
From: Park Board GM's Office
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 2:58 PM
To: PB Commissioners
Cc: PB SLT (Senior Leadership Team) - DL; PB Communications
Subject: Code of Conduct for Council Members - Board Update

Dear Commissioners,

In response to enquiries received regarding Council's recent approval of recommendations to bring forward a [Code of Conduct for Council Members and Advisory Board Members](#) bylaw for enactment (see below City Communications email for final decision as amended – highlighted for quick reference), I wanted to confirm that this bylaw will not apply to Park Board Commissioners or Park Board advisory groups. Staff are working with City of Vancouver Legal to review options and recommendations for the Park Board to consider and will report back with more information.

Regards,

Donnie

Donnie Rosa | General Manager



Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
2099 Beach Avenue, Vancouver | 604.257.8448
pronouns: she/her they/them

I live and work on the unceded, ancestral territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and salilwətaʔ (Tseil-Waututh) peoples.

From: City of Vancouver Communications Office <CityofVancouver.CommunicationsOffice@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 2:30 PM
To: PB Commissioners <PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca>
Subject: News release: Events, decisions, and reports at City Council this week

City of Vancouver
News release
January 21, 2021

Events, decisions, and reports at City Council this week

Vancouver City Council met electronically this week to hear and discuss a variety of topics during Council, Public Hearing, and Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meetings.

Tuesday, January 19

The first Council meeting of the year began with a presentation by the BC Assessment Authority on an [Overview of Property Assessment and 2021 Assessment Roll](#). This was for Council's information, with no decision required.

The Acting City Clerk then [presented](#) on the [Report Back on the Random Order Ballot Model Used in the 2018 Vancouver Election](#). After Council asked staff questions, heard from one speaker, and debated, this was approved with amendments.

City staff gave a [presentation](#) on the [Downtown Eastside Special Enterprise Pilot Program](#). Council asked staff questions and heard from three speakers. After debate, this was approved.

Council also approved several reports and referral reports:

- [2021 Cultural Grants \(Operating, Annual Assistance, Arts Capacity, Indigenous](#)
- [Miscellaneous Amendments - Guidelines, Policies and Parking By-law](#)
- [Miscellaneous Amendments - Zoning and Development By-law and Sign By-law](#)
- [CD-1 Rezoning: 728-796 Main Street](#)
- [Rezoning: 607-621 West 28th Avenue](#)
- [CD-1 Rezoning: 1015 East Hastings Street](#)

Due to time constraints, remaining items on the meeting agenda were referred to a reconvening Council meeting on Wednesday, January 20.

A Public Hearing meeting was held on Tuesday evening on four rezoning applications, which were approved:

- [CD-1 Rezoning: 810 Kingsway](#) - heard from one speaker
- [CD-1 Rezoning: 2246-2268 East Broadway](#) - no speakers signed up
- [CD-1 Rezoning: 441-475 West 42nd Avenue](#) - heard from two speakers
- [CD-1 Rezoning: 5740 Cambie Street](#) - heard from two speakers

Wednesday, January 20

The Standing Committee on City Finance and Services began in the morning by approving:

- [Contract Award for General Excavated Materials Sorting, Loading and Hauling](#)
- [Contract Award for PS20200434 - Provision of a Sewage and Rainwater Management Plan \(“SRMP”\) for Vancouver](#)

Staff then gave a [presentation](#) on the [Code of Conduct for Council Members and Advisory Board Members](#). After asking staff questions and Council debate, this was approved with amendments.

Due to time constraints, the following items were referred to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on February 10:

- [Ensuring That People with Health and Mobility Issues Have Protection and Support When Elevators Break Down \(Member’s Motion B.2\)](#)
- [Improving Street Lighting in Vancouver \(Member’s Motion B.3\)](#)

In the evening, Council reconvened to deal with unfinished business from Tuesday’s Council meeting.

Staff gave a [presentation](#) on [7520 Balaclava Street - Proposed Agricultural Land Reserve Subdivision](#). After asking staff questions and hearing from one speaker, Council approved the recommendation not to support the application.

Council approved the following referral reports, by-laws, and administrative motion:

- [CD-1 Rezoning: 3084 West 4th Avenue and 2010 Balaclava Street](#)
- [CD-1 Rezoning: 1766 Frances Street](#)

- [By-laws 1 to 16](#), [By-law 17](#), and [By-laws 18 to 23](#)
- [Approval of Form of Development - 5027 Boundary Road](#)

In order to hear from speakers, the motion [Turning the Key: Encouraging Affordable Home Ownership in the City of Vancouver](#) was referred to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on February 10.

