

AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION
MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, OF THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX,
ON WEDNESDAY, 2008-MAR-26 COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.

1. **CALL THE REGULAR PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION MEETING TO ORDER:**

2. **INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:**

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

- (a) Minutes of the Regular Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission Meeting held Wednesday, 2008-FEB-27 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Bowen Park Complex.

5. **PRESENTATIONS:**

- (a) Nanaimo Track and Field Club Cross Country Champions (2).
- (b) Revised Official Community Plan Staff Presentation - Bruce Anderson, Manager of Community Planning, and Deborah Jensen, Community Development Planner.

6. **DELEGATIONS: (10 MINUTES)**

- (a) Ms. Debbie Trueman, General Manager, Nanaimo Museum, speaking to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission on the Development of Exhibits in the Nanaimo Museum's new facility in the Port of Nanaimo Centre Facility. *Pg. 45 - 47*
- (b) Mr. Rob Ripley, President, Nanaimo and District Minor Fastball Association, email: rripley@hazelwoodconstruction.com, requesting the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission to make a decision on the allocation of the Beban Gyro Softball Fields for the 2008 season. *Pg. 48 - 53*

LATE DELEGATIONS: (5 MINUTES)

7. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

At the 2008-FEB-25 Council meeting, a letter was received from the Nanaimo Track & Field Club, and the Chair, Board of Education, requesting Council's written support for the "Help Us Stay on Track" campaign to accumulate the necessary funds to resurface Rotary Bowl Track and Field Complex.

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Council passed the following motion: Council directed that this issue be referred to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission.

Chair's Recommendation: That the City support in principal the fundraising campaign "Help Us Stay on Track" providing that Rotary Bowl becomes a multi-purpose facility.

8. **REPORTS OF ADVISORY BODIES:**

- (a) **Parks Committee.** Meeting held 2008-MAR-13.

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Millstone Side Channel Interpretive Plan Information Report and Staff Presentation.

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- (b) **Recreation Committee.** No meeting held.

- (c) **Cultural Committee.** Meeting held 2008-MAR-12.

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Harbourfront Plaza Art in Public Places Project Information Report.

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- (d) **Grants Advisory Committee.** Commissioners Burnett and Fraser - Monthly report.

- (e) **Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee.** Commissioner Lance - Monthly report.

- (f) **Social Planning Advisory Committee.** Commissioner Johnstone - Monthly report.

- (g) **Port Theatre.** Monthly report – February 2008.

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- (h) **Nanaimo Art Gallery.** No report.

- (i) **Nanaimo District Museum.** Monthly report.

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9. **STAFF REPORTS:**

(a) **Leisure Economic Access Program (LEAP).**

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Ms. Michele Duerksen, LEAP Coordinator, will provide a presentation.

Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council amend the Leisure Economic Access program (LEAP) guidelines to enable eligible adult LEAP clients to receive 50 free swim/skate passes per year.

10. **INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (Staff reports):**

(a) Monthly Report – Cultural Capitals of Canada.

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(b) Monthly Report – Senior Manager of Parks.

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(c) Monthly Report – Senior Manager of Recreation and Culture Services.

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11. **CORRESPONDENCE: (Information Only)**

(a) Correspondence to Mr. Larry McNabb, Chair, Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, from Mr. Vince Katnich, President, Arts Alive, expressing appreciation for the Arts and Cultural Operating Grant.

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(b) Minutes of the Bowen Park Seniors Board of Directors Meeting held 2008-MAR-07.

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(c) Correspondence to Mr. Larry McNabb, Chair, Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, from Ms. Lynda Avis, President, Bowen Seniors, donating \$1,000 to be used towards the lighting component of the artwork in the lobby of the Oliver Woods Community Centre.

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12. **NOTICE OF MOTION:**

13. **CONSIDERATION OF OTHER BUSINESS:**

14. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS:**

15. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

(a) Nanaimo Christian School Request for Joint Use of Holland Road Park – referred to Parks Committee for consideration in Spring 2008.

(b) Options for Annual Fees for Non-Profit Organizations - staff report.

