



**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee
Electronic Meeting**

**Anderson Room, City Hall
6911 No. 3 Road**

**Tuesday, February 24, 2026
4:00 p.m.**

Pg. # ITEM

MINUTES

PRCS-3 *Motion to adopt the **minutes** of the meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee held on January 27, 2026.*



NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

March 24, 2026, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Anderson Room.

DELEGATIONS

- PRCS-10** 1. (1) Dr. Rebecca Harbut, Chair, Department of Sustainable Agriculture, KPU, to present the **KPU Farm at Garden City Lands 2025 Activity Report**.
- (2) Jane Fernyhough, Board Chairperson, and Andrew Wade, Executive Director, Richmond Arts Coalition, to present the Richmond Arts Coalition Annual Report.
- (3) Linda Barnes, Board Co-Chair, Steveston Historical Society, to speak to Steveston Historical Society's 50th Anniversary Celebration planned activities and request staff assistance.

**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee Agenda
Tuesday, February 24, 2026**

Pg. # ITEM

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE DIVISION

2. **RICHMOND PUBLIC ART PROGRAM 2025 ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS AND PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2026 WORK PLAN**
(File Ref. No. 11-7000-09-01) (REDMS No. 8276246)

PRCS-23

See Page PRCS-23 for full report

Designated Speaker: Biliانا Velkova

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) *That the Richmond Public Art Program 2025 Annual Highlights, as outlined in the report titled “Richmond Public Art Program 2025 Annual Highlights and Public Art Advisory Committee 2026 Work Plan”, dated February 2, 2026, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be received for information; and*
- (2) *That the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee 2026 Work Plan be approved.*

3. **MAINTENANCE AND UPKEEP OF CITY OWNED STREET TREES ON FAIRFAX CRESCENT AND SEAFAIR DRIVE**
(File Ref. No. 11-7200-01) (REDMS No. 8256810)

PRCS-30

See Page PRCS-30 for full report

Designated Speaker: Egan Davis

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the report titled “Maintenance and Upkeep of City Owned Street Trees on Fairfax Crescent and Seafair Drive”, dated February 2, 2026, from the Director, Parks Services, be received for information.

4. **MANAGER’S REPORT**

ADJOURNMENT



Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee

- Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026
- Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall
- Present: Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie (entered the meeting at 4:02 p.m.)
Councillor Michael Wolfe, Chair
Councillor Laura Gillanders
Councillor Andy Hobbs
Councillor Bill McNulty
- Absent: Councillor Chak Au
- Also Present: Councillor Carol Day
- Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded
That the minutes of the meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee held on December 17, 2025, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

The Chair advised that the order of the agenda would be varied to consider Item No. 2 “First Nations Building Committee Terms of Reference and Referral Response” last.

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE DIVISION

Mayor Brodie entered the meeting (4:02 p.m.).

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee
Tuesday, January 27, 2026

1. **2026 COMMUNITY MURAL PROGRAM PROJECTS**

(File Ref. No. 11-7000-09-20-255) (REDMS No. 8214349)

Staff noted that Richmond School District No. 38 will cover the expenses for the wall prepping and the anti graffiti coating for the mural at McNair Secondary School.

Discussion ensued with respect to (i) increasing funding to public art in the community, (ii) the forthcoming Arts and Culture Grants report, and (iii) maintenance of murals and the ability to keep them up after five years.

In response to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) the Community Mural program is funded through private developer contributions to the public art program, (ii) 34 murals have been installed through the Public Art Community Mural Program, with seven more proposed for the 2026 program, and (iii) murals are typically not considered permanent - five year agreements are set with partners, after which they can choose to continue to maintain the mural or remove it.

It was moved and seconded

That the 2026 Community Mural Program Projects as presented in the report titled "2026 Community Mural Program Projects", dated January 5, 2026, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be approved.

CARRIED

3. **VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

(File Ref. No. 01-0370-20-006) (REDMS No. 8152829)

In response to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) the highest demographic of volunteers are youth under the age of 25, and then adults over the age of 55, and (ii) Community Association boards may sometimes have trouble recruiting for volunteers, but generally the volunteer program is stable.

It was moved and seconded

That the guiding principles, as detailed in the report titled "Volunteer Management Strategy – Guiding Principles", dated January 5, 2026, from the Director, PRC Planning and Strategic Initiatives, be approved and used to inform the strategic directions and actions of the new five-year Volunteer Management Strategy.

CARRIED

2.

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee
Tuesday, January 27, 2026

4. **ENGAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE MULTI-USE COVERED RECREATION AND SPORT COURT**

(File Ref. No. 06-2052-01) (REDMS No. 8266265)

Discussion ensued with respect to the multi-use covered recreation and sport court project's inclusion in the 5-Year Capital Plan.

In response to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) public engagement will begin at the end of February and staff anticipate reporting back to Committee at the end of Q3 2026, (ii) engagement will identify needs, priorities and what is working and what is not, and (iii) the engagement plan will include outreach to informal user groups and include signage on existing courts.

It was moved and seconded

That the engagement plan for the multi-use covered recreation and sport court, as outlined in the report titled, "Engagement Plan for the Multi-Use Covered Recreation and Sport Court", dated January 5, 2026, from the Director, PRC Planning and Strategic Initiatives, be received for information.

CARRIED

2. **FIRST NATIONS BUILDING COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND REFERRAL RESPONSE**

(File Ref. No. 11-7000-01) (REDMS No. 8266114)

Discussion ensued with respect to (i) investigating the historical use of the building as a smokehouse, (ii) identifying the significant building features to make sure they are rebuilt correctly, (iii) involving the Musqueam Indian Band in the Committee, (iv) learning more about the First Nations Bunkhouse as the project moves forward, and (v) different restoration options explored for the building.

In response to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) the building has been very well documented with video images and photos, (ii) as the First Nations Bunkhouse is deconstructed and salvaged, everything will be labeled and maintained, (iii) significant research on the building has been completed, and the next step following Council approval of the terms of reference is to invite the Musqueam Indian Band to join the First Nations Building Committee, (iii) to date, there has been no direct Indigenous input on the building's history or use, and more will be learned as the work moves forward, (iv) allocated grant funding will need to be used by March 2028, (v) should the proposal proceed, the building will be reconstructed to retain its aesthetics as it looks today and reintegrate original salvaged materials where possible, and (vi) the First Nations Building Committee will continue to be consulted as the project advances through detailed design and construction.

3.

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee
Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Cllr. Day shared photos taken at the Royal BC Museum in Victoria of the Britannia display (attached to and forming part of these minutes as Schedule 1) and spoke to the historic impact of the Britannia Shipyards display at the museum.

Direction was given to staff to recirculate the original Council approved resolutions related to the report “First Nations Bunkhouse Interpretive Program and Level of Service”, dated January 9, 2024, prior to Council consideration of the report. (copy on file, City Clerk’s Office).

It was moved and seconded

That the First Nations Building Committee Terms of Reference, as detailed in the report titled “First Nations Building Committee Terms of Reference and Referral Response”, dated January 5, 2026, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be approved, provided that the Musqueam Indian Band be invited to be a voting member of the First Nations Advisory Committee.

