

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE
BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, 2013-SEP-11, COMMENCING AT 3:00 P.M.

CHAIR: COMMISSIONER TED GREVES

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

2. **INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:**

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

(Motion required to adopt the agenda)

4. **ADOPTION OF MEETING NOTES:**

- (a) Notes of the Regular Recreation Committee Meeting held Wednesday, 2013-JUL-10, at 3:03 p.m., in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room. *Pg. 3-4*

(Motion required to adopt minutes)

5. **CHAIR'S REPORT:**

6. **STAFF REPORTS:**

- (a) **Facility Access Programs** *Pg. 5-8*

Purpose: To provide the Recreation Committee with an update on the Parks, Recreation and Culture subsidized programs, attendance and financial impact.

Staff Recommendation: That the Recreation Committee receives for information.

(Motion required to adopt recommendation)

- (b) **Financial Access Programs** *Pg. 9-13*

Purpose: To provide the Recreation Committee with background on Parks, Recreation and Culture fees and charges, subsidized programs and options available to Nanaimo and surrounding area residents.

Staff Recommendation: That the Recreation Committee provide direction to Staff.

(Motion required to adopt recommendation)

7. **NOTICE OF MOTION:**

8. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

(Motion required if there is other business)

9. **QUESTION PERIOD:** *(Agenda Items Only)*

10. **ADJOURNMENT:**

2013-SEP-06
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NOTES
RECREATION COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, 2013-JUL-10, COMMENCING AT 3:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioner Ted Greves, Chair

Members: Commissioner Karen Alden
Commissioner Lynda Avis
Commissioner Diana Johnstone

Regrets: Commissioner Mercedes Beaudoin-Lobb

Staff: L. Williams, Manager, Recreation and Culture Services
J. Farrell, recording

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

(a) Add pages 11-30 to Item 6 (a) Staff Report – Facility Access Programs

(b) Move Item 9 (a) Sport Tournament Grant

It was moved and seconded to move Item 9 (a) forward on the Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda, as amended, be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MEETING NOTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Meeting Notes of the Regular Recreation Committee Meeting of Wednesday, 2013-JUN-12 at 3:06 p.m., at the Bowen Complex Conference Room be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Sport Tournament Grant:

(a) Oak Bay Bikes BC Cyclocross Championships

It was moved and seconded that the Recreation Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council approve the

application for a Sport Tournament Grant to Oak Bay Bikes BC Cyclocross Championships Event in the amount of \$1,000 . The motion carried unanimously.

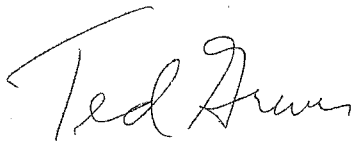
6. STAFF REPORTS:

(a) Facility Access Programs

It was moved and seconded that Staff return with further information at the next meeting of the Recreation Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 4:30 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.



Ted Greves
CHAIR
RECREATION COMMITTEE

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



L. Williams
MANAGER
RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES

APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION:



Richard Harding
DIRECTOR
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

City of Nanaimo

REPORT TO THE RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE OF MEETING: 2013-SEP-11

AUTHORED BY: LIZ WILLIAMS, MANAGER
RECREATION & CULTURE SERVICES

RE: FACILITY ACCESS PROGRAMS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the Recreation Committee receives the report for information.

PURPOSE:

To provide the Recreation Committee with an update on the Parks, Recreation & Culture subsidized programs, attendance and financial impact.

BACKGROUND:

At the 2012-NOV-28 regular open meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, a motion was passed that staff review all facility access programs and that the Recreation Committee lead this review as outlined in the report and bring recommendations back to Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission for consideration.

As part of that review the Committee felt it would be helpful if staff felt provided the Parks, Recreation and Culture Recreation Committee with a bi-annual summary of the free admission and subsidized programs currently available. The summary of the programs will include the history/purpose, number of individuals accessing and financial impact of the programs (Attachment A).

DISCUSSION:

The City currently provides full subsidization programs for facility access in a number of ways. These include:

1. GRADE 5 ACTIVE & GRADE 6 STAY ACTIVE PASSES

In 2008, Commission approved the Grade 5 Active Pass, allowing for unlimited free drop-in access during the school year for all grade five students in the school district. In 2011, the program was expanded to the Grade 6 Stay Active pass, allowing for twelve drop-ins for the school year. Both programs have been successful for those who participate. In discussion with the school district, more work can be done to promote awareness of the program amongst children and parents.