16. **QUESTION PERIOD:**

17. **MEETING DATES:**

Cultural Committee	Wednesday, 2008-APR-02; 4:00 p.m.
Recreation Committee	Wednesday, 2008-APR-09; 4:00 p.m. – if required
Parks Committee	Thursday, 2008-APR-10; 4:00 p.m. – if required
COMMISSION	Wednesday, 2008-APR-23; 7:00 p.m. Hemlock Room, Oliver Woods Community Centre

18. **ADJOURNMENT:**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to "COUNCIL PROCEDURE BYLAW 2007 NO. 7060", OF AN "In Camera" Meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission to be held:

DATE:	Wednesday, 2008-MAR-26
LOCATION:	Bowen Complex Conference Room
TIME:	Immediately following the regular Commission meeting

The purpose of the "In Camera" Meeting is to discuss matters pertaining to items that may be closed to the public as per *Community Charter* Section 90(1):

- (b) personal information about an identifiable individual who is being considered for a municipal award or honour, or who has offered to provide a gift to the municipality on condition of anonymity.



Richard Harding, Director,
Parks, Recreation and Culture.



NANAIMO MUSEUM

Exhibits for the Port of Nanaimo Centre Facility

Interpretation Plan

January 28th, 2008

Prepared by

Nanaimo Museum

Debbie Trueman, David Hill-Turner, Richard Slingerland and Bobbi Williamson

Facilitated by

Kevin Neary
Traditions Consulting Services, Inc.



and

Alan Graves
Alan Graves Design

Executive Summary

This Interpretation Plan has been prepared as a guide for the development of exhibits in the Nanaimo Museum's new facility in the Port of Nanaimo Centre, opening in the summer of 2008. The Interpretation Plan, in conjunction with a Design Plan and Exhibit Docket, being developed, will lead to the fabrication, and installation of these exhibits.

The Interpretation Plan was developed by the staff of the Nanaimo Museum with facilitation services provided by consultants.

The general approach of the Nanaimo Museum exhibits will be to connect with its audiences through displays and presentations that **highlight essential or key elements in Nanaimo's history and development**. The exhibits will not attempt to present a comprehensive or encyclopaedic view of the community's history. In essence, the displays will portray "**highlights**" -- **unique aspects of Nanaimo's nature and character** -- rather than displays of Nanaimo of history that may be similar to what occurred in other communities or what might be viewed in other museums. Nonetheless, Museum visitors will, through their experiences in the exhibits, obtain a cumulative overview of Nanaimo's history and development. We anticipate that Museum visitors will be sufficiently intrigued by this approach they will be motivated to learn additional details of Nanaimo's historic development. The exhibits will direct them to sources where such additional information can be obtained.

The current, or "actual" audience for the Museum comprises various local and tourist groups. The "target" audiences for the new exhibits are conference attendees, cruise ship passengers, and local residents who have not previously visited the Museum.

The two main themes of the Museum exhibits are:

1. **Nanaimo Harbour** is the primary geographic theme of the exhibits
2. **The Heart and Style of Nanaimo**, to portray the many events, people and issues that are unique to Nanaimo, and that contribute to the singular nature, spirit and style of Nanaimo.

A list of Display Units to comprise the Museum exhibits is presented in the Interpretation Plan. The Display Units are listed in a suggested order, although visitors will not be required to view the displays in any particular order (with the exception of Display Unit 1 at the entrance to the Museum). Display Units 1 through 9 are slated to open in the summer of 2008. The remaining Display Units will open subsequently. Each Display Unit is defined by a summary of its goals or content.

Overall objectives for the Museum displays are articulated in the Interpretation Plan as well as specific objectives for each Display Unit.

