty Park is named for the woman who in the mid 1990s donated her property along Point Grey Road, providing waterfront views and public green space.

“We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give.” - Winston Churchill

There a number of ways in which you can help make a difference such as volunteering at your local recreation centre, getting involved in community events or by making a financial contribution. No matter how big or small, your donation can help to support community programs, enhance community centres and recreation facilities, restore valuable historic sites and preserve Vancouver’s green spaces. By doing so, you are making a difference.

Make A Lasting Gift

Did you know that you can make a lasting gift to the Park Board and that there are many ways to do so? Lasting gifts can be made through bequests, transfers of securities or by setting up an endowment. This allows you to create a legacy for your community while meeting your own financial and personal objectives. Financial contributions to Canadian municipalities are tax-deductible.

More information? Contact the Fundraising and Development Office: 604-718-5888, donations@vancouver.ca

Last year, the Park Board was the beneficiary of several unique gifts:

Park Redevelopment – Contributions from individuals and Tai Chi groups were designated to complete seven new Tai Chi Arbours located on the plaza at Queen Elizabeth Park.

Specialized Equipment – A generous gift from a local foundation was designated to purchase a much needed “adapted” golf cart. This donation enables the Park Board to offer residents with limited mobility access to our golf courses.

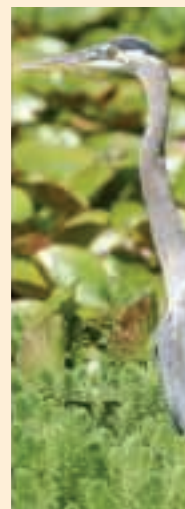
Youth Programs – A grant from a national corporate foundation provided funding for the Park Board to deliver and provide coaching for youth soccer clubs.

Park Amenities and Enhancements Contributions of commemorative gifts such as trees, display gardens, drinking fountains and park benches provide lasting and meaningful tributes and help to maintain, preserve, and beautify parks.

Public Art – The relocation and preservation of the artwork known as *Khenko, the Heron*, was made possible by a generous corporate gift. Animated by wind movement, this piece will reside in George Wainborn Park.

Vancouver’s landmark *Inukshuk*, inspiration of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, received corporate funding to light and beautify the surrounding area of this outdoor sculpture.

Partners and Communities – Contributions from partners and communities supported a number of Park Board capital projects. The Millennium Sports Facility is the new home of Phoenix Gymnastics and Pacific Indoor Bowling Clubs. Community associations affiliated with Champlain Heights, Sunset, Killarney, Renfrew, Kerrisdale, Ray-Cam, False Creek, West End and Kensington communities each contributed to capital improvements for their local community centre.



The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation is pleased to honour the following individuals, corporations, community groups and foundations who generously contributed and made a difference in their community in 2005:

\$100,000+

Estate of C.F. Moore
Kenko Construction Ltd.

\$25,000 - \$99,999

Coast Hotels & Resorts
Cumming Foundation
LamsTai Chi Group - Since 1977

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Chu On & Ieong LaiYuk Fok

\$1,000 - \$9,999

15th Field Artillery Regiment
Zeffie Adam
Barrie R. Adams
James Anthony Allard
Heather Anders
Yik Fung Au-Yeung
Hillary D. Avoledo
Walter G. Bahan
Freda Bailey
Judy Baldwin
Jan Barnsley
Darlene Berry
Bell Community Sport Fund
Jennie Bert
Jennifer Blackstone
Simon Bland
Steward & Marilyn Blusson
Debbie Boersma
Elizabeth Bond
Andre Bosveld
David Bowyer
Nicola Bowyer
Maureen Boyd
Patricia Brueckner
Edith Bukshteyn
P.M. Bull & Company Ltd.
Aline Buttar
Corinne Campbell
Chris Carter
Celine Cassidy
Glynn Cassidy
C.F. Bob Chan
Helena Chan
Michael Chan & Jill Kemp
Sean & Annie Chan
Yick Hung & KwokYing Chan
D.P. Chong
Lai Fong Chow
Kei Kong Chui
Stella Chui
Beverley Clarke
June Clarke
Sarah Clayton
Anne Coller
Christine Coutts
Jonathan Crawford
Marg Csapo
Anita De Caigny
Christine De Long
Maria De Iulis
Bert & Marjorie De Ruiter
Karen De Vito
Disbrow Foundation
Ingrid Ehmann
Gil Evans
Jan Farish
Kathleen Ferguson
Fisher Foundation
Dennie Flynn
For Fok
Nicholas Foxcroft
Estate of Pearl Games
Estate of Erika Geiser
Arndt & Toshiko Gerz
Estate of Ronald W. Goodacre
Lorie Grandia
H.M.C.S. Discovery
F.H. Harwood
Erin Hasinoff
Michael Hasinoff
Bruce Allan & J. Diane Haslett
Ronald B. Howard
Greg Howie
Jonathan Huyer
International Wu Style Tai-Chi
Chuan Federation
Adrian Jacob
Lawrence Jang
John & Alison Jenner
Ron Jerome
Theodore Jevne
Inger Johnson

