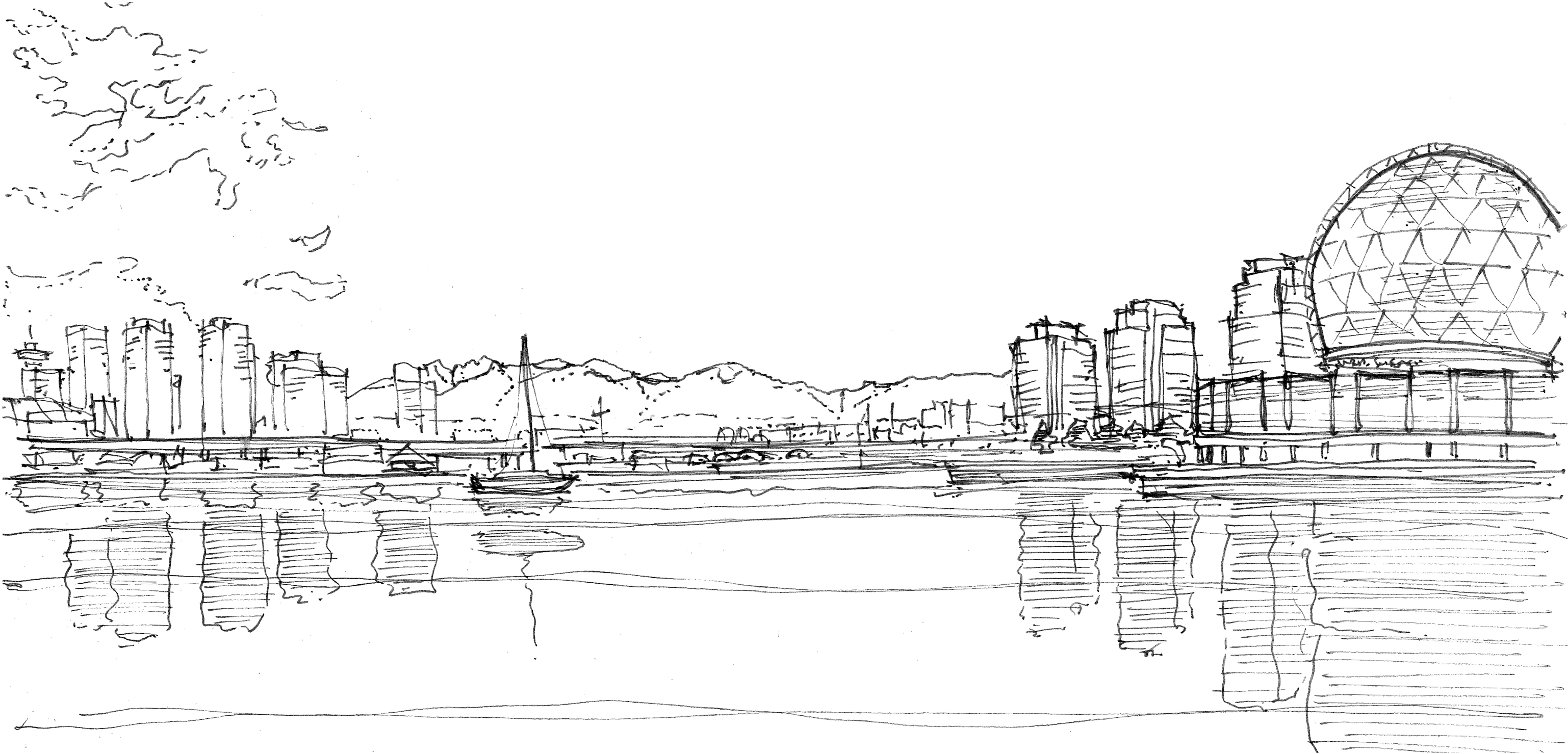


NORTHEAST FALSE CREEK PARK DESIGN

STAGE 3 ENGAGEMENT: SUMMARY REPORT



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INTRODUCTION

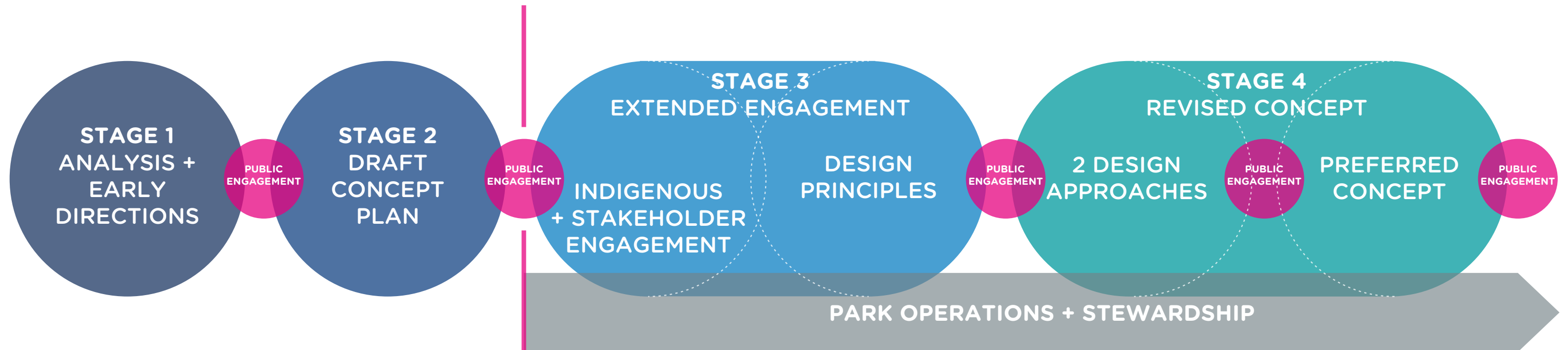
2018 ENGAGEMENT

The Northeast False Creek (NEFC) park design process includes an extensive engagement program, set within the larger NEFC Plan implementation. The design of a new major urban park in the last piece of undeveloped waterfront on the downtown peninsula has generated much interest from rights-holding First Nations, community groups and stakeholders, as well as the public.

Following the presentation of a Draft Concept Design in 2017, staff extended the listening phase to take the time to engage deeper with the local First Nations and park stakeholders. Staff have been working closely with the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations to acknowledge Indigenous values and understand how this park can embody and express reconciliation.