Display Unit 1: Welcome and Introduction – welcome and orientation for Museum visitors through exhibits in: Harbourfront Plaza; the Port of Nanaimo Centre Entrance

- Lobby; the Museum Lobby; and in the Museum galleries entrance. These exhibits also publicize and market the Museum.
- Display Unit 2: The Heart of Nanaimo** – a “potpourri” of interesting facts and information about Nanaimo and its history, will entice visitors to learn more about Nanaimo.
- Display Unit 3: Movers and Shakers** – a gallery of portraits, in words and pictures, of Nanaimo’s most famous or infamous citizens.
- Display Unit 4: Adopted Artifacts** – displays of the Nanaimo Museum’s “adopted” artifacts – intriguing visitors with unique and tantalizing views of Nanaimo’s history.
- Display Unit 5: Snuneymuxw First Nation** – the culture, heritage and history of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.
- Display Unit 6: The Bastion Era** – the discovery of coal and the establishment of Nanaimo during the HBC period.
- Display Unit 7: Black Diamonds – Nanaimo Coal** – the coal mining period: the foundation and rise of the Dunsmuir empire, mining technology, the miners’ life and safety.
- Display Unit 8: The Harbour City** – the importance of the harbour to Nanaimo: the marine environment, recreation, transportation, fishing and other industries.
- Display Unit 9: Living “Nanaimo Style”** – definitions of “Nanaimo style” through illustrations of the makings of the Nanaimo community, community divisions, entertainment, sports and making a living.
- Display Unit 10: Timber!** – when mining declined, forestry became the main industry in Nanaimo – depictions of forestry and milling.
- Display Unit 11: At Your Service** – Nanaimo as a service centre for Vancouver Island, reflected through developments on Commercial Street, and the malls.
- Display Unit 12: What’s Next?** – a peek at exhibits under development, and how visitors can participate.
- Display Unit 13: Feature Gallery** – this gallery space is dedicated to temporary and travelling exhibits, special events and Museum programming.


Nanaimo & District Minor Fastball Association

March 17, 2008

To: Nanaimo Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission

Nanaimo & District Minor Fastball requests a decision on the allocation of the Beban Gyro softball fields for the 2008 season. No decision was reached at the March 4th user meeting due to a conflict with another association also requesting the same fields. Our season schedule has to be complete before our coaches meeting on Thursday April 3rd and we are unable to start this time consuming process without knowing which fields we are scheduling our teams on.

The attached pages give a brief explanation of events that led up to this and past history form other similar occurrences.

Thank you,

Rob Ripley
President

Nanaimo & District Minor Fastball Association

e-mail: rripley@hazelwoodconstruction.com

home: 250-753-9543

cell: 250-756-6905

The Nanaimo & District Minor Fastball Association feels it is incumbent upon them to properly inform the decision makers regarding the allocation of Nanaimo Parks and recreation Fields in the city of Nanaimo.

It must be understood that the NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION is only interested in promoting minor fastball for the citizens of Nanaimo and the surrounding areas. The Nanaimo and District Minor Fastball Association has booked all the fields within an interlocking schedule encompassing all different associations for over 20 years further NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION has always booked the Beban fields. Nanaimo and District Minor Fastball Association has always encouraged complete association involvement in an interlocking schedule.

Nanaimo and District Minor Fastball Association always looks after field allocations.

For twenty plus years NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION has allocated fields to minor fastball in Nanaimo involving all minor associations.

In 2000 Harewood Minor Softball made the decision to start South Nanaimo competitive program to compete directly with the Nanaimo and District Minor Fastball Association. In response Harewood was suspended from NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION.

Upon appeal all Harewood house league teams were not suspended and only the competitive teams were suspended. Harewood executive board members were suspended from NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION board activities for a period of one year and all Nanaimo and District Minor Fastball Association teams were banned from playing Harewood Association Rep. Teams.

Also in 2000, Harewood continued to pursue a South Nanaimo competitive program and applied for fields. They were subsequently denied any Parks and Recreation fields other than Harewood 1 located at John Barsby School. The field allocator reasoned that NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION allocated the fields and the fields were already booked. The City honoured the relationship that existed between the NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION and Parks and Recreation.

In 2002 NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION Constitution was established as a result of becoming a society. Members of the NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION included Steve Cook (WPVL), Ken Ozero (Northfield), Elaine Hamilton (Chase River/Extension), Alan Brookes (WPVL), Dale Bartelo (Cedar) and Brian Crawford (WPVL). All the signatories were NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION Board Members and representatives from their respective minor associations.