Robert Jones
Erik Kalaidzis
Ivo Katnich
Bruce & Jane Kaufman
Mike & Carolyn Kavanagh
Charles Kim
Heather Krahn
Rudiger Krause
Emina Krcmar-Nozic
Janet Kwan
Anna Lam
Lam Hau Sanh Tai Chi Zhi-Gong 18
Yin Bun & Oi Lin Lam –
Memory of Helen Chui
Y.M. Lam
Kelvin & Shou-Ling Lau
Doreen Lee
Susan Lerch
LHSTai Chi & Aerobic
Ralph & Betty Lim
James & Megan Lockhart
Josie Loh
Ron J. Love
LukTung Kuen Health Club
of Vancouver
Joan MacGregor
Eugene Mah
Margaret Mah
Mah's Tai Chi Club of Vancouver
May Keung's Yun Chi Dancing
& Exercise Group
Lesley McLaughlin
Melusine Foundation
Chester & Edna Millar
Frances Miller
C.I. Mitchell
Morning Star Tai Chi Group
Laurel F. Mowatt
Anne Nelson
Emma Newsome
Paul Ng
Catherine O'Connor
Joanne Ogilvie
Donald C. & Judith Pangman
C. June Pepin
Bob & Peggy Poirier
Joy Poole
Neil Porter
Mary Power

Michael & Fiona Price
Jack & Sharon Rosa
Karla Rouso
William & Virginia Sam
M.T. Sanderson-Murdoch
Anne Schimpel
Martin Schubert
Malkiat Sekhon
Surjit Sekhon
Jim Shepard
Calliope Ann Simatos
Janet M. Smallbone
Cherie Smith
Lance Steinberger
Vulf Sternin
Dorothy Josephine Stout
Tai Chi Health Eighteen Style
Eddie K.K. & Amy M.L. Tang
Estate of Harry Tansley
Dr. Michael A. Tarko
Sik Kwan Tay
Lucille Thompson
Robin Timms
Judith Toscano
Atsushi & Micheline Tsunoda
Dr. Ian Turnbull
Deborah Van Ginkel
Stella Wade
Wai Dan Kung Group
Lorne Waldman
John E. Walsh
Mary Ann Wei
Lorne & Leah Whitehead
Ian Williams
Shelley Winters
Sigrid Wittman
Susan Wolfe
Diana Wong
Lewis & Betty Wong
Shau Hing Wong
Worldwide LukTung Kuen
Health Society of Canada
Virginia Wu
Wai Ching Ho Yan
Yang Style Tai Ji Quan,
Fan & Sword
Dr. Lyla May Yip
Lisa Zaniol
Marg Zibin

Supporting Health & Wellness

Health and wellness, active lifestyles - these are important Park Board values. This has been a year of real commitment to the challenge of getting people of all ages more active - in fitness, sports, the arts, the community.

Arts in Our Parks

Public art celebrates our city's diverse communities. A Tai Chi pavilion was built in Strathcona Park, and mosaics were installed in Cathedral, Strathcona and Victory Square Parks. Approval was given for a new Coast Salish welcoming gateway in Stanley Park. More than a dozen large pieces of art were installed across city parks as part of the International Sculpture Biennale Exhibit.

Arts Connecting Communities

The Artist in Residence Program is a partnership between Community Centre Associations and the Park Board. In 2005 there were four residencies.

- Artist Byron Hansen and the Strathcona community made flocks of birds from recycled materials.
- Proximity Lab artists worked with Britannia Community Centre to create the "Happyland Carnival."
- Kerrisdale residents painted banners with artists Pat Beaton and Andrea Taylor for Cyclone Taylor Arena.
- Artists Maya Ersan and Jaimie Robson worked with youth to create multi-media installations for the Hastings Corridor.