The question on the motion was not called as discussion ensued with respect to conducting further discussions on the topic in a closed meeting. The following motion was then introduced:

It was moved and seconded

That the following motion be tabled, until after the January 26, 2026 Closed Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee:

“That the First Nations Building Committee Terms of Reference, as detailed in the report titled “First Nations Building Committee Terms of Reference and Referral Response”, dated January 5, 2026, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be approved, provided that the Musqueam Indian Band be invited to be a voting member of the First Nations Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

The Chair recessed the meeting at 4:33 p.m. for the Closed Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 4:53 p.m. with Mayor Brodie and Cllrs. Wolfe, Gillanders, Hobbs McNulty and Day present.

It was moved and seconded

That the following motion be lifted from the table:

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee
Tuesday, January 27, 2026

“That the First Nations Building Committee Terms of Reference, as detailed in the report titled “First Nations Building Committee Terms of Reference and Referral Response”, dated January 5, 2026, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be approved provided that the Musqueam Indian Band be invited to be a voting member of the First Nations Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

The question on the motion was then called and it was **CARRIED** with Cllr. Wolfe opposed.

5. MANAGER’S REPORT

(i) Kaiwo Maru – May 2 and 3, 2026

Staff provided Committee with an update on their meeting with the Japan Agency for Maritime Education and Training for Seafarers (JMETS), highlighting that the final program for their visit has been negotiated. JMETS have confirmed they will remain docked for seven days and are unable to conduct sail drills due to safety concerns. Public ship boarding capacity and hours are approximately 50 percent lower than anticipated, with one day available for student boarding of the Kaiwo Maru. Next steps will include executing a formal agreement with the JMETS, issuing the appearance fee, and engaging a shipping agent to coordinate the details of the visit.

(ii) Richmond Celebrates Soccer

Staff advised Committee that (i) the Community Celebration grant including the Richmond Celebrates Soccer stream, is now open, (ii) viewing costs are not yet available, and (iii) the City will apply for a grant for up to \$150,000 from the 2026 Community Event Support Fund.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded
That the meeting adjourn (5:01 p.m.).

CARRIED

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee
Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Tuesday, January 27, 2026.

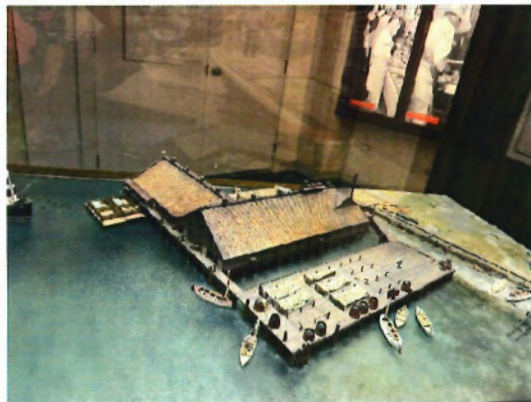
Councillor Michael Wolfe
Chair

Raman Grewal
Legislative Services Associate

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee meeting of Richmond City Council held on Tuesday, January 27, 2026.



Royal BC Museum Britannia Display



It's time to honour the indigenous stories in Richmond, and create a building where we can display artifacts and create programming that will engage the public.

Let's create some memories !! **Carol Day**

Member First Nations Building Committee

Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Department of Sustainable Agriculture

KPU Farm @ Garden City Lands

2025 Activity Report



City of Richmond

Department of Parks, Recreation, and
Cultural Services Committee

February 24, 2026



Introduction

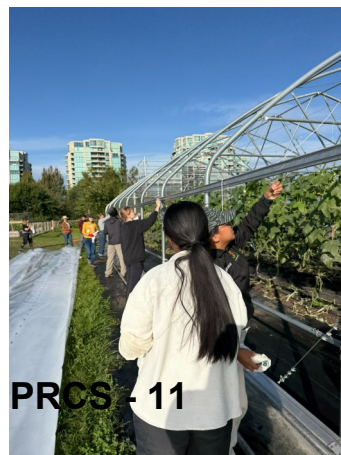


Kwantlen Polytechnic University has now completed eight growing seasons at the KPU Farm on the Garden City Lands. We have continued to expand our perennial plantings, maintain infrastructure and introduce new programs for the community. In 2025 substantial progress was made by the City staff in preparing the North field for agricultural production with importation of mineral soil and we began to establish the Food Forest.