In the Constitution (paraphrase)

- clause NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION provides opportunity for every child to play recreational fastball
- clause competitive experience for those demonstrating the ability to perform at a competitive level
- act as a co-ordinating body for all minor fastball in Nanaimo
- Discipline Policy outlining discipline for anyone in their leagues whose conduct is deemed detrimental to minor fastball and the Society.

2006 WPVL voted to establish a rep program at AGM in December 2006 by a vote of 10-7. Subsequent follow up action resulted in Val Ciapponi elected as the WPVL Competitive Director. No further action occurred through the 2007 season.

Nanaimo and District Minor Fastball Association continued to administer the Competitive Program for all of the Nanaimo Area.

In September 2007, an election of NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION Competitive coaches occurred through a democratic vote. 3 coaches were not re-elected as first coaches and were offered second team coaching opportunities. One coach accepted the offer of a second team opportunity. This coach later recanted the acceptance. All three coaches were instrumental in the development of the WPVL rep program.

Oct 2, 2007 WPVL votes 6-4 to implement competitive program for 2008 season.

2007 Harewood, Cedar/Chase River Minor Fastball Associations merge with Nanaimo District Minor Fastball Association.

Further Information

NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION has put \$6000.00 into field improvements at Beban Fields specifically directed to dug outs at all four diamonds. Hazelwood Construction and Mayco Concrete also donated goods and services valued in excess of \$6000.00 to further field development. These services were secured by Rob Ripley, President and Field Maintenance co-ordinator of the Nanaimo and District Minor Fastball Association.

The Nanaimo and District Minor Fastball Association is committed and has demonstrated their commitment to Beban fields as Nanaimo's showcase minor fastball diamonds. Nanaimo and District Minor Fastball Association has committed to continuous improvements of the diamonds and has demonstrated their level of commitment.

WPVL has put nothing in the fields in the last three years.

Geographic Separation

The Constitution of WPVL geographically separates Nanaimo into two distinct areas. The NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION does not support this concept.

Excerpt from WPVL Constitution and By-Laws

Part 2. - Membership

3. The members of the Society are the applicants for incorporation of the Society, and those persons who subsequently have become members, in accordance with these by-laws and, in either case, have not ceased to be members.

4. A person, being the full age of majority, and being a resident of the areas known as Wellington, Pleasant Valley and Lantzville, in the Province of British Columbia, may apply to the directors for membership in the Society and on acceptance by the directors shall be a member.

Rob Ripley (President of the NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION) made many attempts to convene the two associations and hopefully see a resolution transpire. In response the WPVL submitted a proposal defining the geographic boundaries that NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION can operate in south Nanaimo and the WPVL will operate in North Nanaimo.

NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION rejected the proposal as geographic isolation does not represent the interests of minor fastball in Nanaimo.

As a final note on the geographic separation, the executive of the WPVL continue to verbally address the Nanaimo and District Minor Fastball Association as the south end. Derogatory remarks made by WPVL has not fostered a congenial relationship.

Meeting Minutes WPVL

Dec 5, 2006

NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION controls the booking of Beban Field. WPVL books house league on the North End Fields acknowledging NANAIMO DISTRICT MINOR FASTBALL ASSOCIATION books Beban fields.

March 6, 2006

Noted that we do not in WPVL sponsor any Rep teams and do not have any policy in place for the appointment of coaches or the notification for try outs.

Other Notes

Attachment identifying history of NDMFA scheduling house programs of Squirt age group and older for all associations. (field schedule book)

March 2008 Val Ciapponi (Competitive Director WPVL) at field allocation meeting states" this is about 4 WPVL competitive teams only"

From City of Nanaimo field allocation cover letter

"For your information, priority for field allocation will be given to groups that fall into the following categories (not in order of priority)"

- Youth organizations
- leagues recognized by provincial body
- organizations with a large number of people actively enrolled (comparatively to other applicants)
- History of contracting City fields
- Representation at the field user meeting
- Tournament play over regular league play

Youth Organizations- no issue here. NDMFA is an organization established to promote participation of all youth in the Nanaimo and surrounding areas. We offer Learn to play (4 years old) through to Midget (18 years old).

