



PNE MINUTES

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP
TUESDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2023
5:30PM-7:00PM
PNE HASTINGS ROOM

Present: **PNE Staff**

Rebecca Savory, Manager, Community Relations & Communications
Sam Ellis, Administrative Assistant
Shauna Wilton, Vice President, Event Operations

CAG in-person

Courtney Komonasky
Debbie Schachter
Stewart Anderson
Mayura Colling
Dino Singh
Ruby Wong
Shelley Dubé

Regrets:

Patricia Barnes
Karen Massicotte, Vice President, Sales, Marketing & Business Development

Did not attend:

Linda Dallow
Jason McGarry

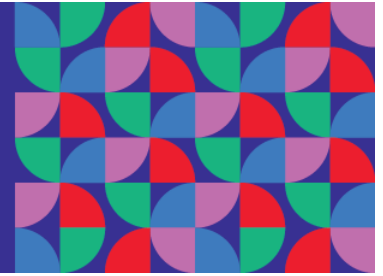
AGENDA TOPICS

1. Introducing Shauna Wilton, Vice President of Operations

- Shauna introduced herself, gave a brief overview of her previous roles, and covered the portfolios she oversees at the PNE and updates she will present in future meetings.



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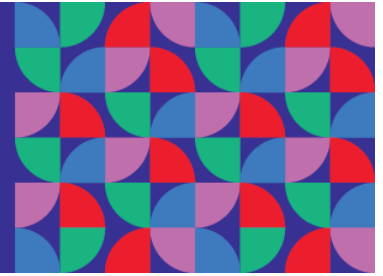
2. Open House Recap

- Rebecca re-capped the Agenda from the Community Open House on November 2 and shared reflections on the improvement in productive two-way conversations of Open Houses.
- This was followed by a Q&A from CAG members:
 - Stewart asked if the Amphitheatre timeline had changed at all since it was announced. Rebecca responded no, it remains the same.
 - Courtney asked if the PNE was still being considered as a FIFA fan zone in 2026. Rebecca said yes, the PNE was still being considered.
 - Stewart asked what would happen to the outdoor concert series between now and the completion of the Amphitheatre. Shauna explained there are two considerations - Summer Night Concerts (during Fair) and the outdoor concert series (outside of Fair time). Both are being looked at with multiple options for both being considered. The solutions will be shared as soon as decided. She added that a lot of aspects of Fair will change in 2024 to accommodate the construction on site.
 - Courtney noted the gate location change outside the Pacific Coliseum at this year's Fair confused a few people, and that changes to the Fair layout have a big impact on regular guests.
 - Debbie asked for more information on the Greening of the Park agenda item. Rebecca explained that unfortunately, 40 trees across Hastings Park have been identified as dead/dying and will need to be removed. A full tree planting strategy update will be shared at the Public Board Meeting on December 7.

3. Public Board Meeting Submissions

- Rebecca explained that, as per her email two weeks' ago, public questions and topic submissions would be collected through the PNE's Community Advisory Group for the December Public Board Meeting, in order to capture a wide range of input, as CAG members represent their neighbourhood, their community, as well as the Hastings Park Conservancy, The Hastings Community Association, and the Hastings North Business Improvement Association.
- Submissions from CAG members were:
 - Mayura – Addressing the Daylighting of the Stream, particularly the dryness of the stream in Creekway Park (outside PNE-managed area).
 - Rebecca explained this was covered in the Community Open House on November 2 and a summary of the update would be shared on the PNE website.
 - Mayura – What are the next steps of the Masterplan beyond the Launch Coaster and the Amphitheatre?
 - Debbie – What was the outcome of pursuing another bus stop during the PNE Fair (for the R5) closer to the Playland entrance?

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- Rebecca noted that the PNE hopes to bring in TransLink to present on all transit surrounding the Park at a future Community Open House, as the PNE knows it is a point of great interest to the community.
- Stewart – What is the latest news/updates on zero-waste initiatives in the park? He noted that communication of our waste diversion is not shared as widely anymore.
- Shelley – What steps is the PNE taking towards truth & reconciliation? She noted a lack of Indigenous storytelling across the Park, despite the cultural significance of the site.
- Stewart – Can the historic agricultural focus of the PNE Fair be brought back stronger, year-round, and publicly visible throughout the Park? For example, a year-round, outdoor “chef’s garden”.
- Stewart – What is being done to update/improve signage around some of the public art in the Park? For example, some plaques give a colonial perspective and could be improved to be more inclusive.
- Shelley – Can we find out what will happen with the dead/dying trees that are being felled, and is there potential to partner with Indigenous artists?
 - Rebecca noted a full update on the tree removal and replacement is already on the agenda.
- Debbie – Has the City been adequately investing in the upkeep of the buildings in Hastings Park? Is there interest in supporting the PNE/Hastings Park in a greater way?
 - Shauna explained that the PNE is City-owned, however not City-funded, noting some exceptions pertaining to the exterior of buildings as City-owned assets.

4. Winter Fair Preview

- Rebecca gave an overview of the event, the new ‘Park Access’ information showing fence lines on the PNE website, and the Neighbourhood ticket program.
 - Debbie said that rerouting bike lanes and putting in plenty of signs for diversions is very important.
 - Debbie asked if the event would continue to expand in the future?
 - Shauna said yes, the event would continue to grow year-on-year as it picks up momentum.

5. 2023 - Year in Review

- Rebecca recapped all community initiatives that have been reintroduced in 2023 (post-pandemic) as well as all new community initiatives that have been introduced this year.
 - Courtney said she thought the neighbourhood in general has settled down and the CAG meetings have been really good. She said the community open houses helped to address the concerns of the neighbourhood and correct misinformation, particularly in regards to the Amphitheatre, which helped to reduce public anxiety.
 - Shelley agreed, saying people appreciated being heard. She noted that when she reached out during the loud 2022 summer, she received a response from Rebecca straight away and was very surprised and impressed. She said it calmed her down to know that someone was listening.
 - Rebecca thanked them for their feedback and said we will continue to share openly, often and across multiple platforms as we strive to build back the neighbourhood’s trust.



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- Ruby said there is still opportunity to tell more good stories about the PNE's community programs, for example telling the storied of the groups and events made possible by the PNE's Community Grant Fund.
- Ruby noted that the PNE's social media only shares events news, but could include more community and park news.
 - Rebecca noted that social media is a marketing tool for the PNE and we try to balance what people want from a platform, with community and park news shared through the community newsletter.
 - Mayura responded that the younger generation appreciate environmental and community news, as well as event information.

6. Look to 2024

- Rebecca shared the tentative CAG meeting dates for 2024. They will be confirmed and sent to members in the New Year.

7. AOB

- Debbie noted the Farmer's Market had started and was in its same location.
 - Rebecca said, as per the discussion at the last CAG meeting, a new location in the parking lot on East Hastings opposite Playland was discussed and may still be explored for next season.
- Stewart noted that there is a common thoroughfare for walkers/runners in the Park, at the Northwest corner outside the sanctuary, from the sanctuary gravel path, across the grass to the 'main line'. It is not paved and the grass is very damp and becomes like a bog. He said the addition of a path there would be huge help.

Meeting ended 18:50pm.

Next meeting is TBC.