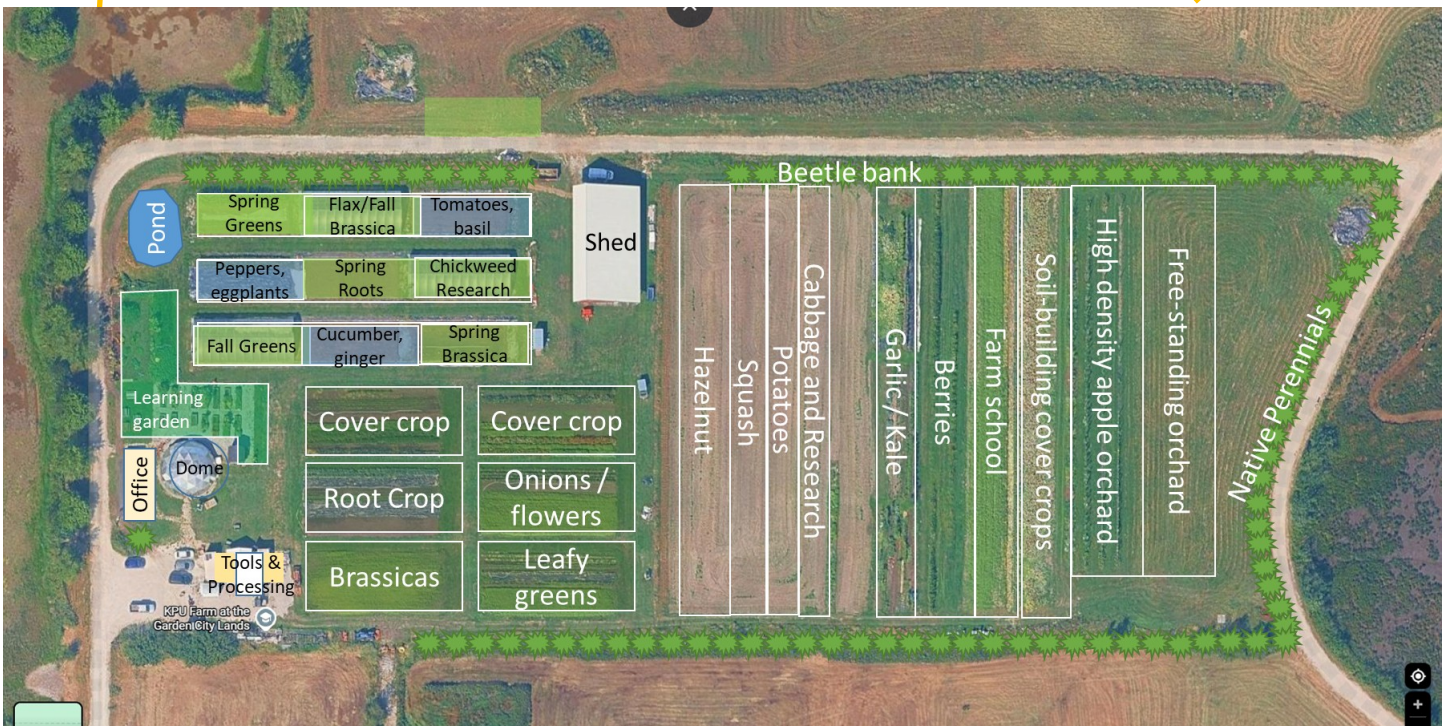
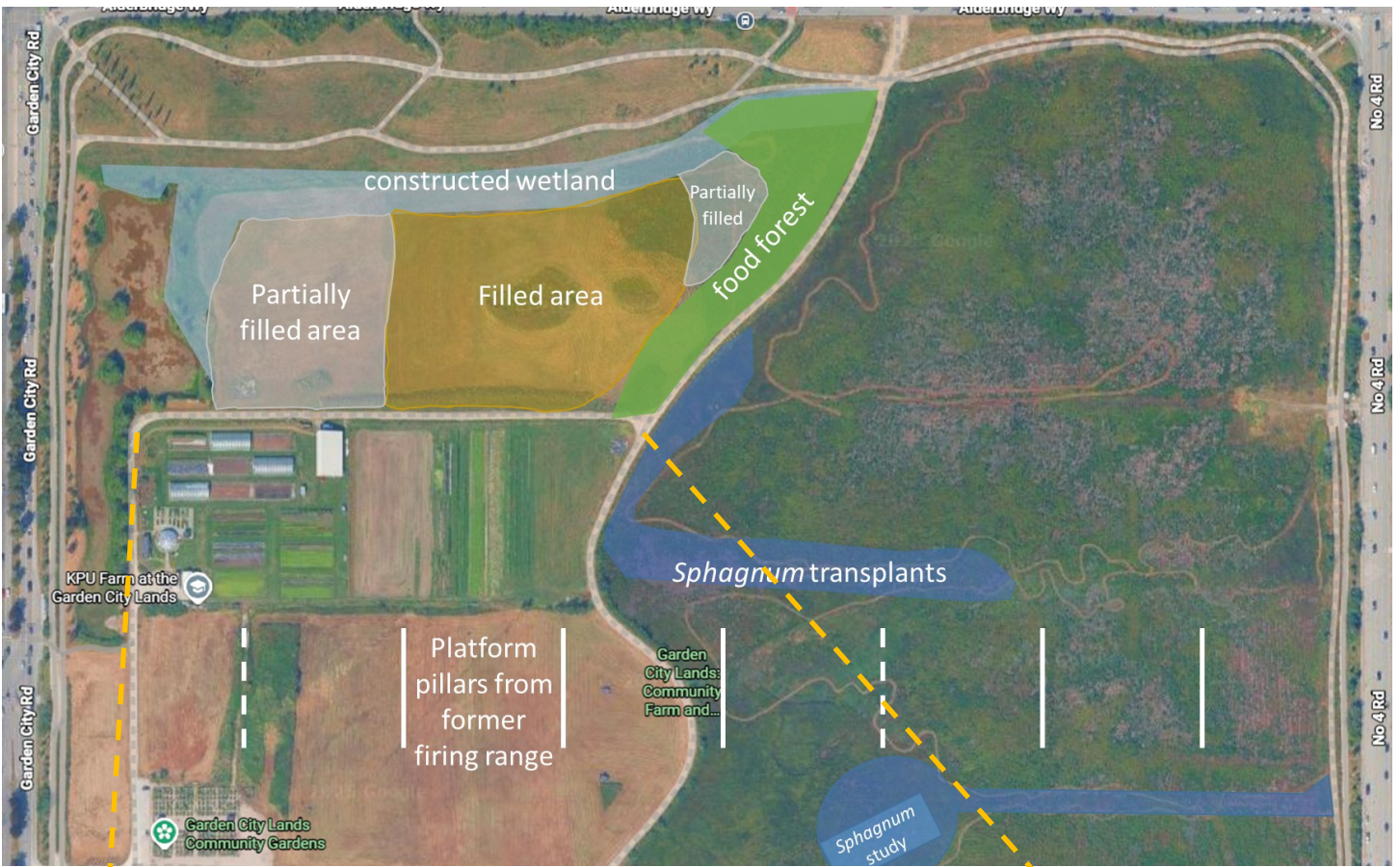
Highlights of 2025:

- In 2025 we harvested 15 metric tonnes of certified organic produce from the site, with a retail value of 95 thousand dollars.
- GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) Certified two crop groups; leafy greens and cucumbers. This allows the KPU Farm to sell produce to wholesale buyers which required GAP certification.
- Phase I of the food forest was completed involving the construction of a berm, and planting the first three sections of native edible perennials.
- Our volunteer program continues to thrive , offering opportunities for students and Richmond residents to build community, participate in events, and engage in crop production on the site.
- One of the high tunnels was re-skinned with new plastic to replace plastic that was degraded after 6 years of use.
- We had our largest class of first year students in 2025 and are seeing growth in our program.

We are grateful for the partnership with the City of Richmond that allows the KPU Farm to teach and demonstrate community-engaged sustainable agriculture.



Farm Maps—2025



Vancouver Island beggarticks (*Bidens amplissima*)

Vancouver Island beggarticks is a rare wetland annual plant listed as a species of special concern (Canada Species at Risk Act, Schedule 1).

This unique plant was first observed on the Garden City lands in August of 2022 and has also been found in different location across Richmond, primarily outside the dyke.

This plant spreads by seed and requires unique growing conditions, so the population density shifts from year to year. We are working to ensure this important species is able to persist on the Garden City Lands by fostering suitable habitat and monitoring populations.

The map to the right indicates areas where plants have been identified in 2025.



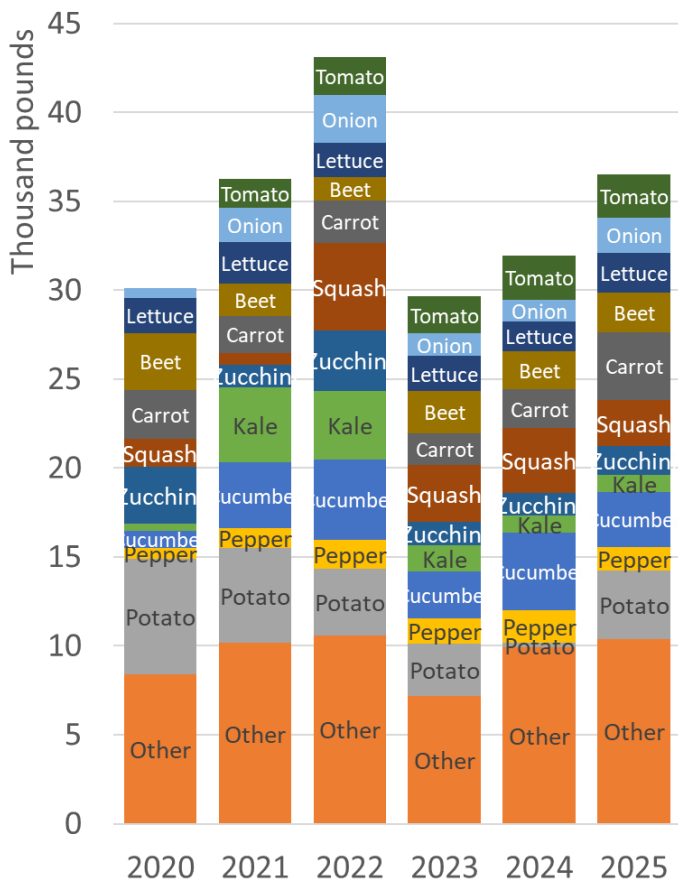
Individual observations archived in iNaturalist are shown for 2025 (left) and 2023-25 (right)