The Park Board's Neighbourhood Matching Program provides monies to groups who want to improve their parks. Four projects were funded, helping build community around the city.

One such project was the Renfrew Collingwood Rooftop Garden, a project of the Renfrew Collingwood Food Security Institute that encourages the sharing and growing of food among individuals, families, and the community.

A first time celebration, the "Rain or Shine Festival," was held in Stanley Park to showcase the Park Board's diverse programs. "Monsters in the Meadow" was again the theme of free outdoor summer movie screenings for the public in Stanley Park.

Improved Access to Services

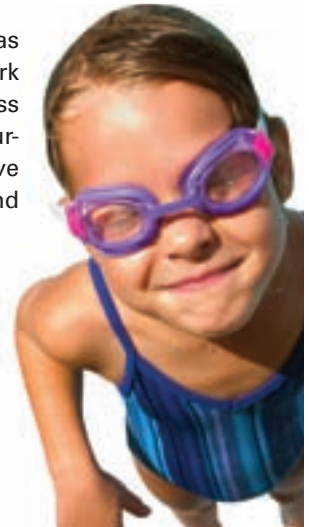
Further improvements were made to our web site to improve access to our services and programs. Over one and a half million visits were made to vancouverparks.ca in 2005, up 70% from the previous year. Online recreation registration was extended to 14 community centres, allowing residents to sign up for programs from their home computer. Online reservations for the three municipal golf courses, which have proven to be popular, were extended to include more advanced tee times.

More Dog Off-leash Sites

The Park Board continues to support dog owners, their pets and the health benefits this activity brings. Following public consultation, the Park Board added two new dog off leash sites, near the tennis courts in Stanley Park and in New Brighton Park. This brings off-leash sites in the city to thirty one. The Park Board also participated with Animal Control and Police in the new Rex in the City education and enforcement program for responsible dog ownership.

Active Living

A marketing campaign was launched to promote Park Board rinks, pools and fitness centres. Go Play! encouraged residents to get active at their fun, affordable and accessible neighbourhood facility. The Board approved a long term plan and strategy to guide decisions around locations and components of skate parks in Vancouver. The youth-driven program called GetOut! promoted activity in sport, recreation and the arts.



Active living means making physical activity a regular and central part of our lives. The Park Board has joined the province wide Active Communities initiative and is developing new programs to support active lifestyles for all ages, interests and abilities.

Share

Volunteer and
make a difference



Discover

Enjoy the beauty of your
city's parks and gardens



Balance

Keep stress away
by staying active



Play

Join in a free-spirited game of Ultimate



Walk

Step out and exercise the body, mind and spirit

Kick

Sharpen your soccer skills and have fun



Expanding Community Involvement

Planning for the future and solving complex issues create opportunities for public input. The Park Board is fortunate to have the enthusiastic involvement of the people it serves. Residents attend board meetings and open houses, form community groups and serve on their community centre associations.

Partner and Stakeholder Relationships

The Park Board works with many individuals, organizations and community groups to improve parks and recreation services.

- The Champlain Heights community is working to protect and enhance Everett Crowley Park. A Management Plan was finalized in 2005 for the future care and protection of this heavily wooded park located at Kerr Road and Marine Drive.
- A new partnership plan for working with community associations was developed to improve recreation services at our community centres.
- Working with the City and community partners, the Park Board helped identify responsibilities, planning and communications that support Oppenheimer Park and the community it serves.

Public Involvement

Residents are encouraged to get involved in the parks and recreation decisions that can have a significant impact on their lives.

The Board held six of its meetings out in the community to make it easier for the public to attend. Residents and stakeholders were invited, at a series of workshops, to share priorities and ideas to both the 2005 Operating Budget and the 2006 – 2008 Capital Plan.

Open houses were held to consider China Creek Park South improvements; the 37th & Oak park site development; the future of Mount Pleasant Park, pool, community centre and child care; the Marpole park site design and the new East Fraserlands park plans.

The Park Board initiated a consultation process for a new concept design for Pioneer Place (“Pigeon Park”) with members of the Downtown Eastside.

The ParkPartners program supports opportunities for people to volunteer in our parks through special events, park clean ups, safety initiatives and environmental projects.

