

## 1.0 Background

### Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

The Vancouver Park Board is almost as old as the city itself, formed in 1888 as a committee to manage the new Stanley Park. The Park Board has exclusive possession, jurisdiction, and control of 225 public parks in Vancouver and a large recreation system of community centres, pools, rinks, fitness centres, golf courses, street trees, marinas, playing fields, and more.

Up until 2007, park names were selected through recommendations by Park Board Commissioners, residents and/or the community. In 2007, the Vancouver Park Board approved a new standardized process for naming parks which would be consistently applied when future parks need naming. The 2007 policy outlined a process which included input from the local community as well as residents with geographical and cultural relevance to the parks in question.

## 2.0 Mandate

The role of the Park Naming Committee is to review proposed park names proposed by the public and to advise the Park Board on matters pertaining to the naming of parks within the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation. This is consistent with the 2007 Park Naming Process and the Park Board and City of Vancouver's strategic goals and objectives.

## 3.0 Membership

The Park Naming Committee will consist of five volunteer citizens from Vancouver. No elected City of Vancouver or Park Board official, or staff member will sit on the Committee. The Committee will be comprised of one person from each of the following interest areas:

- a) Environmental/naturalistic realm, with expertise in local area environmental and ecological considerations, e.g.
  - The Vancouver Natural History Society – since 1918 this non-profit organization has promoted the enjoyment of nature while fostering public interest, education and appreciation of the natural world.
  - Evergreen – a national, not for profit charitable organization whose mission is to inspire and enable action to green cities.
  
- b) Commemorative/historical realm, with expertise in local history, community heritage, historical built form, and/or First Nations community history, e.g.
  - The Vancouver Historical Society – established in 1936 to stimulate public interest in Vancouver's history, to encourage historical research and to promote the designation and preservation of historic sites.
  - Heritage Vancouver – an independent non-profit society, encouraging the community to preserve, restore, and appreciate Vancouver's heritage.
  - A noted Vancouver historian or historical author

- c) Youth realm, with expertise in engaging youth in community-oriented activities or processes, e.g.
  - The Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA) – a youth driven non-profit organization dedicated to the health of the urban environment.

In order to be informed on local history, context and issues, each Committee will have two additional ad hoc members to provide community-specific representation based in the vicinity of the unnamed park such as:

- a. a local community group working close to the unnamed park, and
- b. other neighbourhood group, i.e.. Business Improvement Association

#### **4.0 Application and Selection**

Following a call for interest from the various local organizations, successful applicants will be notified and the appointment of selected individuals will be made by the Park Board.

#### **5. Meetings and Process**

The Park Naming Committee will:

- Meet two times over the course of the Park Naming Process, with each meeting lasting no more than two hours. In addition, a working session of up to two hours may be held on an as-needed basis. If a Committee member is unable to attend, they must chose a designate approved by Park Board staff. Exact timing of PNC Meetings to be included on the Letter of Invitation.
- Review names collected through a public engagement process
- Develop a short list of preferred names
- Recommend names to the Park Board
- Standing members will commit to a membership of 3 years and ad hoc members will commit for approximately 4 months.