

## Regional Parks Committee

### Terms of Reference

The Regional Parks Committee is the standing committee of the Metro Vancouver Board that provides advice and recommendations on policies, plans, programs, budgets and issues related to the Regional Parks service.

#### Committee Responsibilities

Within the scope of the *Board Strategic Plan*, *Regional Parks Plan*, *Regional Parks Service Review*, and *Metro Vancouver Financial Plan*, the Committee provides guidance and oversight to staff on the implementation of the annual work plans and business plans that govern the Regional Parks service. Specific Committee responsibilities include the following:

- **Regional Parks Service Review** – The Committee is responsible for guiding and monitoring the implementation of the *Regional Parks Service Review Report*. The Committee oversees the development of the Service Review Implementation Plan, and guides efforts aimed at implementing key recommendations from the *Report*, including those that call for:
  - a Regional Parkland Acquisition Strategy;
  - a 10-year Regional Parks Capital Plan;
  - the development of policies to address a range of aspects of the Regional Parks system;
  - changes to program offerings;
  - a revised Regional Parks Classification System.
  
- **Regional Parks System** – Within the context of the *Regional Parks Service Review*, the Committee oversees the ongoing implementation of the *Regional Parks Plan* and the regional park management plans for individual parks. The Committee:
  - recommends changes and updates to the existing plans, and guides efforts to create management plans for regional parks that are without them;
  - guides, monitors and promotes the service's interpretation programs and stewardship initiatives;
  - oversees the review, update and implementation of key regional parks planning tools, such as the *Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory*;
  - oversees and makes recommendations on property acquisition, regional park development, partnership agreements, ecosystem rehabilitation efforts and a range of other items that arise through normal operation of the regional parks system;
  - guides efforts to promote and further develop the Experience the Fraser partnership program; and
  - oversees efforts to coordinate with and promote the Pacific Parklands Foundation.

**Committee Membership and Meetings**

The Chair, Vice Chair and members are appointed annually by the Chair of the Metro Vancouver Board. The Committee meets monthly, except for August and December, and holds special meetings as required. A quorum of 50% plus one of the Committee membership is required to conduct Committee business.

**Committee Management**

The Committee Chair, or in the absence of the Chair the Vice-Chair, is the chief spokesperson on matters of public interest within the Committee's purview. For high profile issues the role of spokesperson rests with the Metro Vancouver Board Chair or Vice Chair. On technical matters or in cases where an initiative is still at the staff proposal level, the Chief Administrative Officer or a senior staff member is the appropriate chief spokesperson. Where necessary and practical, the Board Chair, Committee Chair and Chief Administrative Officer confer to determine the most appropriate representative to speak.

The Chief Administrative Officer assigns a Committee Manager for the Committee. The Committee Manager is responsible for coordinating agendas and serves as the principal point of contact for Committee members.