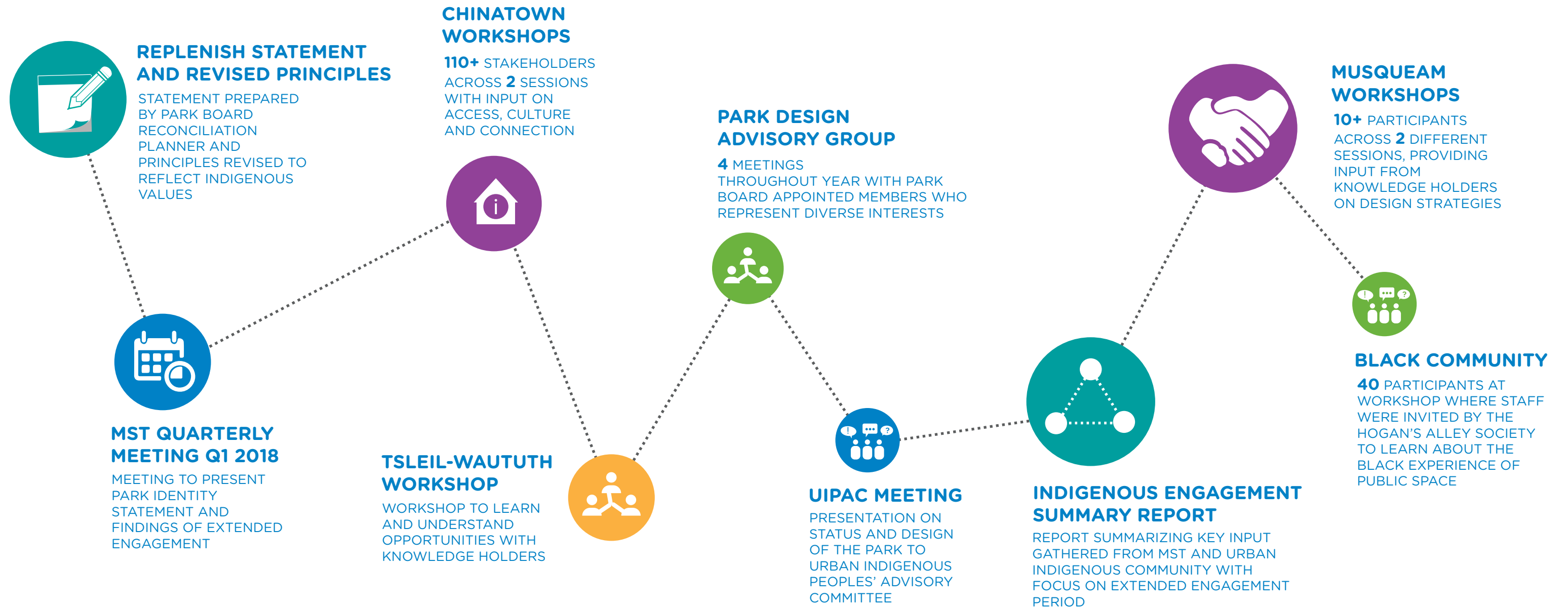
Staff have also heard from the Chinatown and Black communities. Finally, work has been brought to the NEFC Park Design Advisory Group and public groups through an online survey. With the principles re-confirmed, and a greater understanding of the need for a replenishing space, cultural redress and balanced program, staff will continue moving forward into Stage 4 with two design approaches.