Crop Production

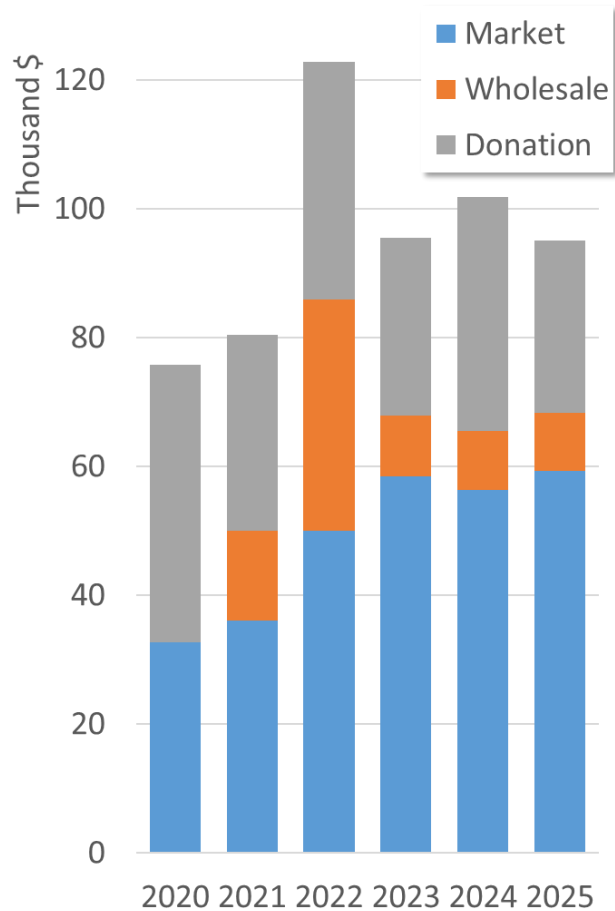
The KPU Farm produced over 36 thousand pounds (16.5 metric tonnes) of certified organic produce and flowers in 2025, with a retail value of almost \$95,000. The farm continues to produce a diversity of crops with more than 40 different crops grown. The 10 most productive are shown by the coloured slices in the Crop Yield bar graph below.

The harvested produce was either sold or donated, as shown in the Crop Value bar graph below. The Richmond Food Bank accepted almost 17 thousand dollars worth of produce donations in 2025. In addition to donations to the food bank, 10 thousand dollars worth of produce was provided to the community through the community fridge and the student food security program. Sales in 2025 totaled \$78,142, with approximately 59 thousand dollars in direct sales at the Kwantlen Farmers' Market, and approximately nine thousand dollars from wholesale distributors that prioritize local organic produce, including Discovery Organics and Spud. This year, the KPU Farm certified two crop categories with GAP (Good Agricultural Practices); leafy green and cucumbers. This certification became a requirement of several wholesale buyers in 2022 which resulted in a significant drop in wholesales. These are the first two crops to be GAP certified with additional crops to be certified in the coming years.

Crop Yield



Crop Value



Crop yield by weight (left) and dollar value (right) from 2020 to 2025. Yield bars are divided to show 10 most productive crops. Value bars are divided to show distribution between direct-market sales, wholesale sales, and donations.

Small farm production types at the KPU Farm include movable high tunnels, market garden plots and field plantings. High tunnels facilitate in-ground production with added protection creating warmer environments. These tunnels allow for early season spring production and late season fall production as well as warm season crops throughout the summer (top image: late fall production of greens in 20 m beds).

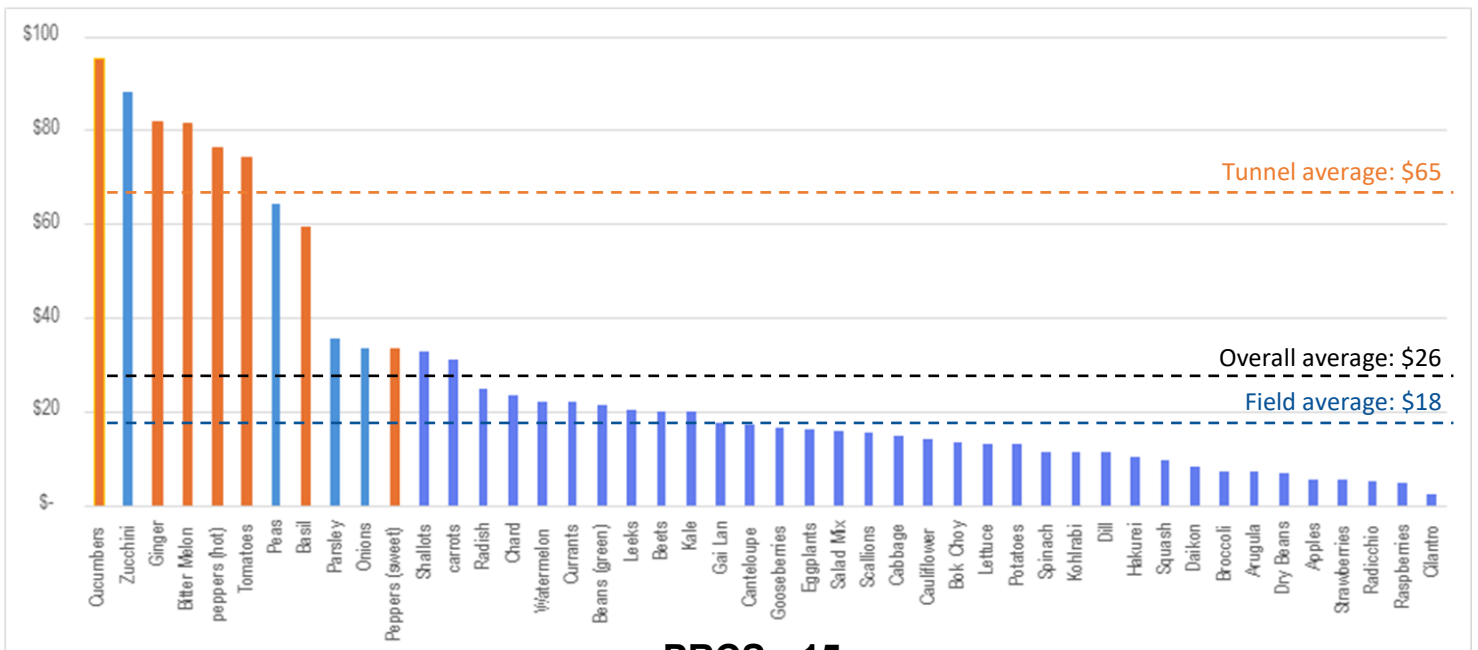
Market gardens are diverse plantings which require intense management and are high producing fields. These market gardens have many types of annual vegetables and cut flowers (middle image shows zucchini, onion and shallot planting, 30 m beds).

Field crop zones (bottom image, 90 m beds) provide large spaces for crops that require lower labour and increased space and are positioned further from the entrance hub in the southwest corner of the farm.



Below: Farm income per bed meter by crop variety for 2025. Orange and blue bars denote warm season high tunnel and outdoor field beds, respectively. Orange and blue dashed lines show the average income per bed meter for high tunnel and outdoor field beds, respectively. Income does not include value of donated produce.

