



Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 26th, 2024

To: Committee of the Whole **Date:** September 12th, 2024
From: Councillor Gardiner
Subject: City Costs to host Touchdown Pacific

BACKGROUND

Touchdown Pacific added a wonderful transition from summer to fall. Months earlier, along with thousands of other Victoria residents I waited on-line to purchase tickets. With family members, including two youngsters, I visited Ship Point on Friday and Central Park and Royal Athletic Park on Saturday. The Lions' win topped the weekend.

Back to City business, and the use of Royal Athletic Park. The chatter on the street is about the possibility of the City hosting future Touchdown Pacific events, and perhaps a few more CFL games when the Vancouver sports venues will be hosting the World Cup (soccer) in 2026.

Key information needed by Council, and the general public, is a fulsome costing of the event to the City. While we hear of benefits, and understand that the existing 2024 budget was able to absorb 2024 costs, budgets are finite, and choices have to be made.

Looking ahead to 2025 and 2026 budgets, the actual 2024 costs to the City should be summarised and presented to the public, to taxpayers. Transparency of costs is needed.

While the CFL and CFL sponsor financial support of the events are not required to be made known to the public, public municipal resources used to support Touchdown Pacific are.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

- 1) Direct staff to report on the full costs to the City for hosting Touchdown Pacific 2024.
 - a. Costs to include but not be limited to any city resources associated with:
 - i. Grounds and facility preparation including turf, media connects for television etc
 - ii. All set-up not carried out by CFL (temporary stands) including security
 - iii. Staff administrative work regarding contracts
 - b. The report to be completed before discussion of the parks or special events portions of the 2025 budget.
- 2) Forward these recommendations to the September 26, 2024 daytime Council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. Gardiner".

Councillor Gardiner