2. LEISURE ECONOMIC ACCESS PROGRAM (LEAP):

The Leisure Economic Access Program (LEAP) was introduced in the fall of 1993 and was designed to make recreation opportunities more accessible for children who fall under the Low Income Cut-Offs as determined by the Federal Government. This program compliments our departmental goals of enhancing the quality of life and leisure in Nanaimo, and to be aware of the developing leisure requirements of our community. The LEAP program creates the opportunities for individuals who have barriers accessing our recreation and leisure programs. Recreation, for many who are struggling to make ends meet, is a non-essential expense. In 2008, changes were made to the LEAP program to promote and support family access to facilities, recognizing the importance of families recreating together.

The LEAP program currently provides 50 drop-in admissions per person, 50% (to a maximum of \$40) discount on four programs per year, free locker tokens and free helmet & skate rentals. The discount can also be applied to RecPasses and economy tickets. The program currently serves 3,860 people and annual subsidization rate has grown from \$31,390 to \$50,516 in the past three years.

A survey of current LEAP users was conducted in spring 2013 to garner feedback as to whether the program was meeting user needs and what improvements or changes needed to be considered. Based on the survey results, the LEAP program appears to be working and meeting the needs of its users. There will always be requests to increase the number of drop-in passes. The four annual discounts and what they can be used for will be better promoted moving forward.

JumpStart: In conjunction with the LEAP program, Parks, Recreation and Culture has partnered with Canadian Tire to offer the JumpStart Program.

Canadian Tire initiated a community-based program with the objective of the program being to financially assist children in need to participate in sport and organized physical recreation activities.

Canadian Tire subsidizes the cost of participation for LEAP registered children in department sponsored physically active and sport programs by a further 25% to a maximum of \$20 per program. Together, Canadian Tire and Parks, Recreation and Culture will be subsidizing these programs by 75% of the total cost, up to \$60 per program.

Funding is available for all children with a valid LEAP card. JumpStart applies to children four to 18 years old who are participating in a physical activity or sport program. Funding should be for a sustained program that is either a minimum of five weeks in duration with a minimum of one session per week or, in the case of sports camps, five consecutive days. Funding can be used to cover registration fees, equipment costs and/or transportation costs. Maximum support provided per child in one submission period is \$300, with the opportunity to fund the same child for successive seasons.

3. PACIFICSPORT – ATHLETE FREE ACCESS

Gymworks is a partnership program with PacificSport and Parks, Recreation & Culture. This program is available to all athletes registered with PacificSport and/or CSC Pacific and

enhances training environments by providing easy local access to training centres. Athletes are given free access to drop-in programs.

4. RCMP POSITIVE TICKETING PROGRAM:

Positive Ticketing program is offered in partnership with the RCMP. RCMP members give out "Positive Tickets" to reward wanted behaviours to community youth and marginalized persons. These types of programs are specific in nature and are evaluated on an ongoing basis. The card gives participants three free drop-ins to use at our facilities (public swim/skate/Oliver Woods drop-in programs).

5. SWIM AIDES (ASSISTANTS):

Individuals requiring assistance in order to participate in Parks, Recreation and Culture programs can bring an aide to assist them at no charge.

6. TWO YEARS AND UNDER – FREE ACCESS TO DROP-IN PROGRAMS:

As per the Fees and Charges Bylaw, children two years and under do not pay admission to access drop-in Programs.

7. PROMOTIONAL ADMISSIONS; COURTESY OR 2 FOR 1 PASSES:

The Department has a variety of promotional tools that also provide for facility, these include Courtesy and 2 for 1 passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence by:



Elizabeth Williams
MANAGER
RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE



Suzanne Samborski
SENIOR MANAGER
RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

