EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The New Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre and Silver Harbour (HJCRC+SH) is the largest investment in community recreation that the City has ever delivered. When completed the new HJCRC+SH will provide more than 200,000 square feet of state of the art community space for physical and social well-being.

March and April 2022 were momentous months for the Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre project. After 20 years of discussion and consideration, Council provided direction to initiate construction of the new facility. In April, construction activity became visible with the demolition of the pedestrian overpass, installation of site trailers, and beginning of excavation work. Some of the City’s tender packages have also been referred to pre-qualified trades as the project team continues to work towards above grade construction.

In the months ahead the project will continue excavation – including removal of some identified contaminated soil and boulders – and work to ensure next steps of development can continue on schedule. In addition to referring the remaining tender packages to pre-qualified trades, the project team will continue to pursue the issuance of permits. Staff and the project team are working together closely to ensure the timely issuance of required permits and that the community, particularly the nearest residents and businesses, are kept informed about construction activity and changes in their neighbourhood.

MARCH + APRIL MILESTONES

- Site prepped and cleared for excavation;
- Underground utility works for East 23rd Street – to support HJCRC and future HJNL development – were completed;
- Pre-qualification of the remaining Trade Packages were evaluated and reviewed and a list of pre-qualified contractors created;
- Site fencing was installed;
- Smith Brothers Wilson mobilized site trailers;
- Council directed staff to explore opportunities for interim skatepark in Mahon Park;
- Ground Breaking Ceremony onsite March 29th;
- Issuance of excavation permit April 5th;
- Demolition of pedestrian bridge over East 23rd Street April 11th & 12th;
  - Neighbourhood notice for demolition was hand delivered to nearby properties;
- Initiation of excavation.

UTILITY UPGRADES

Utility upgrades to 23rd Street will support development of the new HJCRC and the future HJNL.

BRIDGE DEMOLITION

Bridge demolition is necessary for the reimagined East 23rd Street.
MAY’S UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

• Repaving and repainting of East 23rd Street (and Lonsdale and St. Georges intersections) where impacted by completed utility works when weather permits;
• Scheduling of additional meetings with project stakeholders;
• Issuance of remaining trade tender packages;
• Completion of artist selection for entrance and Coast Salish art pieces;
• Continuation of bulk excavation.

Mayor Buchanan and members of Council officially launched construction on March 29th. We’re now on track to deliver the new HJCRC in 2025. Pictured from left to right: Councillor Tony Valente, Councillor Holly Back, Mayor Linda Buchanan, Councillor Don Bell and Councillor Angela Girard.