



Regional Board Report

Information

To: Regional Board

From: Manager, Parks Services

Date: May 4, 2023

Subject: EECO Renaming – Mission Creek Regional Park

Voting Entitlement: *All Directors - Unweighted Corporate Vote - Simple Majority (LGA s.208)*

Purpose: To bring information regarding the renaming of the “Environmental Education Centre for the Okanagan” (EECO) from previous closed meetings to an open meeting of the Regional Board on May 4, 2023, for public information.

Executive Summary:

The Regional Board in a closed meeting on September 8, 2022, approved the renaming of the Environmental Education Centre for the Okanagan (EECO) in Mission Creek Regional Park to the “Robert Hobson Environmental Education Centre for the Okanagan”. The renaming of the EECO acknowledges and celebrates Robert Hobson's long-term commitment and legacy in supporting the protection of park lands and the environment over his 20 years as RDCO Board Chair and 26-year career as a City of Kelowna Councillor. In addition, staff brought forward another regional board report in a closed meeting of the February 23, 2023 Regional Board meeting to invite the Regional Board to the renaming ceremony that is scheduled for June 9, 2023. This regional board report is to bring information about the EECO Renaming forward to an open meeting for public information.

Recommendation(s):

THAT the Regional Board receive the report from the Manager, Parks Services, dated May 4, 2023, regarding the renaming of the Environmental Education Centre for the Central Okanagan to the Robert Hobson Environmental Education Centre for the Okanagan, for information.

Approved by:

Wayne Darlington, Manager – Parks Services

Strategic Plan Alignment:

Priorities: Environment, Sustainable Communities

Values: Transparency, Regional Perspective

Background:

The Regional Board during the closed session of the Regional Board Meeting on September 8, 2022, resolved to rename the Environmental Education Centre for the Okanagan (EECO) in Mission Creek Regional Park to the *“Robert Hobson Environmental Education Centre for the Okanagan”*, with the following resolution:

“THAT the Regional Board approve the renaming of the Environment Education Centre for the Okanagan (EECO) to the “Robert Hobson Environmental Education Centre for the Okanagan”;

AND THAT the Regional Board approve release of the renaming dedication to the public in consultation with Robert Hobson at an appropriate time prior to a ceremonial facility renaming public event that will be scheduled in the spring of 2023.”

Staff subsequently brought forward another report that was presented to the Regional Board during the closed session of the Regional Board Meeting on February 23, 2023, to inform the board and invite them to the renaming ceremony, which is scheduled for June 9, 2023, at 10:00am at the EECO in Mission Creek Regional Park. At this meeting the Regional Board received the following recommendation for information:

“THAT the Regional Board receive the report from the Manager, Parks Services, dated February 23, 2023, regarding the renaming of the Environmental Education Centre for the Central Okanagan to the Robert Hobson Environmental Education Centre for the Okanagan, for information.”

This report is to bring the information about the EECO Renaming forward to an open meeting of the Regional Board for public information. And, to provide notification about the upcoming event to celebrate Robert Hobson’s lifetime commitments to Regional Parks, the environment, and our community, which as noted above is scheduled to take place on June 9, 2023, at 10:00am at the EECO in Mission Creek Regional Park.

Considerations not applicable:

- Legal/Statutory Authority
 - Alternate Recommendation
 - Organizational/External
 - Financial
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Approved for Agenda



Brian Reardon, CAO