DESIGN + ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK



ENGAGEMENT: STAGE 3

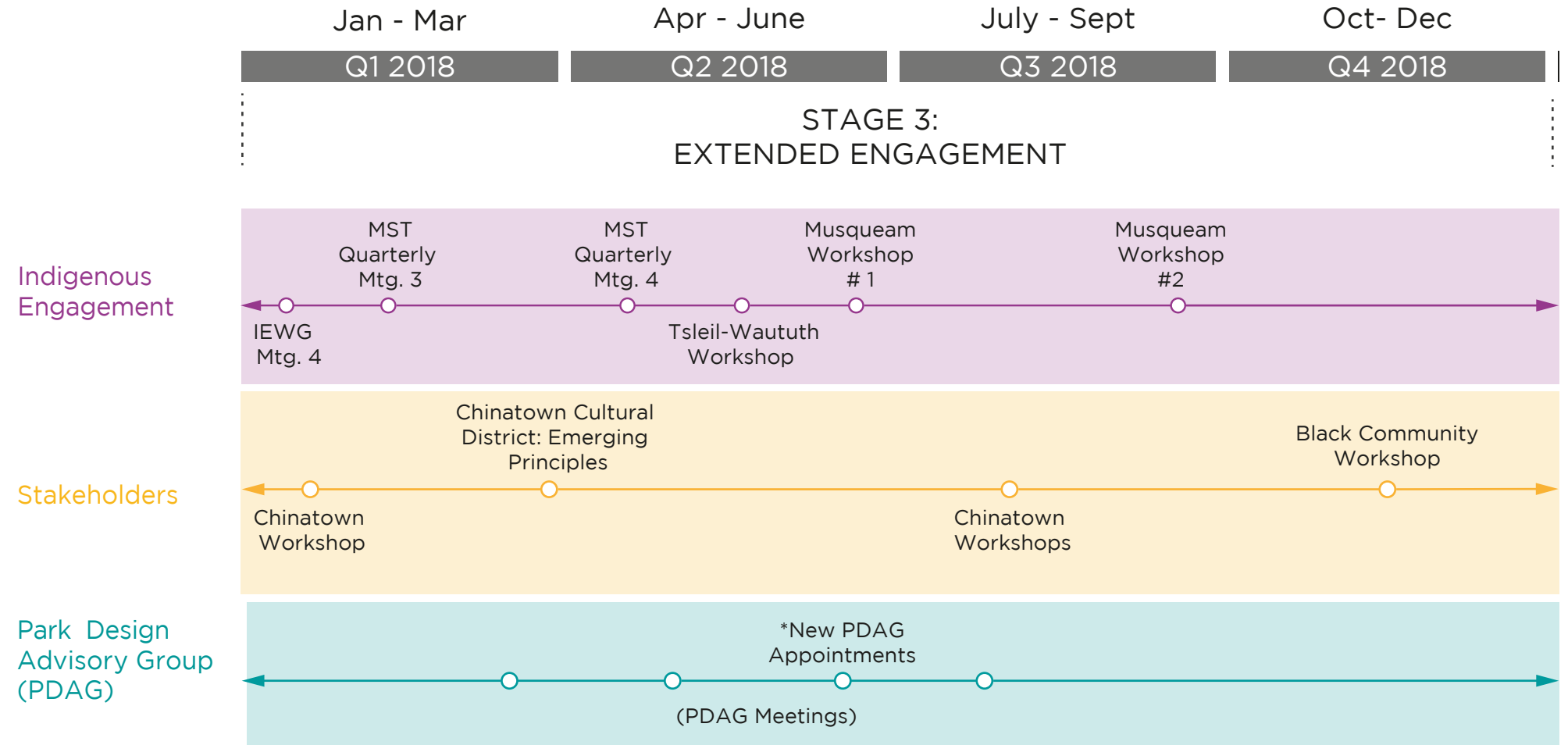
WHAT WE DID



TIMELINE

WHAT WE DID

Through the course of 2018, staff engaged with a variety of groups, including the rights-holding Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, Chinatown and the Black community, the Park Design Advisory Group and the members of the public through an online survey. Continuing the extended engagement of 2017, this process was essential for confirming the new principles and vision for the park as reflecting local First Nations values and creating a welcoming place.



Terms:

Indigenous Engagement Working Group (IEWG)
Musqueam, Squamish & Tsleil-Waututh (MST)

PARK IDENTITY VISION STATEMENT



REPLENISH

We live busy lives; we devote our energies to many things. We deplete.

We need a place to replenish, to relate to the land and to the water, a way to nourish and to support ourselves and each other. We need to learn a new way to be, and a new way to belong.

For millennia the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations nurtured and were nourished by the land we now call home. Their long and ongoing relationship with this land embodies goals we all have: sustainability, community, and wellness. Their gardening practices ensured food, clothing, and medicine for generation after generation. Their stewardship shaped this place.

Imagine a space for Indigenous Peoples to practice their cultures. Imagine the open arms of the people and their welcome figures that once graced these shores. Imagine returning to that space, and restoring practices that connect people to land. Imagine what it is to belong to a place, and to learn how you belong.

We need to replenish.

We need to reconnect to the land. We need a place inspired by and supporting Indigenous cultural practice.

We need Northeast False Creek Park.