ATTACHMENT A

	Totals: January - June 2013						
						Total Admissions	Total Value of Admissions
Free Admissions	NAC	BEBAN	NIC	OWCC	FCA		
Grade 5 Active Pass	2305	292	55	5	80	2737	\$9,579.50
Grade 6 Stay Active Pass	1013	130	22	3	64	1232	\$4,312.00
Leap - Adult	12103	2217	76	205	137	14738	\$95,797.00
Leap - Child	6045	773	61	21	161	7061	\$24,713.50
Leap Free Helmets	0	0	17	0	45	62	\$31.00
Leap Free Skates	0	0	37	0	96	133	\$416.29
Leap Locker Tokens	8134	735	0	0	0	8869	\$2,217.25
80 Years and Over	1979	2596	77	10	183	4845	\$24,225.00
Pacific Sport	48	3	0	0	0	51	\$255.00
RCMP Positive Ticketing	43	5	0	0	8	56	\$196.00
Swim Aides/Assistants	1284	156	4	21	43	1508	\$9,802.00
Two years and under	2880	1209	7	16	33	4145	\$14,507.50
Promotional 2:1 Admissions							
Youth Info Guide 2:1	13	0	0	0	0	13	\$65.00
Sport/Cultural Tourism 2:1	1	2	0	0	0	3	\$15.00
School Promo 2:1	54	20	7	0	46	127	\$444.50
Welcome Wagon	4	3	1	0	0	8	\$52.00
Friend Promotion	8	0	0	0	0	8	\$52.00
2:1 Pass	360	56	8	2	36	462	\$2,310.00
2:1 Cultural Tourism	0	0	0	1	1	2	\$10.00
Courtesy Passes	772	149	27	32	11	991	\$4,955.00
ADMISSION TOTALS	37,046	8,346	399	316	944	47,051	\$193,955.54

City of Nanaimo

REPORT TO THE RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE OF MEETING: 2013-SEP-11

AUTHORED BY: LIZ WILLIAMS, MANAGER
RECREATION & CULTURE SERVICES

RE: FINANCIAL ACCESS PROGRAMS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the Recreation Committee provide direction to Staff.

PURPOSE:

To provide the Recreation Committee with background on Parks, Recreation & Culture fees & charges, subsidized programs and options available to Nanaimo and surrounding area residents.

BACKGROUND:

At the 2012-NOV-28 regular open meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, a motion was passed that Staff review all facility access programs and that the Recreation Committee lead this review and bring recommendations back to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission for consideration.

With government program funding cuts, cost of living increases and rising fees, there has been an increase in requests from several groups including, disease-based demographics, post-secondary students, substance abuse programs, schools and others for reduced fees to access City of Nanaimo facilities. The Leisure Economic Access Program (LEAP) was the first program designed to assist low-income individuals and families. Several additional programs have been implemented that offer residents reduced rates to our facilities.

As outlined in the Facility Access Programs report, the Parks, Recreation and Culture department offers a number of programs to assist and stimulate attendance in our drop-in programs. In general our free or subsidized programs are effective however staff have noticed an increase in requests from groups asking for assistance that fall outside the parameters of our current programs. This report will provide background, information and recommendations on PRC subsidy programs and recommendations.

DISCUSSION:

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE REGULATION BYLAW 2008 NO. 7073

Guiding principles to help determine fees and charges:

1. Fees, charges and rentals should supplement tax appropriations as a source of revenue for Parks, Recreation and Culture Department services and facilities and should not be the primary source of funds for their operation. The objective is to subsidize admission fees for children up to 50% of the adult rate for the equivalent service. Students and seniors are subsidized up to 25% of the adult rate.
2. Cost of administering and collecting revenues should not be disproportionate to the actual revenue gained.
3. The extension of Parks, Recreation and Culture services should be based on the need and not on the income value of the services.
4. Financial assistance for access to City recreation services will be provided to individuals in accordance with the Leisure Economic Access Program (LEAP) policy.
5. Drop-in fees are based on current pricing, market comparison and increases of no greater than 3%.

General Admissions (includes Tax)	(3%)2013/14	(0%)2014/15	(3%)2015/16
Child (2 years and under)	Free	Free	Free
Child - 3 to 12 years	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.75
Student - 13 to 18 years	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.25
Adult - 19 to 59 years	\$6.75	\$6.75	\$7.00
Senior - 60 to 79 years	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.25
Senior – 80 years and over	Free	Free	Free
Family – Max. 2 adults & 3 children or 4 children & 1 adult	\$13.50	\$13.50	\$14.00
Family – Additional child/ additional student	\$0.35/\$0.50	\$0.35/\$0.50	\$0.40/\$0.55
Economy Card (min. 10) (includes Tax)			
Child	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$30.00
Student	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$42.00
Adult	\$54.00	\$54.00	\$56.00
Senior	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$42.00
Shower Pass	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$37.50
3 Month REC Pass (includes Tax)			
Child	\$95.50	\$95.50	\$101.25
Student/Senior	\$135.00	\$135.00	\$141.75
Adult	\$182.25	\$182.25	\$189.00
Family	\$364.50	\$364.50	\$378.00
6 Month REC Pass (includes Tax)			
Child	\$168.00	\$168.00	\$180.00
Student/Senior	\$240.00	\$240.00	\$252.00
Adult	\$324.00	\$324.00	\$336.00
Family	\$648.00	\$648.00	\$672.00
12 Month REC Pass (includes Tax)			
Child	\$252.00	\$252.00	\$270.00
Student/Senior	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$378.00
Adult	\$486.00	\$486.00	\$500.00
Family	\$972.00	\$972.00	\$1,000.00

NOTES: Based on general admission rates of 3 times per week or 12 times per month, the following average savings would be achieved for purchasing a REC Pass:
3 months = 25% savings; 6 months = 33% savings; 12 months 50% savings - *against single admission.

