

**Planning and Development Committee**  
**Tuesday April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**7:00 pm in the Conference Room**

**Present:** Ken Paquette, Maggie, Lawrence Cofield, David Parent, Christopher Dalton, Nancy Strider, Jennifer Marshall (Urban Arts), Elizabeth Murphy, Peter Odynsky, Jay Aikenhead, Alissa Reed, Madeleine MacIvor, Trevor Snider, Gail Cryer, Susanne Dahlin, John Truchan, Jane Sheil, Kathleen Piovesan

**Britannia Staff:** Peter Odynsky, Lindsay Grant, Cynthia Low, Mathew Halverson (CoV Staff)

1. **Previous Minutes** – accepted

2. **Rink Committee Presentation (Jay Aikenhead)**

- Introduction: Jay has been using the rink since 1988 as a participant in minor league hockey, has continued on as a coach, employee, vice president of Vancouver minor hockey, and a member of the rink committee since 2008
- Key issues: the Britannia ice rink is at the end of its (40 year) lifespan. Ice space is also at a premium in Vancouver, which has the lowest amount of ice space per capita in the region. Britannia is the most utilized rink in the city with all after school hours and most school hours filled. We are turning user groups away; there is a waitlist for rentals, and no room for expansion of programs. Most programs are already at or nearing full capacity. Demand for rink space has caused some programs and leagues to move to facilities elsewhere in the lower mainland, causing rate increases for their participants.
- Users range from age 3- 60+ and from beginners to NHL players. We have a strong focus on youth development; most rink staff are youth from the community who have come up through Britannia rink programming.
- Unique to Britannia rink are free skate and hockey programming, One example is our BASH Hockey league, which serves many at-risk youth from the community. We also have the only Women's Hockey League in Vancouver- which fills up every year within an hour of registration opening. The current Vertical Influence show that is running is also a function of the unique ability of the Britannia rink to create diverse community partnerships.
- The Britannia rink generates \$400,000 per year.
- For the future, we'd like to expand program offerings and include more user groups. We'd like to see expanded rink space, and a heat exchange system set up between the pool and rink to improve sustainability. Maintaining a good flow of space is also important- making sure there are safe ways to move skaters, spectators, and equipment in and out.

3. **Q & A**

- *What are the rink hours of operation? Are there late night time slots?* Rink remains open as late as 1am.
- *What is the breakdown of time slots booked by user groups vs. public skating times?* It's roughly 3 hours of bookings to 8 hours of public skating time.
- *Have you considered adding an additional sheet?* We'd like to increase ice space- which could include adding an additional sheet, or perhaps adding a "practice-sized" sheet in addition to the full sheet.
- *What about overflow to Trout Lake rink? Are they at similar capacity?* Trout Lake is also booked for all non-school hours. They are operating around 80-85% capacity.

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- *If the rink is twinned will the old rink be retained?* The rink building is sound, but all rink systems require replacement.
  - *Could we expand rink space by building vertically (stacking rinks)?* This is possible but it will increase building costs- requiring things like Zamboni elevators, and increase staffing costs- requiring staffing on both levels.
4. **Update from Consultant Team (Jennifer Marshall, Urban Arts)** –A master project schedule has been created and will be shared soon. Ongoing updates have been circulating through the partner newsletter. We have tried to schedule events both during after work hours and from 9-5pm to support attendance.
- *Program verification* dates are scheduled for May and June- these are meetings to engage staff and stakeholders at the administrative and community level to identify needs, priorities, and goals for Britannia spaces. These will create a “laundry list” of space needs to incorporate into the vision and ultimately into the master plan.
  - Britannia Renewal partners will also be going on tours to assess other local multi-use facilities
  - Our *Speaker Series* event kicked off with “Reconciliation + Renewal” which reflects our goals to take reconciliation seriously and centre it in our Renewal process. Our next talk is on “Lifelong Learning” with Asa Kachan from the Halifax Library, followed by “Community Resilience + Design” on sustainability and Indigenous design principles, “Designing Safe Spaces” on LGBTQ2S+ and women’s safety, “Physical Wellbeing + Community Wellbeing” on food security and active living, and “Multi-use Community Spaces”. All Speaker Series dates and speakers have been secured aside from our housing panel. We’d like to understand community concerns and interests around housing before scheduling speakers for this talk.
  - *Spaces and Places* workshops will be public events to review global best practices in areas like public realm, recreation, arts & culture, and social development. We’ll introduce innovative examples from elsewhere and workshop with community to come up with “Made in Britannia” solutions.
  - *Focus Groups* are being scheduled to go out directly to communities who might not be represented at larger public events, including youth & families, seniors, and the LGBTQ2S+ community
  - A visioning report on the progress so far is forthcoming. Nothing in terms of what will/ will not be on the site has been decided at this point.
5. **Q&A**
- *Will commitments from old plans be included in the Renewal vision?* Previous visions for the site were also created through community consultation, and priorities identified during those consultations will be under consideration. They are available for review at [britanniarenewal.org](http://britanniarenewal.org). The significant difference is that the Renewal has received buy-in from all site partners, and all partners are sitting on the steering committee for this project.
  - *What does it mean to have Reconciliation at the heart of this project?* We are working to make sure the Indigenous community is engaged by working with local organizations like UNYA and the Friendship Centre. We’re also working to incorporate an Indigenous design lens- one of our visionary speakers is Salish architect Ouri Scott. We are also planning an Indigenous design charrette to engage Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh first nations in creating design concepts.
  - *Reconciliation + Renewal event did not have a question period, could we include it for future Speaker Series dates?* We tried a different format at the first event, but we will include Q&A at future events.
6. **Update on B-LAB Activation**
- Content in the B-LAB will continue to change and evolve as process moves ahead (eg: reconciliation postcards and vision boards were integrated into the space following Reconciliation + Renewal talk)