The Jericho Stewardship Group, for instance, has been committed to bringing Jericho Park back to its natural state by organizing work parties to remove invasive species such as broom, English ivy and blackberry and reintroduce native plants such as Arbutus trees, flowering currants and natural grasses.

Managing Responsibly

Keeping budgets under control and facilities operating efficiently are priorities. The Park Board is committed to maximising available funds while exploring new funding sources.

Financial Accountability

2005 Capital Budget - \$20.3 million was spent to renew and enhance our ageing park and recreation system. In response to public input and following our long-term renewal plans, 58% was spent on facilities development, 30% on park development, 6% on land acquisitions and planning, and 6% on project management.

2005 Operating Budget - The Park Board closely monitored spending, evaluated progress, and improved customer services while balancing its budget of \$53.4 million.

Resource Stabilization and Diversification

A Capital Plan of \$80 million for 2006 - 2008 was approved by residents in the 2005 civic election. With almost double the funds of the previous capital plan, the Board can accelerate needed infrastructure renewal.

The 2005 Operating Budget increased by almost 3% over 2004, providing continued support for Board programs and services.

2005 fundraising with community partners, government, non-profit and private sectors raised almost \$950,000 in grants & donations (compared to \$320,000 in 2004).

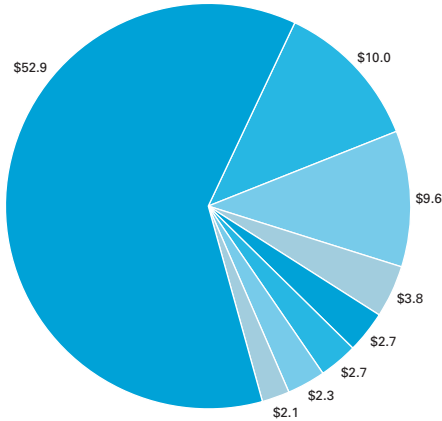
Think of all the parks and recreation facilities, services and programs in our City. On average, each resident of Vancouver paid about \$94 last year towards these facilities and services, including our 220 parks and 23 community centres.

Financials

Operating Budget

The Park Board's operating budget, \$86.1 million in 2005, pays for staff and day-to-day programs, as well as for care and maintenance of more than 3,000 acres of open space and over 40 acres of enclosed space. We have two sources of funding: tax support and user fees and charges. The City of Vancouver contributed 61% of Park Board funding, with user fees and charges making up the

remaining 39%. Revenues generated from business operations such as parking, golf, marinas and food operations helped to subsidize the delivery of other parks and recreation programs. Special thanks to our partners such as restaurant owners and parking operators for their financial contribution and also for providing valued services in our parks.

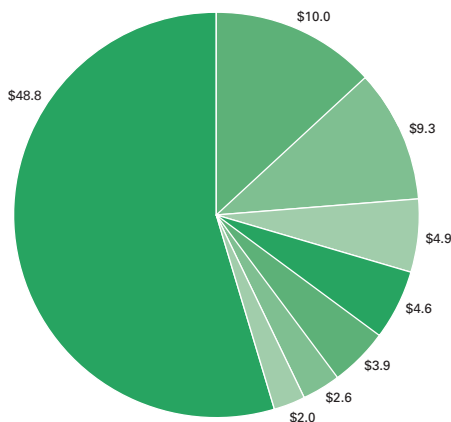
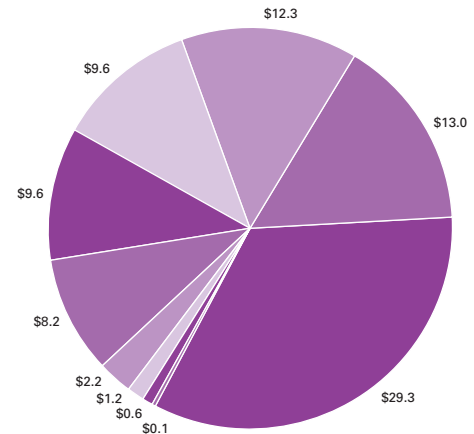


Where Our Money Came From (in \$millions)
Total Revenue in 2005: \$86.1

Taxes	\$52.9
Golf Courses (including Pitch & Putt)	\$10.0
Community Centres, Swimming Pools, Rinks, Fitness Centres	\$9.6
Parking	\$3.8
Stanley Park, VanDusen Garden, Queen Elizabeth Park	\$2.7
Concessions	\$2.7
Leases & Other	\$2.3
Marinas	\$2.1