Leagues registered with Provincial bodies.-NDMFA has been registered with Softball BC for 25 years. In fact NDMFA has hosted BC Provincial Championships for the same time period give or take a few years and in 2002 NDMFA was the host for the BC Summer Games Fastball Competition.

As part of being registered with a provincial organization (Softball BC) an association has to register every team playing in the association with the organization. In 2007 the WPVL did not register Mite and younger aged teams in the organization which in effect taints their registration for 2007. The Constitution of Softball BC clearly states "if one team is registered with Softball BC then all teams in the association must be registered with Softball BC." The WPVL was aware of this rule and voted too not comply with it.

Large number of people enrolled-NDMFA will have between 550 and 650 registrations. Late registrations will continue to trickle in as they will in every association. In addition to NDMFA registered players, the players from WPVL, Ladysmith, Parksville, Chemainus have historically played on fields and in leagues administered by the Nanaimo and District Minor Fastball Association. There is expected to

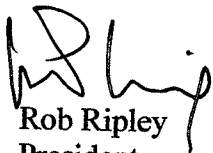
be no change in that direction for the 2008 season and in fact NDMFA has already received confirmation of 11 teams from the surrounding area committed to playing in NDMFA leagues for the 2008 season. The only association that has not committed is the WPVL.

History of contracting City fields-City records will confirm that the NDMFA has contracted the City fields for approximately 25 years, more than any other fastball association in the area.

Representation at the field user meeting-4 representatives from the NDMFA were present at the field allocation meeting. This is addition to the constant representation by NDMFA executives at the various levels of municipal government to ensure fields are allocated for the greatest number of participants and the enjoyment of all Nanaimo youth regardless of where they may live. WPVL continues to assert it's ownership of the area as defined in their by-laws as restricted to Wellington, Pleasant Valley and Lantzville.

Tournament Play over Regular Play-The NDMFA has committed to hosting tournaments for the various age group and categories within the age group throughout the spring and early summer months. These tournaments range from House division 1st year players to the highly competitive Midget aged players. Tournaments will be primarily run over the course of a weekend but our house league wind-up tournaments require that a weekend allotment of time is not sufficient.

In addition to the aggressive tournament schedule the NDMFA will schedule house league activity throughout the week days and these house league games include all the teams playing under NDMFA league administration. To re-iterate those associations include up to 650 NDMFA registered players, Ladysmith, Parksville and Chemainus. WPVL has yet to commit.



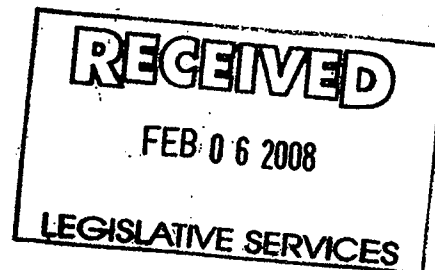
Rob Ripley
President

Nanaimo & District Minor Fastball



January 21 2008

Mayor Korpan and Council
City of Nanaimo
455 Wallace St.
Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J6



Dear Mayor Korpan and Council:

The purpose of this letter is to request the written support of the City of Nanaimo for our campaign to accumulate the necessary funds to resurface Rotary Bowl Track and Field complex.

This campaign, entitled "**Help Us Stay On Track**" is being undertaken in partnership with School District 68 who owns and helps maintain the facility. To assist in our fundraising efforts we are asking for documented proof of support for our project. A letter of support from you will assist us in the application for funds from foundations, government programs and the general corporate and business community.

The project itself includes the preparation and addition of 3mm. of rubberized material to 6,610.5 square metres of track and jump run surface at an estimated cost of \$ 300,000. This amount also includes the cost of subsequent surveying and line marking of both the 100 metre sprint and the 400 metre oval tracks. The track surface has deteriorated badly since its last re-surfacing in 1998 jeopardizing the facility's use for training and competition.