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- BLAB can be used as a community meeting space, can be staffed with volunteer docents during special events, or used to host smaller events that encourage community dialogue (eg. “Talk to an...Elder/Artist/Activist”)
- We are hoping to add a video component- playing recorded Speaker Series talks or community stories and increase signage on site
- We could host satellite BLABs at pool, fitness centre, teen centre, AML and rink facilities incorporating vision boards to collect feedback from users who do not use the Info Centre
- The BLAB will gradually fill up- when they are completed it will host the draft vision and the Master Plan options for community review

### 7. Lease Negotiations

- Recommendation that Planning and Development Committee set up a working group on lease negotiations (via Cynthia) to monitor the process and prepare a position paper on the issue
- Currently, the City of Vancouver and Vancouver School Board are in land exchange negotiations with the goal of separating properties and building maintenance responsibilities in time for the March 2018 Capital Plan

### 8. Discussion on Housing

- Recommendation that Planning and Development Committee set up a working group to draft guiding principles for any potential housing on the Britannia site (via Lindsay)
- There is not yet any decision on whether there will be housing on the site. A council directive requires that the City of Vancouver considers adding housing on all new builds of city facilities. Exploring the possibility of housing on the Britannia site is also a line item in the Grandview Woodlands Community Plan. Any potential housing on site would be public housing. Final decisions on housing must include all Britannia site partners.
- Note that 2011 community surveys showed opposition to on-site housing. Issues with including housing on the site include the preservation of greenspace, service provision capacities, and the sense of community ownership of public spaces.
- It's extremely important to do due process in consultation around housing- there are strong opinions on both sides. We should have a strategy to include not only home owners and renters, but people experiencing prolonged/episodic homelessness and housing insecurity

### 9. Review of Planning and Development Committee Reporting Template

- Thanks to Levi for his work
- Purpose of the document is to capture snapshots of what is going on around Britannia. Feedback generated from this document can also be used to inform program verification sessions.
- Consider revisions to help capture “Heart, Body, Mind, Soul” of the community
- Suggestion to include a question to capture information about program integration, collaboration, and synergies across program areas and among committees (eg. programming that combines youth and Elders, recreation and food security, arts and fitness, etc). This could potentially be inserted between questions 3 & 4.
- Include a question about reconciliation and how it figures into programs, events and services in each committee's program area.
- Change question 3 from “Programs associated with the committee” to “Programs, events, and services associated with the committee”
- Include a question about “social purpose” programs events and services- programs that promote inclusion, build capacity, and strengthen community connection (eg. free programming, youth development, educational, intergenerational and cross-cultural programs). Social purpose usage helps make the case for the value of the space to the community.

## NOTES – Planning & Development

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- Expand question 6 to include “community capacity” as a challenge that might prevent committees delivering programming.
- Motion to pass this document in principle and circulate revised version

10. **Close-** 9:03 pm