

City to fell dead 1,000-year-old tree

by UPI

VANCOUVER, British Columbia -- The hollow remains of a 1,100-year-old red cedar tree landmark are a safety risk and will be cut down, the Vancouver, British Columbia, city council decided. At a packed council meeting Monday night, the vote was unanimous to bring down "The Hollow Tree," a landmark in the city's Stanley Park, the Globe and Mail reported. As far back as the 1800s, people and families posed for portraits inside the ancient tree but storm damage earlier this year left it standing with an 11-degree slope and the tree has been fenced off, the report said. No timeline was set but councilors also voted to split the trunk when it is cut down, lay the halves out and plant a new memorial cedar in the ring left behind, the newspaper said. The council also voted to remove a controversial seven-story aluminum sculpture elsewhere in the city. The "Device to Root out Evil" depicts a church driven into the ground by its steeple, and was erected in 2005, the Province newspaper in Vancouver reported.

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