Rotary Bowl is a premier athletic facility that offers training and competition in 19 track and field events through the Nanaimo and District Track and Field Club. The facility is also open and used year round by School District 68, Malaspina University-College, various city sports and running clubs and the community at large. I have included a copy of our brochure which further explains our campaign.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and the School Board we wish to thank-you for the consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Gary Lamoureux
Director
Re-surfacing Project
Nanaimo and Track & Field Club

Sincerely,

Jamie Brennan
Chairman, Board of Education
School District 68
Nanaimo/Ladysmith

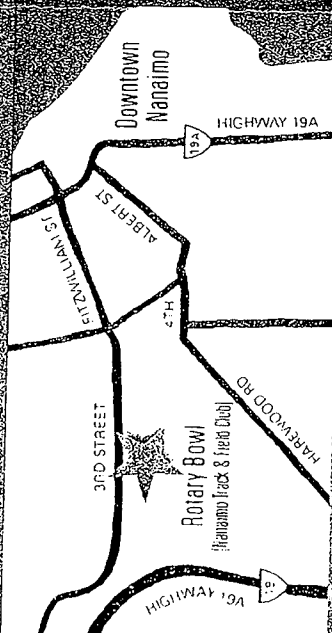
Nanaimo & District
Track & Field Club
P.O. Box 361,
Nanaimo BC V9R 5L3
250 754.9266

Enclosure/track brochure

Watch for www.NanaimoTrackandField.com in early 2008!

Meeting Date: 2008 FEB 25
☒ Council
☒ Committee
☒ Open Meeting
☒ In-Camera Meeting
☒ Correspondence
☒ Agenda Item
☒ Delegation
☒ Proclamation

All donors will be personally and publicly thanked. A full list of donors will be published in the region's major newspapers once our goal is achieved.



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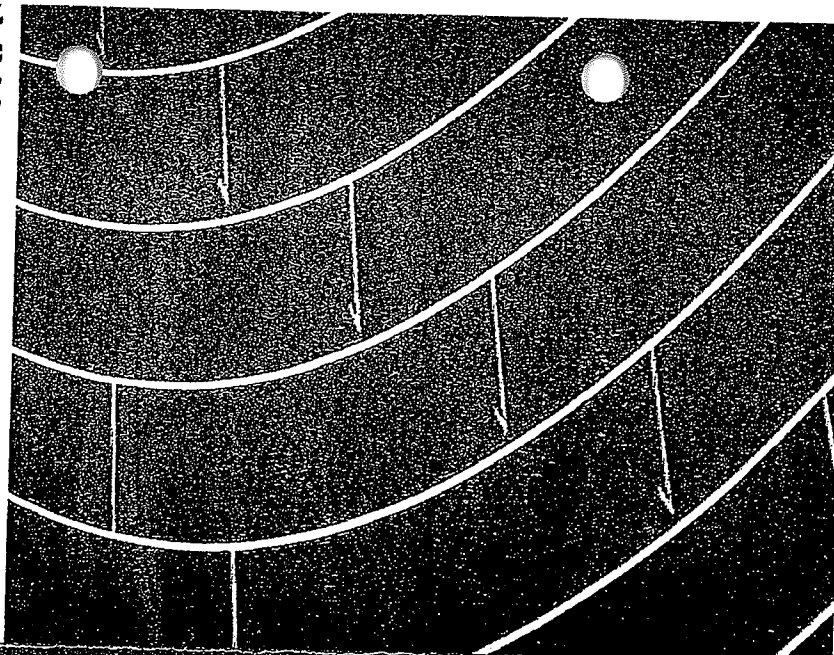
Nanaimo & District Track & Field Club
P.O. Box 361, Nanaimo BC V9R 5L3
Tel. 250 754-9266

Watch for our new website
in Early 2008
www.NanaimoTrackandField.com

WWW.CAPEWELLDISEGN.COM



HELP US STAY ON TRACK



We are inviting your participation in the re-surfacing and upgrading of Rotary Bowl, greater Nanaimo's track & field complex.