PARK IDENTITY

REVISED PRINCIPLES

TEXT IN PINK INDICATES CHANGE OR ADDITION FROM PREVIOUS PRINCIPLE BASED ON ENGAGEMENT INPUT

IDENTITY



ROOTED IN LOCAL FIRST NATIONS CULTURES

- **Make apparent in the park the long and continued presence of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples in their own lands**
- **Reflect** Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh values and principles
- Create a place inspired by and supporting Indigenous cultural practices



BELONGING

- **Reconnect people to land and water**
- Create a place to connect with each other
- **Design a space that supports diverse cultural expressions**
- **Nourish a sense of belonging by connecting people to place**



OPEN, SAFE, ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE

- Develop welcoming park edges, and entrances from land and water
- Balance active sport and recreation, leisure and cultural activities
- Design for all ages and abilities, especially with seniors in mind
- **Welcome and support people with less social or economic privilege**
- Ensure safe use of the park and respectful interaction between park users



ACKNOWLEDGE RACIAL & CULTURAL INEQUITIES

- **Redress exclusion by designing for racialized communities**
- Design park spaces to accommodate a variety of cultural programming
- Mark entryways to Chinatown at Carrall Promenade, at Pacific Blvd & Quebec St.
- Create lively pathways between **adjacent communities** and the waterfront



FLEXIBLE

- Design multi-purpose spaces that serve daily functions and special events
- Over time: allow program to easily change throughout the day and night, over the seasons and throughout the years
- Layer uses and activities so that they can happen concurrently
- Explore use of modular design features



CARED FOR

- Learn from indigenous models of stewardship
- Cultivate a feeling of ownership and stewardship from park users
- Provide **robust and durable** park elements
- Ensure **support for** a high level of on-going care, maintenance and operation of the park

COMMUNITY

NATURE



LIVING SHORELINE

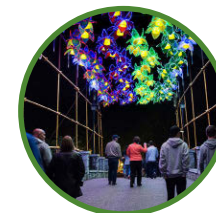
- **Nurture conditions that would allow for future water access to the park**
- **Create a green and lush habitat at the shoreline**
- Enhance the ecological quality of the water's edge
- Create a resilient landscape that is adaptable to sea level rise and climate change



ECOLOGICALLY RICH

- Explore an Indigenous approach to planting
- Represent a coastal ecology that reflects the False Creek basin
- Enhance the variety of species to create ecologically and visually rich environments
- **Balance human use and habitat creation**

DESTINATION



DISTINCT

- Create a common place to meet, mingle and celebrate
- Create a park that provides local amenity and regional waterfront destination
- Create a vibrant place to host civic celebrations and **a variety of** gatherings
- Maximize long views of water and the mountains
- **Balance destination park uses with community needs**



AUTHENTICALLY ROOTED IN PLACE

- **Recognize the full history of the site and all its contributors**
- Celebrate arts and integrate public art
- Create casual spaces that allow for informality
- Maximize the use of natural materials
- Celebrate the rain



FIRST NATIONS WHAT WE HEARD

Early in the year, staff presented at the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh quarterly meeting what we heard through the extended engagement process so far. At the same time, *Replenish*, the park identity statement, was prepared by the Park Board Reconciliation Planner. A summary of Indigenous Engagement was provided mid-year with a description of activities.

Through the summer and fall, workshops were held with Tsleil-Waututh and Musqueam to explore approaches for meaningfully implementing the revised park principles. The valued input from knowledge holders ranged from considerations for shoreline design to stewardship and programming opportunities.

VISIBILITY
OF LOCAL
FIRST NATIONS

A WELCOMING
PLACE TO
GATHER

INDIGENOUS
APPROACH TO
PLANTING

ORIENT TO THE
WATERFRONT

A PLACE TO
HEAL

A PLACE TO
LEARN FROM

WHAT WE'RE DOING

The principles were adjusted to include the category of *Identity*, reflecting local First Nations' values in the park and following the *Replenish* statement to provide spaces to reconnect to land and water, as well as each other.

The design of the park is being oriented toward the water with an approach to shoreline access that recognizes and attempts to redress the Eurocentrism of the previous concept. An Indigenous gathering space is being provided at the waterfront.

Planting will focus on native species, and the design consultant will explore a collaboration with an Indigenous ethnobotanist in later stages. Natural areas are being woven throughout the park, with a stormwater feature that helps improve water quality in False Creek.