Sales (\$) per bed meter



Perennial Plantings

New Fruit Trees

In March 2025, the orchard was expanded with the planting of several types of free-standing semi-dwarf fruit trees including; persimmons, pear, plum, apples, and hazelnuts. These trees will be evaluated for suitability of production in Richmond.



First Apple Harvest

2025 marked the first apple harvest from the high density trellised apple trees that were planted in 2023. Student monitored apples as they approached maturity and we successfully harvested from 4 different varieties? Farm Fest visitors were able to participate in this first harvest and press the fruit to make apple cider. Apples were also sold at the Kwantlen Farmers Market, and consumed by students.



Food Forest Planting

The Food Forest is a perennial planting composed entirely of native species and, once complete, will include over 60 different plants. The project spans a 220 x 10 meter site, with three of the ten sections planted as of 2025. Interpretive signage is currently being developed to support public education and encourage meaningful community engagement. KPU students and community volunteers are actively involved in the planning, planting, and maintenance of the site, fostering hands-on learning and stewardship. The Food Forest is intended to serve as a hub for community learning about the many benefits of native plants, while also providing important habitat and



Left: South-edge view of the Food Forest, Middle: students planning food forest, right: first apple harvest.

Student Research

KPU Sustainable Agriculture students completed six research projects at the Garden City Lands in 2025.

Student	Project	Key result
Rue Badanic	Baseline insect survey at Garden City Lands Miyawaki Forest	Pollinator abundance increased in a young Miyawaki forest.
Anupjot Badesha	Effects of compost, biochar, and Gurbani on bean vigour over two generations	Compost increases bush bean vigor and survival; offspring of Gurbani exposed plants have stronger response to temperature stress.
Shannon Campbell	Effects of biodegradable mulch on dryland rice	Biodegradable mulches suppress weeds in dryland rice.
Rachel Cassidy	Do black plastic mulch and <i>Metarhizium brunneum</i> interact to protect beets from wireworm feeding?	Beet root weight increased with the application of black plastic mulch and <i>Metarhizium brunneum</i> .
Elyse Farmer	Effect of soil solarization on chickweed (<i>Stellaria media</i>) seed viability across burial depths	Solarization reduces chickweed seed survival near soil surface.
Elise Ryan	Intercropping drying beans with oyster mushrooms and its effects on bean yield	Intercropping with oyster mushroom does not increase bean yield.

Project results were presented at the annual student research symposium, jointly presented by KPU's Departments of Sustainable Agriculture and Physics, and at a KPU research showcase. Student posters and papers are available at www.kpu.ca/agriculture/student-research.

Images left to right: solarized and non-solarized plots, Elyse R. sharing mushroom research with class, harvesting rice research plots, Miyawaki forest at the Garden City Lands (established by Garden City Conservation Society in 2024) where insect survey was carried out.



Farm Fest and Sunset Snacks

Farm Fest

Richmond Farm Fest took place on September 7, 2025, at the KPU Farm and Garden City Lands and welcomed over 3000 participants. This free, family-friendly festival featured activities such as a farmers market, live culinary demonstrations, interactive agricultural and garden displays, kid-friendly zones, a plant labyrinth, and hay wagon tours, engaging visitors of all ages in learning about sustainable food and farming practices. Community partners, including small businesses and local NGOs, were invited to help educate and connect with the public. A group of community and student volunteers supported event delivery throughout the day, helping ensure activities ran smoothly and enhancing the overall visitor experience.



Farm Fest visitors enjoying a guided hay wagon tour

Sunset Snacks

On August 8, the KPU Farm hosted Sunset Snacks, welcoming over 40 youth for an evening of hands-on activities and social connection. Hosted in collaboration with the City of Richmond and in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health, participants took part in bouquet making, a mini harvest, and story telling about native strawberry plants. Food was provided at the table, fostering community connection as youth gathered, shared, and socialized. The event offered a relaxed, inclusive space for participants to learn about growing food, sustainability, and healthy eating while enjoying time outdoors with peers.



Sunset Snacks event: flowers harvested from the farm by volunteers for the bouquet-making workshop (left), and participants enjoying a story about native strawberry plants (right).

Other Events

KPU Farm Open House

On July 24, 2025, the Sustainable Agriculture Department hosted its annual Open House at the KPU Farm, welcoming community members, partners, alumni, and students. The event provided an opportunity to share updates on current projects, express appreciation, and strengthen relationships with collaborators. Attendees included representatives from government, the non-profit sector, the agricultural industry, and education. The day featured knowledge sharing, community building, and refreshments prepared by students and volunteers, making it a successful and engaging event for all.

Earth Day, Doors Open, and Flax Harvest Party

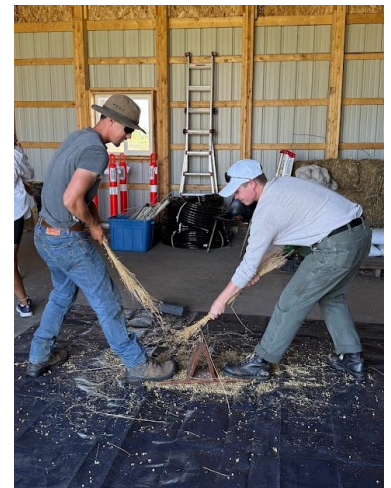
On April 26, the KPU Farm held an Earth Day Food Forest Event, where students and community members were invited to come learn about native plant species and see the site where the new Food Forest would be planted. Visitors helped the farm pot-up hundreds of native strawberry seedlings that would later be planted in the community Food Forest.

On June 7, 2025, the KPU Farm participated in Doors Open, offering hands-on activities such as button-making and eco-print card making, along with tasting farm tours.

On July 12, the KPU Farm hosted a Flax Harvest Party and Sustainable Fibers Workshop, where visitors learned to harvest and process flax for fiber and seed. Participants explored tools and techniques for turning flax into linen, gaining hands-on experience with sustainable textile practices and traditional farming methods.



Students harvesting flowers for the display at the Open House



Community members helping pot-up strawberry seedlings (right), bundles of harvested flax laying out to dry (middle), and volunteers harvesting flax seed (left).

Learning Garden & Community Outreach

Public School Visits

In 2025, the KPU Farm welcomed several school groups to our Learning Garden for hands-on experiences with plants and sustainable agriculture. Frost Road Elementary students visited on May 30 to help build trellises and deepen their understanding of seeds and plant families. On September 24, two classes from Britannia Elementary planted seeds, harvested flowers, and stomped beans to collect seeds. Station Stretch School students joined on October 2 for a bouquet harvesting and making activity to take home, and the following day, John Knox School students explored the foundations of sustainable agriculture while creating bouquets and harvesting and cooking a meal onsite for their class.



Frost Road Elementary School students working together in the Learning Garden to build bean trellises

Community Volunteer Program

Now in its fourth year, the KPU Farm Volunteer Program ran again from March to November and welcomed a variety of participants from different backgrounds. Many participants were newcomers to Canada, creating a diverse group eager to share their agricultural knowledge and experiences. Volunteers supported community learning about food systems by attending events, helped maintain a wide variety of flowers, vegetables, fruits, and herbs, in the Learning Garden, and assisted with harvesting produce for the Kwantlen Street Market and the Richmond Food Bank. All of the produce grown in the Learning Garden was either used for community workshops or donated to the volunteers.



Community Engagement

Farmers Market

The Kwantlen Farmers' Market remains a critical part of our program, running 12-4pm every Tuesday from April to November. The market is located in Minoru Plaza in the heart of many other important community amenities.

The Kwantlen Farmers' Market is registered with the BC Association of Farmers' Markets. It is the only market in Richmond that is registered this way, which offers the community many benefits. One such benefit is that as a vendor, the KPU Farm has partnered with the BC Farmers Market Nutrition Program to provide coupons to lower-income families, pregnant people, and seniors.



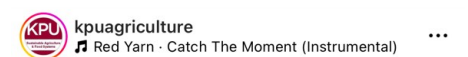
Twilight Tours

The tours have been a longstanding feature of the Farm and continued in 2025. Held on the second Tuesday of each month between May and September, covering themes such as Bog Vegetation, Flavours of the Farm, Fruit Production, Native Perennials, and Organic Farming. The tours welcomed visitors from the Community Garden at the Garden City Lands and beyond. Attendance has been lower at the Twilight Tours compared to the many other community-focused events we host, prompting us to reflect on the best way forward for 2026.



Social Media

We have utilized social media extensively to share with the community about what is going on at the farm. Our students and staff contribute to the stories that we tell. This has been an important tool to let people know what we are about and what we are doing on the farm! Check us out at KPUAgriculture on Instagram and Facebook.



Community Fridge & Richmond Food Bank

Fresh food donations with a value of over \$24,000 was donated to the Richmond Food bank and other food insecurity programs. The Sustainable Agriculture Student Association has volunteered their time to provide produce to the community fridge, which provides low barrier access to fresh produce to the community as well as the food insecurity program with the Kwantlen Student Association.



[View insights](#)

[Boost post](#)



Liked by cityofrichmondparks and 38 others
kpuagriculture Thanks so much to those who visited us on Tuesday evening at our Spring Flavours Twilight Tour! Our next tour will be on... more

Farm Expansion and Next Steps



North Field Expansion

KPU continues to collaborate with the City of Richmond in the development of the North Field. As with the south field, the peat will be buried beneath clean mineral soil with drains positioned above the peat. This strategy is intended to preserve the sequestered carbon in both the native peat and the imported peat that was added in 2022, avoiding substantial greenhouse gas emissions. In 2025 a significant portion of the North Field has been brought up to final grade. A small section adjacent to the Food Forest will be filled with soil stockpiled on site when the conditions allow. When this section is filled, drain tile can be installed and production can begin.

The constructed wetland is continuous with the pond on the site and will ensure that there is area on the Garden City Lands with suitable habitat for Vancouver Island Beggarticks and other riparian species. This will also allow space for water to accumulate in heavy rain events and allow fields to drain.



Top image: Northeast corner of the north field that is filled to final grade.

Middle Image: Western edge of the filled area, photo shows drop to partially filled area.

Bottom image: Northern edge of filled area, lower elevation area is constructed wetland.



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee **Date:** February 2, 2026

From: Marie Fenwick, Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services **File:** 11-7000-09-01/2025-Vol 01

Re: **Richmond Public Art Program 2025 Annual Highlights and Public Art Advisory Committee 2026 Work Plan**

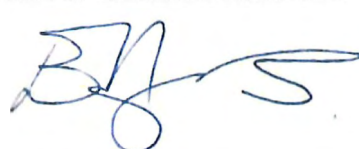


Staff Recommendations

1. That the Richmond Public Art Program 2025 Annual Highlights, as outlined in the report titled "Richmond Public Art Program 2025 Annual Highlights and Public Art Advisory Committee 2026 Work Plan", dated February 2, 2026, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, be received for information; and
2. That the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee 2026 Work Plan be approved.

CM Fenwick

Marie Fenwick
 Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services
 (604-276-4288)

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:
	
APPROVED BY CAO	
	

Staff Report

Origin

The Council-approved Public Art Program (Policy 8703) and Terms of Reference for the Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee (RPAAC) indicate that the RPAAC provides advice and acts as a resource to City Council and staff on the Richmond Public Art Program.

This report presents the 2025 highlights of the Richmond Public Art Program to Council for information and the proposed RPAAC 2026 Work Plan, found in Attachment 1, for approval.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022–2026 Focus Area #1 Proactive in Stakeholder and Civic Engagement:

Proactive stakeholder and civic engagement to foster understanding and involvement and advance Richmond's interests.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022–2026 Focus Area #6 A Vibrant, Resilient and Active Community:

Vibrant, resilient and active communities supported by a wide variety of opportunities to get involved, build relationships and access resources.

Analysis

The Richmond Public Art Program

The Richmond Public Art Program plays a key role in shaping, animating, and enriching public space, instilling civic pride and contributing to community identity. Artwork placed in the public realm has the power to engage the community, celebrate culture, and broaden the diversity of arts experiences and opportunities. It serves as an educational resource to expand public awareness and understanding of the arts, stimulates conversations, strengthens and supports the arts community, and inspires creativity.

Since Council's adoption of the initial Public Art Program Policy in 1997, the Richmond Public Art Program's collection has grown to a total of 383 works of art, with 302 currently on display throughout Richmond. Documentation of public art that is performance-based or otherwise ephemeral in nature is archived on the Public Art Program section of the City website.

Public art adds value to public and private development, enriches the public realm for residents and visitors while advancing Richmond's standing as a model for high quality urban development. The City provides leadership in integrating public art with major civic facilities as well as small-scale public infrastructure. The Private Development Public Art Program provides an avenue for developers to contribute to creating a liveable and desirable place to live, work and play. The Community Public Art Program engages Richmond residents in art making, discussions, and public events. The Public Art Education Program provides learning opportunities for both the general public and emerging and professional artists.

2025 Richmond Public Art Program Highlights

The (RPAAC) provides advice and recommendations to Council and staff to support the planning, implementation, and stewardship of the Richmond Public Art Program. RPAAC's role helps guide the Program's activities and priorities, as reflected in the 2025 Public Art Program highlights.

The following represents the key activities and achievements of the Richmond Public Art Program through civic, community, private development, and educational programs in 2025:

- Two new works were installed through the Civic Public Art Program:
 - *Welcome* by Luke Ramsey at Bowling Green Community Activity Centre; and
 - *Tales in Current* by Linfeng Zhou at Brighthouse Canada Line Station.
- Five new works were installed through the Private Development Public Art Program:
 - *Balance* by Rebecca Bayer at CF Richmond Centre;
 - *Drift* by Tangible Interaction at 5593 Number 3 Road;
 - *Mark of Our Ancestors* by Thomas Cannell and Kelly Cannell at CF Richmond Centre;
 - *Richmond Skaters* by Inges Idee at CF Richmond Centre; and
 - *Woven Through Time* by Kelly Cannell at CF Richmond Centre.
- Through the Richmond Community Mural Program, six new murals were completed throughout Richmond:
 - *A Meeting of Parliament* by David Camisa at Terra Nova Adventure Play Environment Trail Washroom;
 - *Bats of Richmond* by Aysha McConkey at No. 7 Road Pier Park Trail Washroom;
 - *Thomas Kidd Park Mural* by Carly Bouwman at Thomas Kidd Neighbourhood Park Trail Washroom;
 - *Home of the Ravens* by Amy Bao A.R. MacNeill Secondary School;
 - *Life Layers* by Ben Evely at R.J. Tait Elementary School; and
 - *United in Play*, Ho Lay Hoon at Tennis Practice Wall at Minoru Park.
- Works by six Richmond artists were featured at the No. 3 Road Art Columns located at Aberdeen and Lansdowne Canada Line Stations.
- Nine Public Art tours were offered:
 - Five Capstan Village Public Art Walking Tours;
 - Bike Tour of recently completed murals for Culture Days;
 - Oval Village Public Art Walking Tour for Culture Days;
 - Steveston Village Public Art Bus tour for Seniors Week; and
 - Public Art Bus Tour for National Seniors Day.

