

GOAL 9:

SEEK TRUTH AS A FOUNDATION FOR RECONCILIATION

With Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh Nations

The City of Vancouver was founded on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh, and those Nations have endured decades of unjust treatment at the hands of the colonizers. At the Park Board, we are committed to the hard work of truth telling; the acknowledgment that First Nations are integral rights holders in the future of public parks and lands; the important process of reconciliation with the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations; and working towards a relationship built on equality and reciprocity.

Our steps towards reconciliation have included hiring a reconciliation planner along with Canada's first archaeologist with a specific focus on First Nations cultural history. Going forward we are committed to celebrating Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh art, stories and culture.

Continued training and supporting Park Board staff will ensure we continue to listen and grow, especially as we take on planning and programming of parks to reflect First Nations values. This knowledge and capacity building on First

Nations values and world-views can have tremendous impact on the design of our green spaces, the ongoing introduction of aboriginal language, and the programming of events that clearly and visibly reflect First Nations communities.

By acknowledging First Nations' intricate understanding of the environment we can improve our collective stewardship of the land, allowing people from all backgrounds to continue to experience and enjoy our cherished parks.