



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
6:30PM – THURSDAY OCTOBER 23, 2025
PNE Hastings Room
PUBLIC PORTION MINUTES

We respectfully acknowledge that the PNE operates on the unceded traditional and ancestral territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

Chair Klassen called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Present: Mike Klassen, Chair
Raj Sihota, Director
Maury Kask, Director
Rachel Roy, Director
Colin Knight, Director
Ty Speer, Director

Shelley Frost, President & CEO
Karen Massicotte, Vice President, Sales and Marketing
Salome Valente, Executive Assistant / Corporate Secretary
Ming Tian, Vice President, Facilities, Maintenance & Capital Projects
Shauna Wilton, Vice President, Operations
Stacy Shields, Vice President, People & Culture
Claire Wang, Vice President, Finance & Corporate Services

Regrets: Steve Jackson, Vice Chair
Armin Amrolia, Director

There being a quorum present and due notice having been given; the meeting was declared to be constituted for the transaction of business.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED by Director Rachel Roy
SECONDED Director Maury Kask

Resolved that the agenda for the Public Portion meeting of the Board of Directors for Thursday October 23, 2025 is adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. STAFF REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2.1 Community Engagement Update

An update on the PNE's community engagement activities was included in the Board of Directors meeting materials for review. Karen Massicotte delivered the presentation.

Board Questions and Discussion:

Director Ty Speer inquired about the decision-making process for selecting recipients of the Freedom Mobile Grant. Karen Massicotte clarified that the adjudication panel will include one representative from Freedom Mobile, one representative from the PNE, and additional panelists with subject matter expertise relevant to the applications.

Director Rachel Roy asked how accessibility considerations are being incorporated, specifically regarding physical accessibility of the site for the community. Karen Massicotte responded that the Community Advisory Group recently discussed the need to broaden the definition of "accessibility." In the current context, accessibility refers to access to PNE programming and venues rather than physical accessibility. She noted that the organization is actively working on improving physical accessibility on-site, while also ensuring that community programming is accessible—both during events and for residents who may otherwise face barriers to participation.

Chair Mike Klassen referenced community feedback regarding potential movie nights and neighborhood gatherings. He asked whether grant funding could support such initiatives. Karen Massicotte confirmed that the PNE has trialed several community-building events in the past—including Community Day at Playland, the Easter Egg Hunt, and Community Skate—and expressed interest in continuing to develop these grassroots engagement opportunities.

There were 2 speakers registered to speak on this agenda item

Maria Mussenden, community member

Maria Mussenden expressed concern that the PNE is not meeting its obligations under the governance framework. She referenced an email received from the PNE in response to her correspondence with Vancouver City Council and the City Manager. Despite PNE's commitment to transparency and accountability, she expressed concern and believes more substantive solutions are required to address what she described as issues of integrity, sincerity, consistency, and follow-through.

Maria Mussenden also raised concerns regarding the Community Advisory Group (CAG). She stated her view that changes to the CAG structure were approved by the Board without obtaining the required Council approval under

the Multi-Party Operating Policy (MPOP). She noted that while the Board approved 10 members for the CAG, the minutes of the May 21, 2025 CAG meeting list 14 participants. She further shared that upon attending the June 7, 2025 Neighbourhood Focus Group meeting, she did not feel the group's focus aligned with the broader areas of interest discussed at the January 30 Public Board Meeting.

Board Questions and Discussion:

Chair Mike Klassen asked staff to address the discrepancy in CAG membership numbers. Karen Massicotte explained that the April 2024 CAG meeting served as a transition meeting between outgoing and incoming members. Because of format changes, both the 2024 and 2025 members were invited to ensure a smooth handover and orientation. Since that meeting, only the 10 approved 2025 CAG members have participated.

Chair Mike Klassen thanked Maria Mussenden for her comments.

Suzanne Sulzberger, community member

Suzanne Sulzberger, a member of the Neighbourhood Focus Group, spoke regarding noise impacts from outdoor summer events featuring amplified electronic music, specifically the "Foundation" event. She described significant disruption from persistent low-frequency bass and noted that when attempting to file a noise complaint with the City of Vancouver, she was informed that all noise complaints must be directed to the PNE, a system she feels does not adequately support affected residents. This led her to file a Freedom of Information request.

Suzanne Sulzberger summarized information she obtained through the FOI request, which included decibel readings for the event. She noted that while the City's Noise Control Bylaw restricts electronic amplified music to 70 decibels, DBC readings during the event were frequently—and later consistently—above that threshold. She stated that 42 formal noise complaints were submitted for this single event. She acknowledged improvements in communication and mitigation efforts since raising these concerns and expressed appreciation for the work of Karen Massicotte.

Suzanne Sulzberger emphasized that residents are not asking for events to stop, but simply that they comply with existing noise bylaws to ensure a livable environment for neighbours.

Chair Mike Klassen thanked Suzanne Ms. Sulzberger for her comments

Board Questions and Discussion:

Director Maury Kask asked staff to address the concerns raised. Karen Massicotte responded that the PNE has engaged a consultant to conduct

sound modeling for Centre Grounds to optimize stage and equipment placement. She noted that rental equipment typically emits sound from both the front and back, but the use of fully enclosed equipment can mitigate this issue. She also described policy development underway to manage bass levels, duration, and rotation during events. Karen Massicotte added that feedback received since 2022 has been incorporated into planning for the new Amphitheatre to ensure it is constructed with sound mitigation as a core design principle.

2.2 Park Stewardship

An update on Hastings Park site improvements was included in the Board of Directors meeting materials for review. Ming Tian delivered the presentation.

Board Questions and Discussion:

Director Maury Kask asked whether community volunteers could participate in gardening or stewardship activities. Ming Tian responded that during the stormwater management project, the PNE worked with community groups—including the Conservancy—for input and guidance, and that there may be opportunities for continued engagement.

Director Rachel Roy asked whether any complaints had been received regarding Amphitheatre construction noise. Karen Massicotte noted that no noise complaints have been received to date, though some concerns were raised regarding truck line-ups. Adjustments were made to staging and traffic management in response.

No speakers were registered for this agenda item.

3.3 Youth Employment

A presentation on the PNE's youth employment initiatives was included in the Board of Directors meeting materials for review. Stacy Shields delivered the presentation.

Board Questions and Discussion:

Director Rachel Roy asked whether training is provided to help staff support guests with accessibility needs and disabilities. Stacy Shields responded that this is an active area of development within the PNE's strategic plan. The organization is working to expand its DEI programming and will be implementing accessibility-focused training for employees at all levels.

No speakers were registered for this agenda item.

3. NEXT BOARD MEETINGS

The next Public Board of Director meeting was still needing to be scheduled.

4. NEW BUSINESS

None

5. ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS PORTION OF MEETING

MOVED by Director Ty Speer
SECONDED by Director Raj Sihota

Resolved that the Public Portion of the Board of Directors meeting be adjourned at 7:35pm

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY