



25TH ANNIVERSARY OF HASTINGS PARK SANCTUARY

For Immediate Release
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Vancouver, B.C. – The PNE and members of the Hastings Park Conservancy celebrated the 25th anniversary of The Sanctuary, a human-made wetland that was designed and built by the City of Vancouver, the PNE and the Vancouver Parks Board at Hastings Park. It officially opened to the public on August 9, 1999.

In celebration of the quarter-century anniversary, as well as to signify the PNE’s commitment to an expansion of the Sanctuary area, a commemorative tree was planted.



(L to R: Hastings Park Conservancy spokesperson Gretchen Harlow / PNE Vice President of Sales, Marketing and Business Karen Massicotte)

*“Re-development is now underway in an area adjacent to the pond to create a new stream,” says **PNE Vice President of Sales, Marketing and Business Karen Massicotte**. “The Hastings Park Sanctuary Stormwater Management Project will include upgrades to the pond drainage, updated green spaces and new benches to enjoy the tranquility of the Sanctuary.”*

Recently, thanks to the support of **TD Bank**, the Sanctuary revitalization project saw masses of invasive blackberry cleared and a new trail and sitting area created, with five tons of dead tree chippings repurposed into landscaping.

Over 1,000 square feet of new Sanctuary pond area was also added to include a new pathway, two sitting areas and a huge new turf area reclaimed from the blackberry that was removed.

This project is one of two initiatives the PNE is working on in collaboration with the Hastings Park Conservancy.

*“The Conservancy supports greening initiatives at Hastings Park,” says **Hastings Park Conservancy spokesperson Gretchen Harlow**, “particularly implementing the PNE’s plans to daylight Hastings Creek, which will connect the sanctuary and the creek through New Brighton Park to Burrard Inlet. The daylighting would be a significant step forward.”*

The second project with the Hastings Park Conservancy provides opportunities for local school children to spend time in the sanctuary learning about the natural world. The students engage in environmental learning with an educator from Northwest Wildlife Preservation Society as well as Metis herbalist and educator, Lori Snyder. Over 500 children visited the sanctuary so far this year and the PNE is proud to be a funding partner on this project.

All of this important work is part of the PNE’s commitment to the Hastings Park Master Plan Greening Initiative.

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About the PNE:

Owned by the City of Vancouver, the PNE is a healthy and vibrant non-profit organization dedicated to delivering over 3 million visitors a year with memorable experiences through access to first-class cultural, music, sporting and family entertainment events, as well as access to public space for passive recreation. Founded in 1910, the PNE’s home is Hastings Park, a multi-facility venue in Vancouver

where the organization manages four activity streams: the annual PNE Fair, Playland Amusement Park, Park Care and Facility Maintenance and an expansive portfolio of year-round events. All revenues generated are invested back into park space, community programs and non-revenue generating educational and entertainment experiences.

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