- Seventeen traffic cabinets and two utility boxes were wrapped with works by Richmond artists.
- Three photo-based artworks were installed at Aberdeen, Lansdowne and Brighthouse Stations on the Canada Line as part of the Capture Photography Festival.
- As part of the Art at Work professional development program for artists, three free workshops were offered through Public Art: Creating Public Art Budgets, Exploring Regional Public Art Programs and Making Public Art with Specialist Fabricators.
- Twelve Richmond artists were contracted for Public Art commissions.

2025 RPAAC Highlights

In 2025, RPAAC provided informed advice to staff and Council on a range of projects. Highlights include:

- Nine monthly meetings with high attendance;
- Participation in educational opportunities and public events, such as the annual RPAAC Public Art Tour;
- Reviews and recommendations on private development public art project plans and monthly updates on Advisory Design Panel reviews;
- Input to staff on civic Artist Calls; and
- Observing roles at civic and private public art selection panel meetings.

RPAAC 2026 Work Plan

The RPAAC 2026 Work Plan (Attachment 1) outlines the proposed activities for the volunteer committee in 2026. The Work Plan was reviewed by the RPAAC on January 20, 2026.

As a Council-appointed Advisory Committee, RPAAC advises on all aspects of public art policy, planning, education and promotion, including the allocation of funds from the City's designated Public Art Reserve. Highlights of the 2026 Work Plan are noted below:

- Raise awareness and understanding of the importance of public art in the City through promotion and participation in educational opportunities and public events;
- Advise on strategies, policies and programs to achieve excellence in art in the public realm including researching best practices and advising on opportunities for artists;
- Propose and support City programs, initiatives and events that advance public art in the City including Lulu Speaker Series, Doors Open Richmond and Culture Days;

- Review and, through staff reports, provide recommendations to Council on public art project plans developed by City staff and private development public art consultants; and
- Provide input to staff in the development of an annual Public Art Program report to Council, including an RPAAC annual work plan.

Members of the 2026 RPAAC:

- Erin Ashenhurst
- Victoria Grigorenko
- Jaime Gusto
- Jose Larano
- Michelle Li
- Allison Liu
- Gareth Roberts
- Jerome Teo
- Tiffany Yang
- Council Representative: Kash Heed
- Staff Liaison: Biliana Velkova
- Recording Secretary: Sabina Sutherland

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council approve the RPAAC 2026 Work Plan.

Public art animates the built and natural environment with meaning, contributing to a vibrant city in which to live, work, and visit. The 2025 highlights of the Richmond Public Art Program and the proposed RPAAC 2026 Work Plan demonstrate a high level of professionalism, volunteerism, and commitment to quality public art in Richmond.



Biliana Velkova
Public Art Planner
(604-247-4612)

Att. 1: Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee 2026 Work Plan

Richmond Public Art Advisory Committee (RPAAC) 2026 Work Plan

The RPAAC 2026 Work Plan is based on the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the RPAAC and is proposed as follows:

Initiative	Actions	Expected Outcomes
1. Raise awareness and understanding of the importance of public art in the City		
a. Public involvement in the selection process for public art.	Encourage community members to participate on public art selection panels through an open call for volunteers.	Richmond residents are involved in civic and community cultural life.
b. Education and professional development for RPAAC members (workshops, bus tours, local conferences and symposiums).	Identify and register for professional development opportunities and City programs (such as Art at Work).	Develop and expand knowledge of best practices.
c. Guest speakers for RPAAC meetings.	Identify key guest speakers for RPAAC meetings in 2026.	RPAAC members are better informed on public art issues and equipped to share this information with Council, as and when requested.
d. Support public art communication platforms.	Promote existing and future platforms (mobile, print and web) that showcase the public art collection.	Public better informed about the public art collection, location, and artists.
2. Advise on strategies, policies and programs to achieve excellence in art in the public realm		
a. Program Policy and Best Practices.	Participate in review processes and, as needed, identify and prioritize potential research on policy and administration.	Policy and administrative procedures are reviewed.
b. TOR and Selected Artworks for Civic Projects.	Provide advice and recommendations to staff regarding TOR and selected artworks.	TOR and selected artworks are reviewed by RPAAC prior to Council review.

2. Advise on strategies, policies and programs to achieve excellence in art in the public realm (continued)		
c. Community Public Art Programs.	Advise on development and implementation of the Community Public Art Programs.	High quality Community Public Art Program is developed and maintained.
d. Artwork conservation, de-commissioning and maintenance of the Civic Public Art Collection.	Review as required.	Public art collection is well maintained.
e. RPAAC representation on public art juries for Civic projects.	Represent RPAAC on public art juries for civic projects as observers.	Policy and administrative procedures are followed to ensure fair and transparent process to achieve excellence in art in the public realm.
3. Support City programs, initiatives and events that advance public art in the City		
a. Promote Public Art.	Encourage community members to engage with Public Art through City programs (such as Culture Days, Doors Open, etc.).	Enhance community connection and awareness of public art.
4. Review and submit recommendations on private development public art plans		
a. Private Development Public Art Plans including TOR for public art projects.	Review private development public art plans.	Provide advice and recommendations to consultants and staff.
b. RPAAC representation on public art juries for private projects.	Represent RPAAC on public art juries for private projects as observers.	Policy and administrative procedures are followed to ensure fair and transparent process to achieve excellence in art in the public realm.



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee **Date:** February 2, 2026

From: Egan Davis, Manager, Parks Operations **File:** 11-7200-01/2025-Vol 01

Re: **Maintenance and Upkeep of City Owned Street Trees on Fairfax Crescent and Seafair Drive**

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled "Maintenance and Upkeep of City Owned Street Trees on Fairfax Crescent and Seafair Drive", dated February 2, 2026, from the Director, Parks Services, be received for information.

Todd Gross
Director, Parks Services
(604-247-4942)

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:
APPROVED BY CAO	

Staff Report

Origin

At the October 14, 2025, Regular Council meeting, a delegation delivered a presentation and provided a written outline of concerns prepared by residents regarding the condition and maintenance of City-owned trees in the Seafair neighbourhood (Seafair), on Fairfax Crescent and Seafair Drive. The following referral motion was then introduced and carried.

That the presentation by Mary-Ann Isinger with respect to maintenance and upkeep of City owned trees on Fairfax Crescent and Seafair Drive be referred to staff to investigate and report back.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022–2026 Focus Area #3 A Safe and Prepared Community:

Community safety and preparedness through effective planning, strategic partnerships and proactive programs.

3.4 Ensure civic infrastructure, assets and resources are effectively maintained and continue to meet the needs of the community as it grows.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022–2026 Focus Area #6 A Vibrant, Resilient and Active Community:

Vibrant, resilient and active communities supported by a wide variety of opportunities to get involved, build relationships and access resources.

