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Mayor Ken Sim statement on Park Board transition referendum legislation

VANCOUVER, B.C. – Today, Mayor Ken Sim released the following statement in response to the Minister Christine Boyle's announcement of new legislation:

"We appreciate Minister Boyle's decision to move forward with legislation this fall that would enable the City of Vancouver to transition the elected Park Board under the oversight of City Council, following a positive outcome from a public referendum.

"While we review the final details of the legislation and determine timing and next steps, we are hopeful that this announcement finally provides the clarity and direction needed to move this process forward.

"The Park Board Transition Working Group's final report found that transitioning the elected Park Board under City Council would save taxpayers a minimum of \$70 million over the next decade by reducing duplication and streamlining services that can be re-invested into our parks and recreation facilities.

"Our goal has always been to provide the world-class parks and recreation facilities that Vancouverites deserve. Our parks are the heart of our city, and we are excited to potentially bring forward a new era for parks and recreation."

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