



July 16, 2020

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Shauna Wilton
Acting General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : **COVID-19 Special Events & Filming Update – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

Further to the Board memo sent on May 5, 2020, the purpose of this memo is to update you on the latest COVID-19 impacts to the Park Board's special event and filming operations to date.

Major Special Events

As referenced in the prior update, the [2020 Calendar of Major Special Events](#) included 111 major special events to be delivered in Vancouver parks, plazas, and facilities to activate public spaces, foster community connectedness, enhance civic vibrancy, and provide enriching cultural experiences. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, numerous public health directives aimed at limiting the spread of the virus were introduced, including physical distancing requirements, limits on public gathering sizes, and far reaching travel restrictions.

These directives forced many of our event partners to review the feasibility of moving forward with their initiatives in 2020. While some organizers are still determining their next steps and hoping that public health restrictions will be relaxed or removed altogether, most have concluded that proceeding with the delivery of their events under the current environment is not possible. As a result, the majority of the Park Board and City's marquee summer events have announced cancellations, including: Bard on the Beach; Theatre Under the Stars; Honda Celebration of Light; Vancouver Folk Music Festival; Kitsfest; RBC GrandFondo Whistler; and the Park Board's Symphony at Sunset and Glow in the Garden initiatives.

An updated Calendar of Major Special Events identifying the current status of each initiative is attached as Appendix A, and a summary of the key impacts to date is provided below:

- 80 major special events have been cancelled, including 5 Park Board organized events (Easter Train, Eggciting Easter Hop, Symphony at Sunset, VSO in the Garden, and Glow in the Garden). In some cases, events have pivoted and offered virtual editions of their initiatives (BMO Vancouver Marathon and Italian Day on the Drive) while others have reimaged their programming and will be delivering smaller scale initiatives (Vancouver Pride Society has developed a Pride Art Walk featuring a series of art installations across the city, including at Morton Park and Nelson Park, between July 20 and August 3, 2020);
- 22 events are still reviewing and/or contemplating their next steps (although Park Board staff anticipate most of these will be cancelled or postponed as well given the Provincial Health Officer's position that current limits on public gathering sizes are expected to remain in place for the foreseeable future); and
- 9 events have been successfully delivered or are in the process of being delivered.



Minor Special Events & Other Activities

In addition to major special events, the Park Board also permits over 1,000 smaller events and other activities across its network annually (such as weddings, picnics, private recreation, etc.). As a result of the aforementioned COVID-19 restrictions, the majority of the activities in this category were cancelled in April, May and June (97%, 89% and 90%, respectively). However, with the re-establishment of Park Board permitting activities in early June, the volume of cancellations has decreased substantially to 45% and 28% in July and August, respectively.

The reduced amount of cancellations in this category can be attributed to:

- The lower level of complexity associated with these initiatives (versus major special events) which enables them to be planned and organized with shorter timelines; and
- The majority of the initiatives in this category are sized or can be modified to comply with the provincial health order limiting public gatherings to 50 people or less.

Motion Picture Filming

COVID-19 also resulted in the shut-down of Vancouver's thriving motion picture film industry in mid-March. As a result, filming activities at Park Board locations experienced a 75% reduction in March, and declines of 100% in April and May, respectively. Since the re-establishment of Park Board permitting activities, only a handful of filming permits were issued in June, and volume expectations for July are similar. However, with the introduction of Phase 3 of British Columbia's Restart Plan on June 24, 2020, the motion picture film industry has officially been given the green light to resume operations. Since that announcement, several applications have already been received from local film producers and it is expected that major productions will return in August.

We will continue to provide updates as new information becomes available.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shauna Wilton".