Where Our Money Was Spent (in \$millions)
Total Program Expenditures in 2005: \$86.1

Community Centres, Swimming Pools, Rinks, Fitness Centres	\$29.3
Neighbourhood Parks & Arboriculture	\$13.0
Maintenance	\$12.3
Administration & Planning	\$9.6
Golf Courses (including Pitch & Putt)	\$9.6
Stanley Park, VanDusen Garden, Queen Elizabeth Park	\$8.2
Concessions	\$2.2
Marinas	\$1.2
Parking	\$0.6
Leases & Other	\$0.1



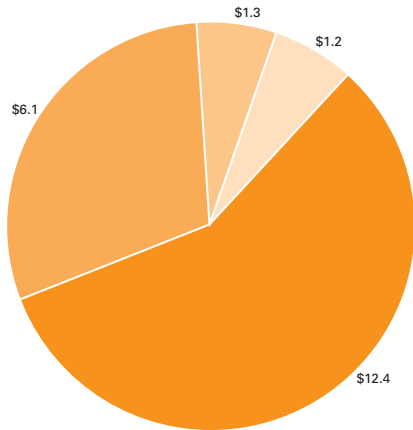
What We Paid For (in \$millions)
Total Gross Expenditures in 2005: \$86.1

Employee Salaries & Wages	\$48.8
Supplies	\$10.0
Employee Fringe Benefits	\$9.3
Equipment Charges	\$4.9
Utilities	\$4.6
Loan Payments	\$3.9
Contracted Services	\$2.6
Goods Purchased for Resale	\$2.0

Capital Budget

Capital spending is needed to acquire, construct, maintain and renew the Park Board's large and diverse system of buildings and open spaces. Most of the improvements undertaken are funded through the City's three year Capital Plan which is approved by Council

and supported by residents. It typically splits 50/50 between park and recreation needs. For the period 2003 to 2005, the Capital Plan totalled \$45.5 million. In 2005, the capital expenditures totalled \$21.0 million.



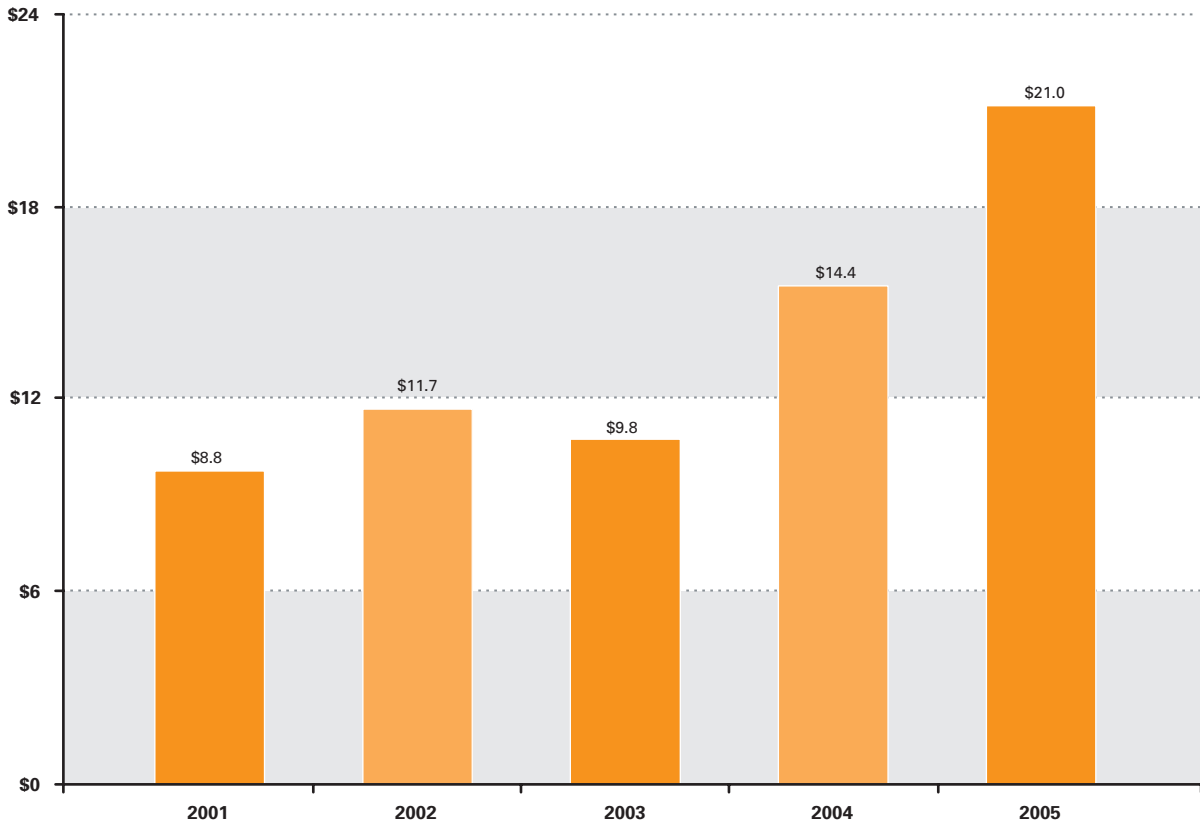
2005 Capital Expenditures (in \$millions)