HELP US STAY ON TRACK



Rotary Bowl is centrally located behind NDSS on land owned by School District 68 but principally developed and maintained by the Nanaimo & District Track & Field Club. We are a community based, non-profit volunteer organization affiliated with BC Athletics and Athletics Canada. The complex is used year round by our members, School District 68, Malaspina University-College, local running and athletic clubs and individuals for training, competition, fitness and recreation subject to the rules of use agreed to by the Club and the School District.

Due to constant, year long use over the last ten years, Rotary Bowl's 6010 sq. metres of track and jump surface is in urgent need of re-surfacing. When completed, this renovation will once again provide greater Nanaimo with a track & field facility second to none in Western Canada. Failure to maintain our athletic complex will result in our inability to offer events sanctioned by BC Athletics. Performances will therefore not be considered for records and our athletes deprived of possible provincial funding support.

The complex has hosted many track & field competitions at the local, regional and provincial level bringing prestige and economic benefits to the greater Nanaimo community. It also hosts Nanaimo's annual Relay for Life cancer fund raiser.

Maintain a premier track & field complex for greater Nanaimo.

Maintain an optimum facility for athletic competition, fitness and recreation.

Maintain an athletic facility capable of attracting regional, provincial and western Canadian and national track & field competitions with athletic and economic benefits for the greater Nanaimo community.



To raise the \$300,000 necessary to add 3mm of synthetic material to our 100 metre sprint and 400 metre oval running tracks and our jump areas.

Annual Elwood-Wylie Track & Field Meet
BC Midget/Juvenile Championship and selection meet for the Western Canada Summer Games and National Canadian Legion Meet

The BC High School North Island Track Meet

All zone and District Wide School Meets
BC Seniors Games

NIB Awarded the BC Junior Development Championships for ages 8-14, July 11-13, 2008 - 3rd consecutive Provincial meet
Nanaimo has hosted since 2006.

HELP US STAY ON TRACK

Join one of our donor clubs or sponsor a part of the track and jumps surface!

- Run Jump & Throw Club for an amount you can contribute
- Sprint club for \$100
- Middle Distance Club for \$500
- Long Distance Club for \$1000
- Marathon Club for \$5000 and over

Corporate Sponsorships

If you prefer, you can choose to sponsor a certain amount of the 6010 sq. metres of track and jump surface at \$50 per sq. metre.

Remember: All donations are income tax deductible! Make your cheque payable to School District 68 noting that it is for the Help Us Stay on Track campaign and send it to the Nanaimo & District Track & Field Club at the address below.

Donation Information

Nanaimo & District Track & Field Club
P.O. Box 361, Nanaimo, BC V9Y 5L3
Tel: 250-754-9266

NOTES OF THE REGULAR PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, OF THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX,
ON THURSDAY, 2008-MAR-13, COMMENCING AT 4:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioner P. Field, Chair

Members:

Commissioner J. Cameron
Commissioner B. Dempsey
Commissioner L. Sherry

ABSENT: Commissioner M. Young

Staff: J. Ritchie D. Johnston

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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

4. ADOPTION OF MEETING NOTES:

(a) Meeting Notes of the Regular Parks Committee Meeting held Thursday, 2008-JAN-10 at 3:30 p.m. in Bowen Park.

It was moved and seconded that the Meeting Notes be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

5. DELEGATIONS:

6. CHAIR'S REPORT:

7. REPORTS OF ADVISORY BODIES:

8. STAFF REPORTS:

(a) Millstone Side Channel Interpretive Plan.

Staff Recommendation: That the Parks Committee receive the report.

Staff presented the Bowen Park Improvement Plan to the Parks Committee.
Issues discussed included:

- 1) optimizing accessibility to the park.
- 2) identifying alternate funding sources for the project.
- 3) the location of the Phase 2 Interpretative Centre.
- 4) ultimate future of the barnyard and the Raines Cabin.

