

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)  
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)  
Date: 6/30/2022 2:36:33 PM  
Subject: [Alcohol consumption at parks and beaches](#)  
Attachments: PB - GMO - Alcohol Consumption at Parks & Beaches - Board Briefing Memo - 2022-06-30.pdf

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Good morning Mayor and Council,

As you are likely aware, with the onset of warmer weather over the past two weekends, an increasing number of people are enjoying the beaches around the city. Along with large crowds, particularly around English Bay and Kitsilano, VPD members and Parks staff have also observed extensive consumption of alcohol.

For your information, please find attached a memo that was prepared for Park Board Commissioners by the GM, Parks and Recreation. From experience, large crowds and high levels of intoxication present material risks, as well as a significant challenge for VPD and Parks staff to enforce restrictions on drinking in parks. The memo outlines the measures that Parks and Recreation staff are implementing to address this matter, along with support from VPD.

We will keep you apprised of issues arising the over the long weekend and the rest of the summer.

Best,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie (he/him)**  
City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.



VANCOUVER  
BOARD OF  
PARKS AND  
RECREATION

June 30, 2022

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners  
  
FROM : Donnie Rosa - General Manager, Parks and Recreation  
  
SUBJECT : **Alcohol Consumption at Parks & Beaches – Board Briefing Memo**

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Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to advise of efforts underway in response to concerns raised about public drinking, particularly on beaches. Heading into this long weekend, staff are anticipating that Vancouver's parks and beaches will be extremely busy as a result of the long-awaited warm weather, school being out, pandemic restrictions lifted, and tourists returning to the city.

An information bulletin was released today letting park visitors know to expect busy parks and beaches this weekend, and to be patient and courteous to fellow park users. The bulletin included reminders around park by-laws, including that consuming alcohol on any beach is prohibited, and is only legal within specific areas of 22 parks as outlined in the [Alcohol in Parks 2022 pilot](#).

Additionally, the Beach Experience Team (BET), comprised of an intersection of many staff from various areas within parks and recreation, has been planning and preparing for the summer beach experience. Ranger, lifeguard, and operations staff presence will be increased at busy areas, with key messaging developed. Every staff member is reminded to engage with folks around acceptable behaviours while at the beach, including not drinking alcohol, having amplified music, smoking or littering. These are ongoing challenges in general, and with recent social behaviour norms drastically changing in every area, beaches are not exempt.

As part of the BET work, this key messaging will be rolling-out more broadly via a communications plan that includes social media, video, signage, and a media release. By raising public awareness, which will continue throughout the coming weeks, combined with enforcement support from the Vancouver Police (VPD) on public intoxication, amplified music, smoking, etc., the hope is these collaborative efforts will help to curb unacceptable behaviour so that Vancouver's much loved parks and beaches can be enjoyed safely by all.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donnie Rosa".

Donnie Rosa (*they/she*)  
General Manager - Parks and Recreation

/clc

Copy to: PB Leadership Team, PB Communications