The motion [A Community Safety and Well being Framework](#) was withdrawn.

Council then dealt with new business, an Urgent Motion to Seek COVID-19 Wage Subsidy Funding for the PNE from Senior Levels of Government, and Congratulating U.S. President Biden. Council approved both.

The next Public Hearing is scheduled for Thursday, January 21, at 6:00 p.m. Find agendas and meeting reports via council.vancouver.ca.

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Notes to editors:

Quotes:

Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung

Regarding: Report Back on the Random Ballot

“This week Council received a report on the fairness and effectiveness of the random ballot responding to a motion I brought forward in 2019. Vancouver is continuing with a random ballot for future elections, but adding numbers to make it easier to find candidates. While it’s not perfect in terms of not eliminating order bias, I think this strikes the balance between fairness to candidates of an alphabetical ballot that always put the same people at the top, and ease for residents voting.

“Making voting easier and increasing turnout is important to our civic democracy. After the 2018 election, the City found that one in five surveyed said they didn’t vote because of the sheer length of the ballot, and that Vancouver had the longest civic election ballot in Canada! That’s why I also moved to increase the required number of nominator signatures required to throw your hat in the ring from 25 to 100 for Council candidates, and to 200 for Mayoral candidates. Glad the majority of Council voted for this; the request will now go to the Province to amend the Vancouver Charter.”

Regarding: Code of Conduct for Council Members

“I’m delighted Vancouver will now have its first ever external Integrity Commissioner to oversee a new and strengthened Code of Conduct for Council Members. The new Code of Conduct will deliver greater transparency for the public, as the findings of investigations will now be published, and any sanctions that might arise to a Council member would be done in public Council meetings. Having a third party Commissioner also ensures the process is not politicized and frivolous complaints can be dealt with appropriately. This beefed up policy is part of our commitment to increased transparency at City Hall.”

New and amended motions:

Please see new and amended motions below. These are draft copies provided for your understanding and the published minutes are the official record of the meeting.

Report Back on the Random Order Ballot Model Used in the 2018 Vancouver Election

- A. THAT Council direct staff to continue with the random order ballot model that was approved by Council and implemented for the 2018 general municipal election in the 2022 general municipal election;

FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to include the addition of numbers in front of candidate names on the ballot in the 2022 general municipal election.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to implement Recommendation A in any by-elections prior to the 2022 general municipal election.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to report back on a possible amendment to the *Vancouver Charter* to extend the candidate nomination period and move it to earlier in the election year (87 days), with additional considerations to synchronize the campaign period (currently 29 days) as defined in the *Local Election Campaign Finance Act*, to ensure reporting of third party advertising once candidates are nominated.
- D. THAT the City of Vancouver request that the Province amend the Vancouver Charter to require a minimum of 100 qualified nominators for Councillor candidates and 200 qualified nominators for Mayoral candidates.

The Code of Conduct for Council Members and Advisory Board Members (BY-LAW NO.____)

- A. THAT Council direct the City Solicitor to bring forward for enactment, a By-law (the “By-law”) substantially in the form attached as Appendix “A” to the Report dated January 8, 2021, entitled “The Code of Conduct for Council Members and Advisory Board Members (BY-LAW NO.____,” with the following amendments:
 - i. Section 2.8 (f)

responsibility: a member must respect and comply with the Acts of the Parliament of Canada, the Legislature of British Columbia, including the Vancouver Charter, city by-laws, and applicable city policies, and avoid conduct that, reasonably, undermines, or has the potential to undermine, public confidence in city governance—except members may participate in peaceful civil disobedience;
 - ii. Section 3.4 (c)

ensure that all communications by, and on behalf of a member, including communications made via social media, are respectful and do not discriminate, harass, or defame any person, recognizing that free and open debate is guaranteed under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms;
 - iii. Section 4.6

A member must not instruct or direct any of the city’s contractors, tenders, consultants or other service providers regarding city business; and
 - iv. Section 5.9 (b)

provide advice and recommendations to a Council member, regarding their compliance or disclosure obligations under a provincial statute, such as the *Financial Disclosure Act*, or other such statute that imposes an express compliance or disclosure obligation on the Council Member due to their position as an elected official, where requested to do so by a Council Member.

