

## PLAYLAND NAMES NEW STATE OF THE ART LAUNCH COASTER!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 22nd, 2023

**Vancouver, BC** – Earlier this year, construction began in Playland on what will be Canada's fastest electric launch coaster, and a contest commenced to help name the ride. Over 3,000 ideas were submitted, highlighting west coast concepts. Ultimately, the themes of wild energy and electrifying speed emerged, and the name was finalized combining some of the submissions. Introducing: **ThunderVolt!** 

The ThunderVolt experience carries 12 passengers at a time through a supernatural environment with extraordinary animals, graphics and lighting that pulses as the ride system charges, leading up to its launch. The three-car train blasts off with 1.3 G's of acceleration through an illuminated tunnel, up a steep incline before an 18-metre drop. The \$16-million-dollar ride was built by Zamperla of Italy, one of the world's largest manufacturers of rides and attractions and will occupy the previous location of the retired Corkscrew coaster.

"We are so excited for our guests to experience the ThunderVolt," says PNE President and CEO Shelley Frost. "It was important to the PNE the name reflected the ride experience: speed and electricity, while being rooted in nature. We anticipate it will be immediately embraced by Playland coaster enthusiasts due to its unique and thrilling features, as the coaster strikes that perfect balance between fun and thrill and will be an impressive addition to Playland's ride roster in 2024."

## **Launch Coaster – Fast Facts**

Total Track Length: 380 metres (1247 feet)
Maximum height: 18 metres (59 feet)
Train Length: 8.2 metres (27 feet)

Number of Trains: 1
Vehicles per Train: 3
Passengers per Train: 12
Launch Acceleration: 1.3 G

When the ThunderVolt opens in 2024, Playland Season Pass Holders will be among the first to enjoy this electrifying experience. Before it opens to the general public, Season Pass Holders,

contest winners, and other VIPs will be invited to an exclusive party to officially launch the new ride.

In honour of the name being revealed for the new coaster, starting today, Playland 2024 Season Passes are available at 2023 holiday prices! Playland Season Passholders get the ultimate access to Vancouver's favourite amusement park, with more than 80 operating sessions between mid-May and mid-August, at the cost of less than three admissions. Playland Season Passes are \$79 (Fun Season Passes) and \$119 (Thrill Season Passes) – a savings of \$30 each until December 29, 2023. Tickets on sale November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10am! Prices will increase in the new year.

## **Connect with the PNE:**

To stay up to date, follow us on Instagram @PNE\_Playland and like us on Facebook.

For more information, including daily schedules and ticket info, please visit: www.pne.ca.

## **About the PNE:**

Owned by the City of Vancouver, the PNE is a healthy and vibrant non-profit organization dedicated to delivering over 3 million visitors a year with memorable experiences through access to first-class cultural, music, sporting and family entertainment events, as well as access to public space for passive recreation. Founded in 1910, the PNE's home is Hastings Park, a multi-facility venue in Vancouver where the organization manages four activity streams: the annual PNE Fair, Playland Amusement Park, Park Care and Facility Maintenance and an expansive portfolio of year-round events. All revenues generated are invested back into park space, community programs and non- revenue generating educational and entertainment experiences.

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