

MOTION ON NOTICE

12. Declaring April 6th as Vancouver's Official Birthday

At the Regular Council meeting on February 26, 2019, Vancouver City Council referred the following Motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on February 27, 2019.

Submitted by: Councillor Hardwick

WHEREAS

1. The first Vancouver Day was established in 1929 and the date of June 13th was chosen as the anniversary of the Great Fire in 1886. It was continuously celebrated up until the end of WWII;
2. The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples;
3. In 1986, during the Centennial/Expo Celebrations, the City organized events for Vancouver Day;
4. The City of Vancouver was incorporated on April 6, 1886, and "Incorporation Day" was also celebrated on the anniversary of the City's date of incorporation by the now defunct Vancouver Pioneer's Association;
5. The last time we celebrated Vancouver's birthday was in 2011 for the City's 125th birthday;
6. There have been discussions about celebrating the City's birthday since 2011, but plans never materialized;
7. We have sporadically been celebrating Vancouver's birthday, when we have an opportunity to celebrate it annually;
8. The City's official celebrations and observances are meant to recognize days and significant events in our history, and Vancouver's birthday should be considered a significant event in our history;
9. The Museum of Vancouver is very interested in being involved in a birthday celebration for Vancouver and is supportive of the April 6 date starting in 2019.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the City of Vancouver declares April 6th as Vancouver's Official Birthday and add it to its official celebrations and observations calendar, including acknowledgement by the Mayor with a proclamation, starting in 2019 for the City's 133rd Birthday;

- B. THAT the City of Vancouver, partner together with its civic institutions including the Museum of Vancouver, the Vancouver Maritime Museum, and the H.R. MacMillan Space Centre and plan a free, all-ages event at the Vancouver Festival area in celebration of Vancouver's birthday and that the Vancouver flag be raised at Vanier Park annually on April 6th.

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