Shauna Wilton
Acting General Manager
604-257-8448

/os/clc

ATTACHMENT: Major Special Events Calendar – updated (Appendix A)

Copy to: PB Senior Leadership Team
PB Business Development & Special Events
PB Communications

**VANCOUVER BOARD OF PARKS & RECREATION
2020 CALENDAR OF MAJOR SPECIAL EVENTS – COVID-19 IMPACTS**

Park Board Organized Events						
EVENT	SITE	ORGANIZATION	START DATE	END DATE	V – Vending L – Licensed T - Ticketed	EVENT STATUS
Polar Bear Swim	English Bay	Vancouver Park Board	1-Jan	1-Jan	V	Delivered
Easter Train	Stanley Park Railway	Vancouver Park Board	9-Apr	13-Apr	V & T	Cancelled
Eggciting Easter Hop	VanDusen Botanical Garden	Vancouver Park Board	10-Apr	12-Apr	V & T	Cancelled
Symphony at Sunset	Sunset Beach	Vancouver Park Board & Vancouver Symphony Orchestra	4-Jul	4-Jul		Cancelled
Vancouver Symphony Orchestra in the Garden	VanDusen Botanical Garden	Vancouver Park Board	TBD	TBD	V & L & T	Cancelled
Ghost Train	Stanley Park Railway	Vancouver Park Board	9-Oct	31-Oct	V & T	To be determined
Glow in the Garden	VanDusen Botanical Garden	Vancouver Park Board	16-Oct	31-Oct	V & T	Cancelled
Bright Nights	Stanley Park Railway	Vancouver Park Board & BC Professional Firefighters Burn Fund	26-Nov	3-Jan	V & T	To be determined
Festival of Lights	VanDusen Botanical Garden	Vancouver Park Board	27-Nov	3-Jan	V & L & T	To be determined
Holiday Heights	Bloedel Conservatory	Vancouver Park Board	11-Dec	3-Jan	V & T	To be determined

Events at VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory						
EVENT	SITE	ORGANIZATION	START DATE	END DATE	V – Vending L – Licensed T - Ticketed	EVENT STATUS
Sakura Days Japan Fair	VanDusen Botanical Garden	Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival & Japan Fair Assoc. of Vancouver	18-Apr	19-Apr	V & L & T	Cancelled
Plant Sale	VanDusen Botanical Garden	VanDusen Botanical Garden Assoc	26-Apr	26-Apr	V & T	Cancelled
All British Field Meet	VanDusen Botanical Garden	Westco Marketing Ltd	22-Aug	22-Aug	V & T	To be determined
Luxury Supercar Weekend	VanDusen Botanical Garden	Luxury Alliance Group Ltd	12-Sep	13-Sep	V & L & T	Cancelled

Events in Parks and Plazas						
	<i>* events in bold text require road closures in Stanley Park; additional details provided at the end of Appendix A</i>					
EVENT	SITE	ORGANIZATION	START DATE	END DATE	V – Vending L – Licensed T - Ticketed	EVENT STATUS
City Tree Chipping Event	Kerrisdale Park Kitsilano Park John Hendry Park English Bay	City of Vancouver	4-Jan	5-Jan		Delivered
Winter Farmer's Market	Hillcrest Parking Lot	Local Farmers Market Society	4-Jan	25-Apr	V & L	Delivered
Spring Festival Celebration	Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Garden Plaza	Chinese Benevolent Association	25-Jan	26-Jan	V	Delivered
First Half Half Marathon & 5K	Roundhouse Turntable Plaza English Bay Seawall Stanley Park Seawall McBride Park	Pacific Roadrunners	9-Feb	9-Feb		Delivered
BMO St. Patrick's Day 5km Run	Stanley Park East	The Running Room	14-Mar	14-Mar		Cancelled
Bard on the Beach	Vanier Park Festival Site	Bard on the Beach	19-Mar	6-Nov	V & L & T	Cancelled
RecycleFest	Kerrisdale Overflow Lot	City of Vancouver Engineering	21-Mar	21-Mar		Cancelled
Pacific Populaire	Riley Park	BC Randoneurs	5-Apr	5-Apr		Cancelled