Total Capital Spending in 2005: \$21.0

Facility Development	\$12.4
Park Development	\$6.1
Overhead (Project Management & Administration)	\$1.3
Land Acquisition & Planning	\$1.2

Annual Capital Expenditures (in \$millions)

Five Year History (2001-2005)



Recognized for Excellence

The Park Board won a number of awards in 2005.

Reclamation of an under-utilized site earned the Park Board a Regional Honour Award from the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects for the new **Downtown Skate Plaza**. Recognition was for creative urban enhancement, and shared with van der Zalm + Associates and New Line Skateparks.



The Canadian Society of Landscape Architects Regional Merit Award was given to Phase II of **Harbour Green Park**, with the Park Board acknowledged along with PWL Partnership Landscape Architects.

Outstanding achievement in cultivation of **hardy palms on English Bay** was recognized by the Pacific Northwest Palm and Exotic Plant Society's Landscaping Award.



The Park Board's **public web site** won an Award of Merit from the Canadian Public Relations Society, for strategic development and relevance to overall communications objectives.

Stanley Park's **Cob House** earthen architecture structure was acclaimed through the presentation of an Award of Excellence for Innovation by the Vancouver Regional Construction Association.



By the Numbers

Places to meet, be active and have fun...

- 23 community centres; 9 indoor, 6 outdoor pools; 28 fitness centres; 8 rinks have more than 8 million visits/ year or 22,000 visits daily
- 220 parks totalling 1,300 hectares of land, 11% of the city; 14 million visitors/year or 39,000 visits daily to Stanley Park, Queen Elizabeth Park and VanDusen Garden alone
- 150 children's playgrounds
- 24 food concessions and restaurants in parks
- 125,000 hot dogs sold at concessions each year
- 50 hectares of new park land since 1990

Places for every sport enthusiast...

- 3 full-length golf courses, 3 pitch and putts
- 136 playing fields
- 7 cricket pitches
- 143 softball and baseball diamonds
- 248 tennis and other sport courts
- 2 marinas
- 9 km Stanley Park seawall
- 18 km of beaches

Keeping our city beautiful every season of the year...

- 20 heritage buildings
- 1 plant nursery; 1 tree farm
- 80,000 bulbs planted each fall for spring displays
- 130,000 street trees
- 1.5 million park trees
- 40 tons of garbage removed from our beaches during the annual fireworks event
- 2,200 staff at peak season

Communicating with you...

- 25 public consultation meetings held
- 75 public consultation ads run
- 110 media releases produced
- 274 media inquiries answered
- 562 Park Board stories printed



vancouverparks.ca

You will find a wealth of information on our web site! Visit it regularly to find out about upcoming events, programs and services—whether it's an open house for a neighbourhood park redevelopment, picnics and weddings in parks, a cultural event at your local community centre, beach and outdoor pool information or booking your next golfing tee time—you'll find it all on our web site. *ParkFinder*, a new web feature, can help you find any one of our 200 parks, its location, the facilities available on the park and much more. Each week you will find changing features on our home page—a new fitness program, a seawall closure, an upcoming community board meeting, a special arts event or a not-to-be-missed horticultural highlight in one of our parks. Visit us and make it often!

Written and designed by Park Board Communications

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