6.2 Enhance the City's network of parks, trails and open spaces.

Background

The urban forest along Seafair Drive and Fairfax Crescent consists of a relatively mature street tree population, characterized by variability in tree size and canopy coverage. The original single-family residential housing development on Seafair Drive and Fairfax Crescent was largely constructed between 1965 and 1980, and many of the City-owned street trees currently in place were planted during this period.

Since the late 1990s, Seafair has undergone gradual single-lot redevelopment, involving the demolition of older homes and the construction of larger, single-family houses. This redevelopment has affected the street tree inventory, resulting in some tree removals as well as the planting of replacement trees.

The predominant tree species in the Seafair neighbourhood includes London plane and red oak, both of which are large shade trees with canopies that frequently extend over roadways and private properties. The area also contains a significant number of purple-leaf plum trees, many of which are in decline due to regional disease pressures affecting this species.

Other tree species commonly found throughout the neighbourhood include Himalayan cedar, dogwood, evergreen magnolia, tupelo and western red cedar.

Concerns Identified by Council Delegation

During the delegation presentation and in the submitted written materials, residents expressed ongoing concerns regarding the condition and maintenance of City street trees, identifying tree maintenance as critical to public safety and property protection. Several residents reported contacting City Hall multiple times over extended periods to request tree maintenance, with limited perceived follow-up, contributing to a perception that service requests are not being acted upon.

Residents raised concerns regarding falling branches and debris, particularly during storm events, which were identified as safety hazards. Reported impacts included damage to vehicles and private property. Overhanging branches encroaching private property were also reported, with residents noting these conditions can facilitate rodent access to homes and contribute to ongoing maintenance challenges.

Additional concerns included trip hazards associated with tree stumps following removals, a perceived decline in neighbourhood aesthetics, and worries related to tree structure, stability, and overall health. Residents also raised concerns about liability, noting that some of the issues they had reported remain unresolved. Residents further indicated that, because they understood that they are not permitted to prune City-owned trees, they must rely on the City to address safety and property impacts.

The delegation suggested trees could be pruned to reduce canopy size up to 25 per cent on a three to five year cycle without causing damage and that the City consider a proactive maintenance program including routine inspections and neighbourhood-based maintenance scheduling. It was further suggested that entire neighbourhood sections be addressed at one time, rather than completing smaller, localized work orders.

Analysis

Service Request History and Response

The City maintains an inventory of 56,000 trees in streets and parks and receives an average of 1,800 service requests, equating to about 32 service requests per 1,000 trees each year. By comparison, the Seafair community generates, on average, five times more service requests than this benchmark. This elevated demand is largely attributable to the greater size and maturity of the tree population in this area relative to other neighbourhoods.

Between 2016 and 2025, a total of 124 tree-related service requests were generated for the Seafair community with 141 work order tasks being completed, with the following outcomes:

- 50 work orders completed for pruning work;
- 33 trees were removed for hazard mitigation;
- 17 trees were replanted; and

- 41 service requests resulted in no action, as reported concerns did not meet the criteria for pruning or removal.

Operational Process

In alignment with the Council approved Public Tree Management Strategy 2045 (the Strategy), which recognizes public trees as a high-value civic asset, the City prioritizes service requests by their hazard and target implications before considering nuisance issues, such as leaf fall, or insect impacts such as honeydew drop. When nuisance issues significantly affect property use, staff will work with residents to identify reasonable solutions.

The Strategy's vision outlines a long-term goal to transition toward a more proactive and preventative management model, emphasizing stewardship focused on long-term sustainability, resilience, and community benefits, rather than aesthetic or convenience-based pruning.

The 2026 annual operating budget for the Urban Forestry program is \$2,592,900, which includes tree maintenance, planting, inventory management, and development. Approximately 50 per cent of the operating budget supports tree maintenance activities such as tree inspections, maintenance pruning, and hazard mitigation.

Within the currently funded level of service, urban forest trees are primarily managed through a reactive, request-based model. Service requests are inspected as soon as operationally possible so staff can identify and mitigate any risks to public safety. Based on inspection findings, work orders are assigned and completed according to established priority criteria, with situations posing an immediate safety risk receiving the highest priority. Additional factors that influence priority include tree health and condition, pest or disease presence, sightline and clearance requirements, and regulatory obligations. During periods of elevated demand, lower-priority work may be deferred.

Additionally, many mature, individual and neighbourhood trees are identified as requiring proactive, scheduled structural and formative pruning, to clear diseased and dead wood to prevent future, more severe issues. While this work is prescheduled and completed in priority sequence, it falls to a lower priority as the majority of resources are used to respond to request-based risks and service requests.

Trees within a neighbourhood vary in species, age, condition and risk, resulting in different maintenance standards that are best addressed through a condition and risk-based approach rather than a uniform pruning schedule. Although localized, area-based work may occur when several trees in one area require attention, a fully cyclical neighbourhood-wide pruning program is not feasible within the currently funded level of service. Meeting long-term targets, such as increasing canopy cover, and predictable proactive maintenance cycles, are currently under review and will require long-term investment in staffing and equipment.

Residents may choose to self-manage aesthetic and convenience-based issues involving portions of City trees that are extending over private property, subject to coordination with staff. Residents are encouraged to consult with City arborists to ensure any such work meets City standards and does not negatively impact tree health or public safety.

Community Engagement and Tree Inspections

City staff met with the two Council delegates and a neighbourhood resident on October 20, 2025. Staff and residents walked Seafair, allowing residents to identify specific concerns at each tree location.

Following the meeting, a City arborist conducted industry standard International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Level 1 Tree Risk Assessments for all 81 street trees in Seafair. These assessments were completed by an ISA Certified Arborist with a Tree Risk Assessment Qualification. Ongoing communication with residents occurred throughout the inspection process to ensure concerns were addressed. Inspection results indicated:

- 58 trees in good condition;
- 13 trees in fair condition; and
- 10 trees in poor condition requiring removal.

The following work was identified:

- 51 trees requiring pruning to remove deadwood and maintain clearances;
- 10 trees requiring removal and replacement due to declining health or disease, though not yet posing an immediate hazard;
- One tree requiring the removal of invasive English ivy;
- Four stumps requiring removal; and
- 19 trees requiring no work.

Next Steps

Staff will reconnect with the residents to review the proposed work plan and to clarify the extent to which the community can self-manage aesthetic and convenience-based issues.

City arborists will complete the identified work throughout 2026, with completion anticipated by the end of the year, subject to operational priorities. While none of the identified conditions represent an imminent hazard, work will be completed in priority sequence alongside ongoing City-wide hazard mitigation efforts.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with the recommended actions, as all work will be accommodated within existing operational budgets.

Conclusion

The concern raised by residents regarding the condition and maintenance of City street trees in Seafair were investigated through a service request review, community engagement, and comprehensive arborist inspections. The assessment confirmed that while many trees are in good condition, targeted pruning, removals, and stump grinding are required to address safety, tree health, and maintenance concerns. Identified work will be completed within existing resources and aligned with City priorities and industry best practices. The findings also highlight broader

February 2, 2026

- 6 -

opportunities to advance the City's long-term goal of transitioning toward a more proactive and preventative urban forest management approach. Staff will continue to engage with residents as work progresses and is completed.



Egan Davis
Manager, Parks Operations
(604-244-1210)