



Pacific National Exhibition  
SINCE 1910

# MEETING MINUTES

Hastings Park / PNE Community Advisory Group  
Tuesday July 19, 2022  
5:30pm  
Hastings Room and via Teams

**Present: PNE Staff**

Karen Massicotte, Vice President, Sales, Marketing & Business Development  
Jeff Strickland, Vice President, Operations  
Janell Yan, Assistant Manager, Sales & Marketing  
Thomas Chen, Senior Project Manager, Hastings Park – PNE Master Plan

**Community Advisory Group Members**

Dino Singh  
Ruby Wong  
Patricia Barnes  
Courtney Komonasky  
Linda Chow  
Debbie Schachter

**Regrets:** Stewart Anderson  
Jason Mcgarry  
Mayura Colling

## **AGENDA TOPICS**

Prior to the meeting starting, Karen welcomed the group as this was the first 2022 meeting. We did round table introductions.

### **1. Orientation – Karen & Jeff**

- Karen did an overview of what the PNE does, vision, mission and core values
- Jeff did an overview of governance of Hastings Park, Infrastructure Strategy Responsibilities and Area of Responsibility
- Jeff went over CAG Terms of Reference, CAG meeting commitments, purpose and importance of confidential information shared in meetings
- Karen did a brief overview of upcoming topics for the year

### **2. 2022 PNE/Hastings Park Business Overview – Karen & Jeff**

- Karen delivered a summary of Hastings Park Business overview
- Playland June 6 – Aug 19, moving away from September date as Fright Night returns Oct 7 – 31
- 2022 Community Priorities – to reinstate Community Programs and Initiatives

- Courtney asked what is Safe Drive Through program?
  - Karen answered, with the increase people in the neighbourhood during events, the PNE increases security needs. Patrol team ensures there is a presence or report back to on nights of events and post event clean up needs.

### 3. PNE/Hastings Park Master Plan Update – Inform Planning

- Ben (Inform Planning) did an overview of what is included in the Amphitheatre project including bike pathway, pedestrian walkways, bike routes and vision for the project.
- Linda asked what the current capacity is in the Amphitheatre
  - Karen answered it was based on number of exits and the capacity is 7000.
- Linda asked if the roof will be entirely enclosed
  - Karen answered, full seating area including stage will be covered but open air is priority for full year season in the Amphitheatre
- Inform Planning played a presentation asking questions to the group.

#### 1) **If any neighbourhood groups benefit or is disadvantaged by renewal of the PNE Amphitheatre?” For example, from 7000 capacity to 10,000 capacity**

- Courtney answered it would be positive as it opens doors for way more shows and great to just walk over. The space would be better for Vancouver rain, and sees Rogers Area as too big. She added that the PNE has done a great job with sound mitigation.
- Ruby said those that are more cautious of covid protocols would benefit as it would have open air. She also asked if it would be open to the public if there is no event taking place in the Amphitheatre.
  - Karen responded that the PNE is working with different cultural groups, the symphony, residential use, community cultural groups initiative to bring in more traditional concerts and offer community rates
- Dino added that he does not see sound as an issue and potential roof would help cover the sound and echo.
- Debbie added that the increase in capacity is beneficial, would enjoy live music in neighbourhood as it is closer and with more capacity, hopefully the changes of selling out is minimal.
- Linda asked if the PNE could assist with adding a transit stop at Windemere to help with the amount of people.
  - Patricia added that there is a Transportation Study happening soon
  - Karen added during PNE events there is an increase in transportation and working on relocation services during events with Evo.
- Patricia asked when does the Amphitheatre project start
  - Thomas responded that the development and design stage is taking place now and is working with consultants to review the feedback. The next step is programming such as Front of House, Back of House that will begin next summer. Initial design will take place end of October with a 2026 estimated completion date
- Debbie asked if this is approved by the Capital Plan



- Courtney answered that it was approved June of last year
  - Linda asked if the roof is finalized
  - Courtney (Inform Planning) answered that the process is still early but is top priority. The size and cost still need to be evaluated
- 2) What measures are recommended to ensure potential negative impacts to community are minimized. For example, Transit or Roof**
- Patricia answered that factual communication is provided and out in timely manner
  - Ruby asked what about heating?
    - Jeff answered that is still to be considered
- 3) What is the ideal outcome of the Amphitheatre renewal for the Community?**
- Debbie responded that the proposal for different pricing for different uses is important
  - Patricia added the important of communication regarding traffic mitigation
- 4) How would you like to use the Amphitheatre, to attend events?**
- Patricia responded that it would be a great opportunity for groups such as the Opera and other community groups that currently cannot find accommodation. Other groups such as East Side Arts Society in Strathcona.
  - Jeff added that it would be a win for everyone as this project allows more ease to entry and reduces barriers to entry. It would allow flexibility for non-profit and community groups as majority of the space would be set up which is the result of much of the cost today where the space is empty.
- 5) How would you like to use the Urban Plaza – between the Amphitheatre and Livestock Barns?**
- Linda suggested to remove asphalt and potentially adding a playground for kids. Could be used a pre-show/gathering place or the Famer's Market could be held in this space
  - Courtney asked if there would be amenities in the plaza and if the film trucks would stay
    - Karen responded that smaller community groups and gatherings like small festivals would be ideal for this space.
  - Ruby added it would be nice to have a coffee shop in the area
  - Patricia suggested Native/Indigenous Celebration Plaza
  - Linda asked if the PNE has reached out to any Indigenous Organizations?
    - Karen answered that Shelly is in communication with all 3 nations
- 4) How would you like to interact with the daylighted stream?**
- Courtney responded that it would be nice to walk along all the way to New Brighton with a walking path and benches.
  - Ruby added to have signage for learning/educational purposes
  - Linda included to provide educational signage on ways to support nature



#### 4) Round Table Questions

- Patricia asked if there would be disruptions to the PNE with the Amphitheatre project
  - Thomas responded that Miller Drive would be available and there is lots of parking available for staging and construction.
  - Jeff added that it is ideal to try to avoid the disruption of the Fair and will be creative with venues such as the Coliseum as temporary spaces.
  - Earl (Inform Planning) added that the plan is build off site as much as possible to reduce the amount of disruption
- Courtney asked when will the project begin?
  - Karen responded that it relies heavily on the supply chain
  - Thomas added that a Spring start is ideal and hopefully finish in the Summer
  - Courtney (Inform Planning) also added that the permitting process is unknown and plays a huge factor on the start date/time
- Debbie asked what the duration of the project is
  - Thomas answered 18 months to 2-year build