CHINATOWN

WHAT WE HEARD

Staff met twice with the Chinatown community in 2018: in January and in June. This effort demonstrated a renewed commitment to acknowledging the needs of Chinatown groups and understanding how the existing park and proposed principles relate to requests from the community.

The first workshop involved providing an update to 110 stakeholders on the NEFC Plan, working in breakout groups to hear personal, professional, and community-based input. The second, smaller workshop, over two days, was an opportunity to receive feedback and guidance on the refined principles for the park. We heard that staff should work to strengthen the park's connection to Chinatown, enhance the park's cultural context and support the cultural life of the community.

CONNECT TO
WATERFRONT

ADDRESS
SAFETY

SERVE THE
COMMUNITY

SUPPORT
CULTURAL LIFE

MULTI-
GENERATIONAL

REFLECT
CULTURAL
CONTEXT

WHAT WE'RE DOING

The design is pursuing a number of changes to Andy Livingstone Park to provide better connections, access and cultural context for Chinatown.

The sports fields are being re-oriented to create a plaza space that celebrates entry into Chinatown and relates to Memorial Square, open street edges along Keefer and Quebec for flexible use spaces, and enhance movement through and around the fields.

Connections to the waterfront and Chinatown are strengthened through the Carrall Greenway, which is straightened and provides a range of adjacent spaces, seating and lighting. A pedestrian walking bridge is being explored to connect over Pacific Blvd. These connections are intended to provide breadcrumbs that draw the vitality from the new neighbourhood and waterfront into Chinatown.



BLACK COMMUNITY

WHAT WE HEARD

At the invitation of the Hogan's Alley Society, Park Board and City staff attended a workshop of over 40 participants. Following short presentations, the group was split into 5 tables to review topics and questions centered on the experiences of the Black community in public space.

In the historic context of the demolition of Hogan's Alley with the construction of the viaducts, the continued exclusion of the Black community from the planning process, and the oppression and racism faced by Black people gathering in public spaces, staff learned concerns around safety and criteria for inclusive public spaces and discussed means of actualizing plans and policy.

UNSAFE AND SURVEILLED

REDRESS EXCLUSION

GENUINE IMPACT AND INFLUENCE

CULTURAL EXPRESSION

BY AND FOR BLACK PEOPLE

CONNECT WITH FIRST NATIONS

WHAT WE'RE DOING

Staff and the design team acknowledge the historic practice of cultural and racial exclusion in their organizations and are working to include a Black professional within the design process.

The team acknowledges now the challenge that large open spaces pose to Black people in terms of surveillance and visibility. A range of spaces of different sizes and levels of intimacy are being explored, understanding that circular forms emphasize exchange and communal gathering.

The gathering space informed by Indigenous principles at the waterfront explores food sharing, outdoor fire, and performance, and will support intercultural connection and community gathering.



PARK DESIGN ADVISORY GROUP

WHAT WE HEARD

The NEFC Park Design Advisory Group met four times over 2018. Staff presented the vision statement, the refined principles, and the findings of extended engagement for members to provide input. The group was encouraging of the new park direction, understood that the identity was feeling distinct but still of this place, and recognized the importance of Reconciliation and focusing on Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh (MST) values.

Discussions focused on connecting to Chinatown, use of the sports fields, appropriate event spaces, and the boundary of the park. It was understood to take special care in accommodating different interests under the coherent theme of a welcoming place for Vancouverites on Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh land.

**STRONG MST
IDENTITY**

**SPORTS FIELDS
ARE IMPORTANT**

**CLARIFY PARK
BOUNDARIES**

**CONSIDER
CHINATOWN**

**SPACES FOR
EVENTS?**

**BALANCE
INTERESTS**

WHAT WE'RE DOING

The designs are being adjusted to provide better connections with Chinatown while maintaining two sports fields that meet FIFA requirements. Staff have been working to understand the appropriate capacity and constraints for event hosting in the park but also within the context of the Northeast False Creek Plan.