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EVENT	SITE	ORGANIZATION	START DATE	END DATE	V – Vending L – Licensed T - Ticketed	EVENT STATUS
Spring Light Illumination & The Big Picnic	Queen Elizabeth Park	Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival Society	8-Apr	12-Apr		Cancelled
Riley Park Farmers Market	Riley Park Plaza	Local Farmers Market Society	18-Apr	31-Oct	V & L	Proceeding
Vancouver Sun Run	Ceperley Area, Stanley Park	Vancouver Sun	19-Apr	19-Apr		Cancelled
Earth Day Celebration	Grandview Park	Youth for Climate Justice Now	18-Apr	18-Apr		Cancelled
Jericho Baseball League Midway Championship Days	Carnarvon Park	Jericho Little League Baseball Association	2-May	2-May	V	Cancelled
FCRCC Knockout Dragon Boat Regatta	Creekside Park	False Creek Racing Canoe Club	2-May	2-May	V	Cancelled
BMO Vancouver International Marathon	Stanley Park	Vancouver International Marathon Society	2-May	3-May		Cancelled
Trout Lake Farmer’s Market	Trout Lake Parking Lot	Local Farmers Market Society	2-May	19-Dec	V & L	Proceeding
Kitsilano Farmer's Market	Kitsilano Parking Lot	Local Farmers Market Society	3-May	25-Oct	V & L	Proceeding
Khalsa Diwan Sports Day	Memorial South Park Oak Park Kensington Park Moberly Park	Khalsa Diwan Society	15-May	18-May	V	Cancelled
Vancouver International Children’s Festival	Sutcliffe Park	Vancouver International Children’s Festival Society	21-May	5-Jun	V & T	Cancelled
Womens Dragon Boat Regatta	Creekside Park	False Creek Women’s Dragon Boat Team	23-May	23-May	V	Cancelled
PMC-Sierra Science Fun Run	Creekside Park David Lam Park	Science Fair Foundation	23-May	24-May	V	Cancelled
Salmonberry Days	Memorial Park West	Dunbar Community Centre	24-May	31-May	V	Cancelled
Fair in the Square	Victory Square	Central City Foundation	26-May	26-May	V	Cancelled
Collingwood Days Festival	Gaston Park	Renfrew Community Centre	30-May	30-May	V	Cancelled
RBC Run for the Kids	Riley Park	BC Children's Hospital	2-Jun	2-Jun	V	Cancelled

Events in Parks and Plazas						
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EVENT	SITE	ORGANIZATION	START DATE	END DATE	V – Vending L – Licensed T - Ticketed	EVENT STATUS
Thornton Park Farmer's Market	Thornton Park	Local Farmers Market Society	3-Jun	7-Oct	V & L	Proceeding
National Health and Fitness Day	David Lam Park	National Health and Fitness Foundation	6-Jun	6-Jun	V	Cancelled
Marpole Oakridge Community Day	Oak Park	Marpole Oakridge Community Association	6-Jun	6-Jun	V	Cancelled
World Partnership Walk	Lumberman's Arch Stanley Park Seawall	Aga Khan Foundation	7-Jun	7-Jun	V	Cancelled
Boat for Hope	Hastings Mill Park	Variety - The Children's Charity	12-Jun	13-Jun	V	Cancelled
Dragon Zone 500M Regatta	Creekside Park	Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society	12-Jun	13-Jun	V	Cancelled
Summer Fair	Champlain Parking Lot	Champlain Heights Community Centre	13-Jun	13-Jun	V	Cancelled
The Awesome Grand Prix	Jonathan Rogers Park	Cycling BC/Bicicletta	13-Jun	13-Jun		Cancelled
Italian Day on the Drive	Grandview Park	Italian Day Festival Society	13-Jun	14-Jun	V	Cancelled
ICSF Soccer Tournament	Adanac Field	Italian Canadian Sports Federation	12-Jun	14-Jun	L	Cancelled
Ride Don't Hide	Queen Elizabeth Park	Canadian Mental Health Association	14-Jun	14-Jun		Cancelled
JDRF Walk to Cure Diabetes	Stanley Park	Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation	14-Jun	14-Jun	V & T	Cancelled
Point Grey Fiesta	West Point Grey Park	Point Grey Fiesta	17-Jun	19-Jun	V	Cancelled
Vancouver Dragon Boat Festival	Creekside Park	Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society	19-Jun	21-Jun	V & L	Cancelled
The Gathering Festival	Emery Barnes Park David Lam Park	The Gathering Place Community Centre	19-Jun	24-Jun	V	Cancelled
Douglas Park Community Day	Douglas Park	Douglas Park Community Association	20-Jun	20-Jun	V	Cancelled
Zero Waste Reuse and Recycling Drop off Hillcrest	Hillcrest South Gravel Parking Lot	Hillcrest Community Centre	20-Jun	20-Jun		Cancelled