1. 80 YEARS AND OLDER – FREE ACCESS TO DROP-IN PROGRAMS

During the 2009-12 fees and charges review, Council approved the Commission's recommendation that residents who are 80 and over would receive free access. Over the past three years this has resulted in \$64,160 dollars in subsidy.

80 yrs. & Over	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of Admissions	Not available	2,132	5,948	7,960

Proposed Changes:

Commission could choose to cancel the program, adjust the fee from free to a reduced admission rate or offer 50 free annual drop-ins (similar to the adult LEAP program).

2. NOT-FOR PROFIT AND SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

There have been numerous requests for discounted passes from organizations who assist people in changing and improving their lives and/or work with clients with various disabilities and special needs.

Discussions were held with organizations such as the John Howard Society, Claytree Home, group homes (J Garnons Williams Ltd.), and the City's Social Planner.

While access to the facilities for group home residents who qualify for the LEAP program exists, many care providers would like to have increased access to support health and wellness. The John Howard Society would like to see the LEAP pass extend to all clients regardless of their eligibility.

These organizations have been provided with the option to use the corporate pass program to increase discounts on already subsidized recreation passes, purchase discounted bulk drop-in passes and of course, register those who qualify into the LEAP program.

As previously discussed, the LEAP program's purpose is to support first children, second families and third, residents who qualify for the program.

Proposed Changes:

Many of these organizations apply for Grants-in-Aid through the City's Social Planning Advisory Committee (SPAC) which includes two members of the Commission. SPAC also considers and recommends tax exemptions for many not-for-profits and social service organizations.

Option 1:

The creation of a Facility Access Grant for Social Service and Not-for-Profit groups that would be administered by SPAC. SPAC works with these types of groups and organizations and are best equipped to evaluate the requests being made.

The program would be developed as a grant application process (similar to current SPAC and Commission grant programs), asking groups to identify:

- the program they are offering
- what type and amount of facility access dollars they are looking for
- how it meets their mandate
- outcomes and measures for the program
- identify other partners
- ways their group could contribute back to community (non-financial)
- any implications/barriers City staff would need to be aware of

It is recommended that a fund of \$5,000 to \$10,000 be established, either through existing funds or through a higher service level request. It could be funded fully by Parks, Recreation and Culture or jointly with Social Planning.

Option 2:

That a program similar to the Corporate Pass program be developed that allows for further discounts on RecPasses and drop-ins. This program would have an application form asking groups to identify the needs, outcomes, measures, etc.

3. VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY (VIU) / POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS

The fees and charges bylaw recognizes post-secondary students with a valid student ID card to qualify for student rates. This is a 25% reduction off the adult rate, in line with the senior discount.

Of the information gathered from other municipalities, Mission and Abbotsford provide a free quarterly pass to students with a valid U-card. However, the University incorporates a service fee for a variety of services in the students' tuition and the municipalities receive about 30% of the revenue (about \$20,000 per year).

Abbotsford and Mission's agreement with the University has the University charging a set fee (currently \$40 per student) which goes to facility access and other services. While it has resulted in more student activity in the facilities, it has decreased public users in the weight rooms due to crowding and opposing dynamics in their 10,000 square foot facility as the students are more interested in heavy lifting and body building. In response to this, Abbotsford is looking at limiting student access to specific blocks of time.

Proposed Changes:

With the current LEAP program and the existing student discount in the Commission's fees and charges, staff recommends no changes to rates for post-secondary students.

Staff does recommend that discussions with VIU and other post-secondary institutions continue towards the development of a student recreation pass. This could be done through the

corporate pass program, partnership program, etc. Thought would need to be given to scheduling impacts and the ability to meet the needs of general fitness users.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence by:



Elizabeth Williams
MANAGER
RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE



Suzanne Samborski
SENIOR MANAGER
RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

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