

COUNCIL MEMBERS' MOTION

*For consideration at the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on
October 29, 2025*

2. Support for BC Parks Foundation's Learning by Nature Initiative

Submitted by: Councillor Dominato and Councillor Zhou

WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver has established commitments to sustainability and resilience through policies such as the Vancouver Plan 2050, the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, the Urban Forest Strategy, and the Rain City Strategy;
2. The BC Parks Foundation has launched *Learning by Nature*, a province-wide initiative designed to expand tree canopy cover on school grounds, with the support of the federal and provincial governments and six founding school districts;
3. The *Learning by Nature* initiative aims to create Nature Parks (trees and shrubs) on school grounds across British Columbia to improve youth mental health, increase biodiversity, and foster reconciliation through land-based learning opportunities;
4. The Vancouver School Board has been selected to participate in the initial tranche of schools for the *Learning by Nature* initiative;
5. Collaboration with municipalities is essential to ensure the sustainability, expertise, and long-term success of this project; and
6. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) *Growing Canada's Community Canopies* initiative provides funding to support tree planting projects in partnership with municipalities, with a lifetime contribution limit of \$10 million per municipality, inclusive of up to \$1 million for eligible infrastructure costs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Vancouver City Council acknowledge and support the BC Parks Foundation's application to the FCM *Growing Canada's Community Canopies* initiative for the *Learning by Nature* project, in partnership with the City of Vancouver.
- B. THAT Council recognize that any funding awarded through FCM's *Growing Canada's Community Canopies* initiative for this project will count towards the City of Vancouver's lifetime maximum contribution of \$10 million, inclusive of a maximum contribution of \$1 million to support BC Parks Foundation's work.

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