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EVENT	SITE	ORGANIZATION	START DATE	END DATE	V – Vending L – Licensed T - Ticketed	EVENT STATUS
Eastside Pride	Grandview Park	Vancouver Pride Society	20-Jun	20-Jun	V	Cancelled
Paddlefest Vancouver	Jericho Sailing Centre	MEC/Jericho Sailing Centre	20-Jun	20-Jun		Cancelled
Jericho Little League Midway	Carnarvon Park	Jericho Little League Baseball Association	20-Jun	20-Jun		Cancelled
Hillcrest Summer Festival	Riley Park	Riley Park-Hillcrest Community Centre Association	20-Jun	20-Jun	V	Cancelled
National Indigenous Peoples Day	John Hendry Park	Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society	21-Jun	21-Jun	V	Cancelled
National Indigenous Peoples Day	Oppenheimer Park	Carnegie Centre	21-Jun	21-Jun		Cancelled
Vancouver International Jazz Festival	David Lam Park	Coastal Jazz & Blues Society	26-Jun	28-Jun	V & L	Cancelled
Strawberry Festival	Barley Heritage Square	West End Seniors Network	27- Jun	27 Jun		Cancelled
Scotiabank Vancouver Half Marathon & 5K	Ceperley Park & Stanley Park Seawall	Canada Running Series	28-Jun	28-Jun		Cancelled
False Creek Canada Day Celebration	Sutcliffe Park	False Creek Community Centre	1-Jul	1-Jul	V	Cancelled
Sunset Canada Day Celebration	Sunset Park	Sunset Community Centre	1-Jul	1-Jul	V	Cancelled
Canada Day Drumming	Creekside Park	Choice Communication	1-Jul	1-Jul	V	Cancelled
Stanley Park Open	Stanley Park Tennis Courts	Tennis BC	1-Jul	20-Jul	V & L	Cancelled
Summer Cinema Series	Ceperley Park	Cinema 4 Change	7-Jul	25-Aug	V & T	Cancelled
Vancouver Open Pro Beach Volleyball	Kitsilano Park	Volleyball BC	10-Jul	12-Jul	V & L	Cancelled
Vancouver International Soccer Festival	Empire Fields	One Team United for Peace & Development	10-Jul	12-Jul	V & L	Cancelled
Union Gospel Mission BBQ	Portside Park	Union Gospel Mission	11-Jul	11-Jul		Cancelled
ILWU Pensioners Picnic	New Bright Park	ILWU Local 500	16-Jul	16-Jul		Cancelled

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EVENT	SITE	ORGANIZATION	START DATE	END DATE	V – Vending L – Licensed T - Ticketed	EVENT STATUS
Vancouver Folk Music Festival	Jericho Beach Park Locarno Picnic Site	Vancouver Folk Festival Society	17-Jul	19-Jul	V & L & T	Cancelled
African Descent Festival	Thornton Park	African Descent Society	17-Jul	19-Jul	V & L	Cancelled
Punjabi Mela	Moberly Park	Vancouver Punjabi Mela Society	19-Jul	19-Jul		Cancelled
Beedie Presents	Malkin Bowl Area	BrandLIVE	24-Jul	26-Jul	L & T	Cancelled
Celebration of Light	English Bay Beach Park Vanier Park Alexandra Park Sunset Beach Park Ceperley Park	Vancouver Fireworks Festival Society	25-Jul	1-Aug	V & L & T	Cancelled
Powell Street Festival	Oppenheimer Park	Powell Street Festival Society	2-Aug	4-Aug	V	To be determined
Vancouver Dyke March	McSpadden Park Granview Park	Vancouver Dyke March & Festival Society	1-Aug	1-Aug	V	Cancelled
Vancouver International Pride Tennis Tournament BBQ	Stanley Park	Vancouver Tennis Association	2-Aug	2-Aug	L	Cancelled
Vancouver Pride Sunset Beach Festival	Alexandra Park English Bay Beach Park Sunset Beach Park Stanley Park	Vancouver Pride Society	2-Aug	3-Aug	V & L	Cancelled
Creekside Movie Night	Milton Wong Plaza	Creekside Community Centre	6-Aug	6-Aug		Cancelled
The Park Show	Jonathan Rogers Park	Live Nation	7-Aug	8-Aug	V & L & T	Cancelled
KitsFest	Kitsilano Park	Canada One Foundation	7-Aug	9-Aug	V & L	Cancelled
Beach Soccer Blast	Spanish Banks Beach Park	Beach Soccer Blast	7-Aug	9-Aug	V	To be determined
SeaWheeze Run & Festival	Stanley Park	Lululemon Athletica	15-Aug	15-Aug	V & L & T	Cancelled
Festival of India	Ceperley Park Second Beach	ISKCON of Western Canada	14-Aug	15-Aug	V	Cancelled
Cascade Ride	David Lam Park	Cascade Bicycle Club	22-Aug	22-Aug		Cancelled