- B. THAT Council direct the City Solicitor to bring forward for approval consequential amendments to the Code of Conduct (Policy Number AE-028-01) to exclude application to Council Members and Advisory Board Members upon enactment of the By-law.
- C. THAT Council direct the City Manager to conduct a selection process after enactment and that a recommended candidate for Integrity Commissioner be put forward for Council's consideration.
- D. THAT Council approve a budget of \$200,000 in 2021 from the \$2 million Council contingency, and direct staff to identify an ongoing funding source from deferral of investments, adjustment to service levels, or additional property tax increases to be considered as part of the 2022 annual budget process.
- E. THAT Council direct the Integrity Commissioner to review the provisions of the provincial *Members Conflict of Interest Act* to consider whether any provisions or features of the Act should be implemented in the bylaw and that the Integrity Commissioner report back to Council, as part of their first annual report in 5.9(k) of the bylaw, with any resulting recommendations to improve the bylaw.
- F. THAT Council delegate the appointment of the ad hoc Commissioner to the City Manager in all cases, in the absence of an appointment of an integrity commissioner.

An Urgent Motion to seek COVID-19 Wage Subsidy Funding for the PNE from Senior Levels of Government

WHEREAS

1. The Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) is an iconic provincial institution with 110 years of history in British Columbia. It is the largest employer of youth in the province and employs 4,300 people at the height of its season each year (52% of PNE staff are under the age of 21);
2. The PNE brings a diversity of people together from different ethnicities, interests, and income levels through music, sport, cultural events, family entertainment, and recreation. These activities provide the financial foundation to support the PNE's social purpose of investing into programs for education, agriculture, arts and culture, accessibility, youth & community;
3. As of Jan 2004, ownership of the PNE was transferred from the Province to the City of Vancouver (having previously been a Provincial Crown Corp for 40 years). The PNE operates at arm's length from the City and has an independent Board of Directors. The PNE's operations are not funded by the City;
4. On April 18th of 2020, BC's Chief Medical Officer confirmed that large gatherings would not happen during the summer of 2020, which severely impacted the ability of the PNE to put on the PNE Fair, to open Playland, or to host revenue generating concerts, festivals, consumer shows, and festivals. All activities were eliminated for the 2020 season which resulted in \$52 million in cancelled event revenues and substantial layoffs (93% of the PNE's full time union team and 50% of its management team were laid off);
5. Due to the fact of the PNE's municipal ownership structure, the PNE has been unintentionally excluded from all federal COVID recovery programs including the wage subsidy (CEWS). To date, the PNE has not received a single dollar from any recovery program at any level of Government;
6. All other Fairs across Canada (CNE, Calgary Stampede, Edmonton Klondike days, Cloverdale Rodeo, BC AgriFair) are receiving the federal wage subsidy. Likewise, the PNE's entertainment

industry counterparts and venues are also receiving the wage subsidy (Rogers Arena, Brand Live, Live Nation) which clearly puts the PNE at a significant disadvantage in the present and in the post-COVID recovery period to come;

7. The level of debt incurred by the PNE in 2020 as a direct result of COVID-19 was \$10.5 million which has seriously impeded the PNE's cash flow and its ability to recover and mount programs in 2021 should restrictions be lifted by the Medical Health Officer;
8. If the PNE had been eligible for the wage subsidy, the PNE would have received \$3.6 million (as of November 25, 2020) and close to \$6 million by June of 2021 - which is when the wage subsidy program is scheduled to end;
9. As one of the largest Fairs in Canada, the PNE is now at a dramatic disadvantage in its ability to recover past 2021 even after freezing all spending, laying off all but essential services staff, and shutting down ventures and deferring capital payments with lenders;
10. Financial aid to reduce the PNE's COVID related debt and subsidize program costs in 2021 will be required for the organization to remain viable in the post COVID period.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Vancouver City Council call on the federal and provincial governments to support the PNE with wage subsidy funding on a special case basis due to the PNE's inadvertent and unintended exclusion from the federal CEWS wage subsidy program, a subsidy that is available to all other large Fairs across Canada as well as to the PNE's local entertainment industry counterparts and venues.
- B. THAT Vancouver City Council direct and otherwise empower the Mayor to write to the Premier of British Columbia, the Prime Minister of Canada, and all relevant Ministers of the Provincial and Federal Governments, on behalf of Council to seek an urgent funding arrangement that would help the PNE to not only survive the COVID-19 pandemic but to also begin to work toward the larger recovery of provincial tourism, arts, and culture sector in acknowledgement of the important contribution and major role the PNE plays in this sector of the economy.

Congratulating U.S. President Biden

THAT the Mayor write a letter on behalf of Council write to U.S. President Biden congratulating him on becoming the United States' 46th President and expressing hope and gratitude for his inaugural remarks calling for a new era of civility, compassion and bold action on the climate, social justice and health emergencies we are all facing.

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Thank you,
City of Vancouver