Extents and boundaries of the park are largely driven by City Planning processes with Park staff acknowledging the ongoing public effort to increase and maintain the size of the park.

The team has been working with Indigenous staff and community members to better communicate that the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh values informing the design of the park are inherently welcoming and replenishing.



ONLINE SURVEY

WHAT WE HEARD

In summer 2018, the project website hosted a survey of the updated guiding principles to help to refine them further, and to guide the direction of the revised concept design. Over 250 people participated.

There was overall support of the principles, but also questions about next steps, how to illustrate these principles in the a park design and concerns about how to balance certain principles that seemed incompatible.

We heard support for ecology and providing habitat, prioritizing a quiet park for the neighbourhood; serving local people first and foremost, ensuring safety, and that a community park allows for a variety of uses and activities to take place.

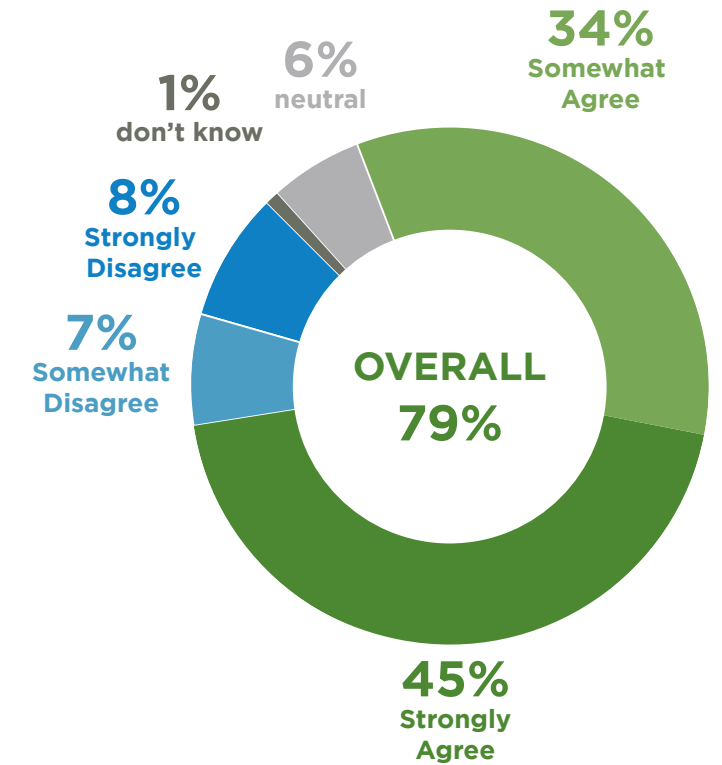


IDENTITY

COMMUNITY

NATURE

DESTINATION

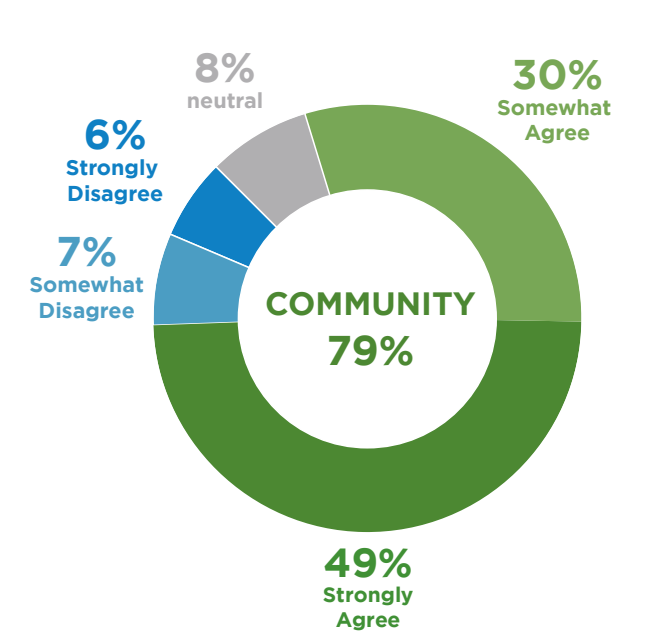
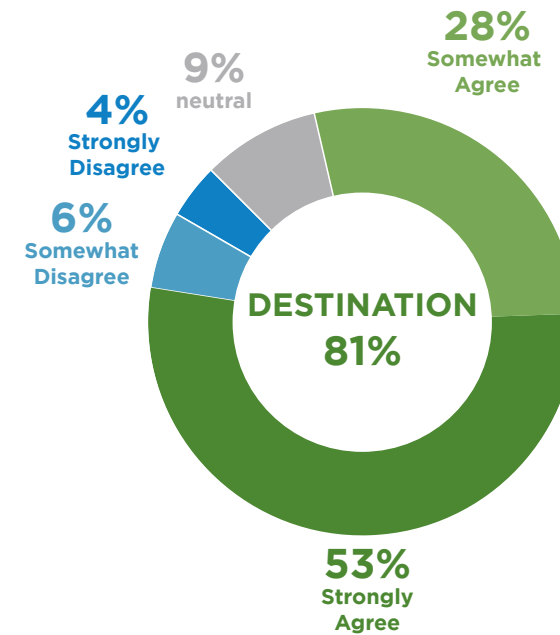
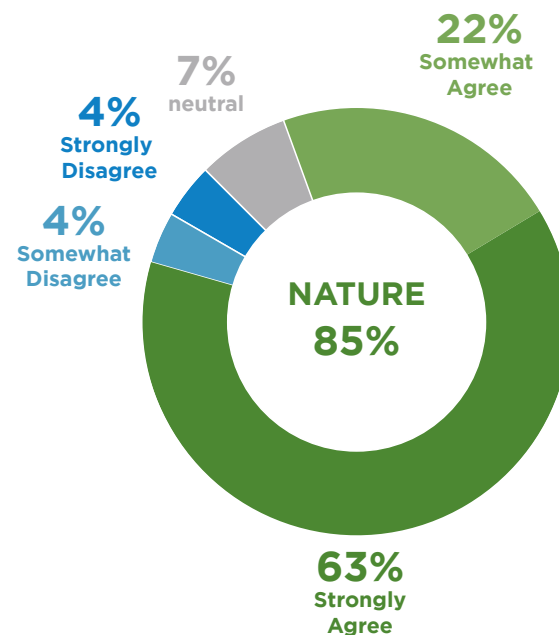


WHAT WE'RE DOING

Details of the principles were adjusted to reflect the input, and are now guiding the design of the park. The principle of *Identity* was added based on input with the local First Nations.

Concept designs will explore a series of ecological zones, from subtidal to upland, to provide a range of habitats. Trees along a raised outer edge have acoustic benefits for the neighbourhood.

The design of spaces, lighting and arrangement of the sports fields include considerations to increase safety, while an assortment of spaces of different sizes and treatments throughout the park intends to diversify use and programming of activities.





NEXT STEPS

STAGE 4 ENGAGEMENT

The activities of 2018 conclude Stage 3: Extended Engagement, and position the team to effectively introduce and carry out Stage 4: Revised Concept Plan through 2019.

Two design approaches are evolving: sketches for concepts based on the revised principles and what we heard through the extended engagement process. Staff will seek feedback on these designs with rights-holding local First Nations, Chinatown and the Black community, stakeholders and identified interest groups and the NEFC Park Design Advisory Group.

This process will lead to the refinement of the design approaches before they are brought to the public at an open house. Based on the engagement, a preferred design will be prepared, confirmed through further check-ins and developed for a second open house before going to the Park Board for decision.