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EVENT	SITE	ORGANIZATION	START DATE	END DATE	V – Vending L – Licensed T - Ticketed	EVENT STATUS
Roundhouse Fun Fair	David Lam Park	Roundhouse Community Arts and Rec. Centre	23-Aug	23-Aug	V	Cancelled
Pinoy Fiesta	South Memorial Park	Phillipine Canadian Cultural Society	23-Aug	23-Aug	V	To be determined
Victory Square Concert Festival	Victory Square Park	The Student Radio Society Of UBC (CITR 101.9FM)	6-Sep	6-Sep		Cancelled
Vancouver Triathlon	Ceperley Park	Multisport Canada	7-Sep	7-Sep	V	To be determined
Westward Street Party	Yaletown Park	Yaletown BIA	11-Sep	12-Sep	V & L	Cancelled
RBC GranFondo Whistler	Stanley Park	GranFondo Canada	12-Sep	12-Sep		Cancelled
Paws for a Cause	David Lam Park	BC SPCA	13-Sep	13-Sep	V & L	Cancelled
McSpadden Country Fair	McSpadden Park	McSpadden Country Fair	13-Sep	13-Sep	V	To be determined
Terry Fox Run	Ceperley Park Stanley Park Seawall	Four Seasons Hotel	15-Sep	15-Sep		To be determined
DTES Pow Wow	Portside Park	PHS Community Services Society	19-Sep	19-Sep		To be determined
Renfrew Ravine Moon Festival	Renfrew Park Slocan Park	Renfrew Park Community Centre	24-Sep	26-Sep	V	To be determined
Day of the Longboat	Jericho Sailing Centre Beach Area	UBC Recreation	26-Sep	4-Oct	V	To be determined
Grandville Island Turkey Trot	Creekside Park	Vancouver International Marathon Society	12-Oct	12-Oct		Cancelled
Light the Night	Lumberman's Stanley Park Seawall East Lost Lagoon	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society	16-Oct	18-Oct	V	To be determined
James Cunningham Seawall Race	Stanley Park Ceperley Park Seawall	Lions Gate Road Runners	1-Nov	1-Nov		To be determined
Remembrance Day Ceremony	Japanese War Monument, Stanley Park	Japanese Canadian Memorial	11-Nov	11-Nov		To be determined
Remembrance Day Ceremony	Memorial South Park	South Vancouver Veterans Association	11-Nov	11-Nov		To be determined

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Remembrance Day Ceremony	Victory Square	Vancouver Park Board	11-Nov	11-Nov		To be determined
Burn Fund Santa Run	Stanley Park Seawall	BC Professional Firefighters Burn Fund	28-Nov	28-Nov		To be determined
Santa Shuffle	Lumberman’s Arch, Stanley Park	The Salvation Army	5-Dec	5-Dec		To be determined
Winter Solstice Festival	Various Locations	Secret Lantern Society	21-Dec	21-Dec		To be determined

Definitions & Notes

- “To be determined” indicates that Park Board staff are awaiting further communication/direction from the event organizer.
- Vending requests are subject to standard terms and conditions, unless otherwise approved by the Park Board.
- Licensed areas are subject to VPD, VF&RS, and BCL&CRB approval.
- Ticketed events are subject to Park Board approval.