Recommendation: That the Parks Committee recommends that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission request staff to proceed with Phase One of the Interpretative Plan for the Millstone Side Channel in Bowen Park using the funds allocated in the 2008 Parks, Recreation and Culture Capital Plan.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendation be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

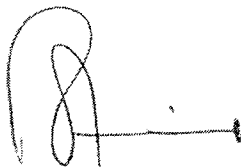
9. OTHER BUSINESS:

10. QUESTION PERIOD:

11. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 5:00 p.m. that the meeting terminate, with the next Meeting of the Parks Committee to be held, if required, Thursday, 2008-APR-10 commencing at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Bowen Park Complex.

The motion carried unanimously.



P. Field, Chair
Parks Committee

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



J. Ritchie, Acting Director
Parks, Recreation and Culture

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

REPORT TO: THE PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION

FROM: PHIL FIELD, CHAIR, PARKS COMMITTEE

RE: MILLSTONE SIDE CHANNEL INTERPRETIVE PLAN

RECOMMENDATION:

That Commission receives the report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In October 2007, the Millstone Side Channel was completed and opened to the public. This cooperative project between the City of Nanaimo, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Nanaimo Fish and Game Association, the Island Fly Fishers and the Georgia Basin Living Rivers Program has been very successful.

As a major stakeholder in the Millstone Side Channel project the City of Nanaimo has allocated \$100,000 from the 2008 Capital Budget to follow through with the implementation and improvements to Bowen Park. The funding allocated by the City will be utilized for improvements and upgrades of the Bowen East (off Wall Street) parking lot, picnic shelter, washroom facilities, trails, park signage and outdoor amphitheatre/events area. In February 2008, the Nanaimo Fish and Game Association submitted two grant proposals totaling \$29,300 to fund the design, construction and installation of a digital fish counter, 18 interpretive signs and 2 entrance kiosks on the Millstone Side Channel in Bowen Park.

The momentum created from the Millstone Side Channel project has initiated positive energy and excitement in the community. The City of Nanaimo has created the opportunity to set new trends in the field of parks and open spaces. The Millstone Side Channel is a progressive and innovative project that sets Bowen Park apart from other parks in the country. At their meeting of 2008-MAR-13, the Parks Committee recommended that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission direct staff to proceed with Phase One of the Interpretive Plans for the Millstone Side Channel in Bowen Park using the funds allocated in the 2008 Capital Plan.

BACKGROUND:

The intention of the Interpretive Plan is to enhance visitor experiences, educate visitors and create environmental awareness within the community. The implementation of the Interpretive Plan is a two phase project. The City of Nanaimo Parks Recreation and Culture Staff and community partners have been working diligently planning, designing and implementing the enhancement plan for Bowen Park. The goals and design features included in the Interpretive Plan are:

Goals:

- Increase recreational and interpretive opportunities along the Millstone Trail and new Side Channel Trail in Bowen Park.
- Provide interesting and memorable experiences that ensure visitor satisfaction, positive word of mouth advertising and repeat visitation.

- Make access to the trails and amenities safe and clear for the general public and tour groups.
- Update existing amenities.
- Work with project partners to develop amenities around the Park that facilitate environmental education.

Phase 1:

The funding for the following items are included in the 2008 Capital Budget for Bowen Park improvements.

- Wall Street entrance upgrades (signage, cleanup). Cost \$10,000.
- Upgrades to Bowen East parking lot, washroom facilities, pedestrian walkways and picnic shelter. Cost \$20,000.
- Two entrance kiosk signs in Bowen Park highlighting the Millstone side Channel, approximate cost \$10,000. Design, construction and installation are scheduled to be completed in July 2008.
- 18 interpretive signs cost \$35,000. Design, construction and installation are scheduled to be completed in July 2008. The theme for the interpretive signage is "The journey of the salmon." Signage will include educational information about wildlife, salmon, flora and fauna, history of Bowen Park, geology, stewardship tips and first nation's culture.
- Outdoor amphitheater/event area to be located near the duck pond. Cost \$50,000.

Phase 2

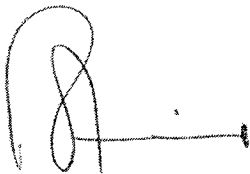
- Eco-Centre, 2009 and beyond. Budget for this project has not yet been determined.

CONCLUSION:

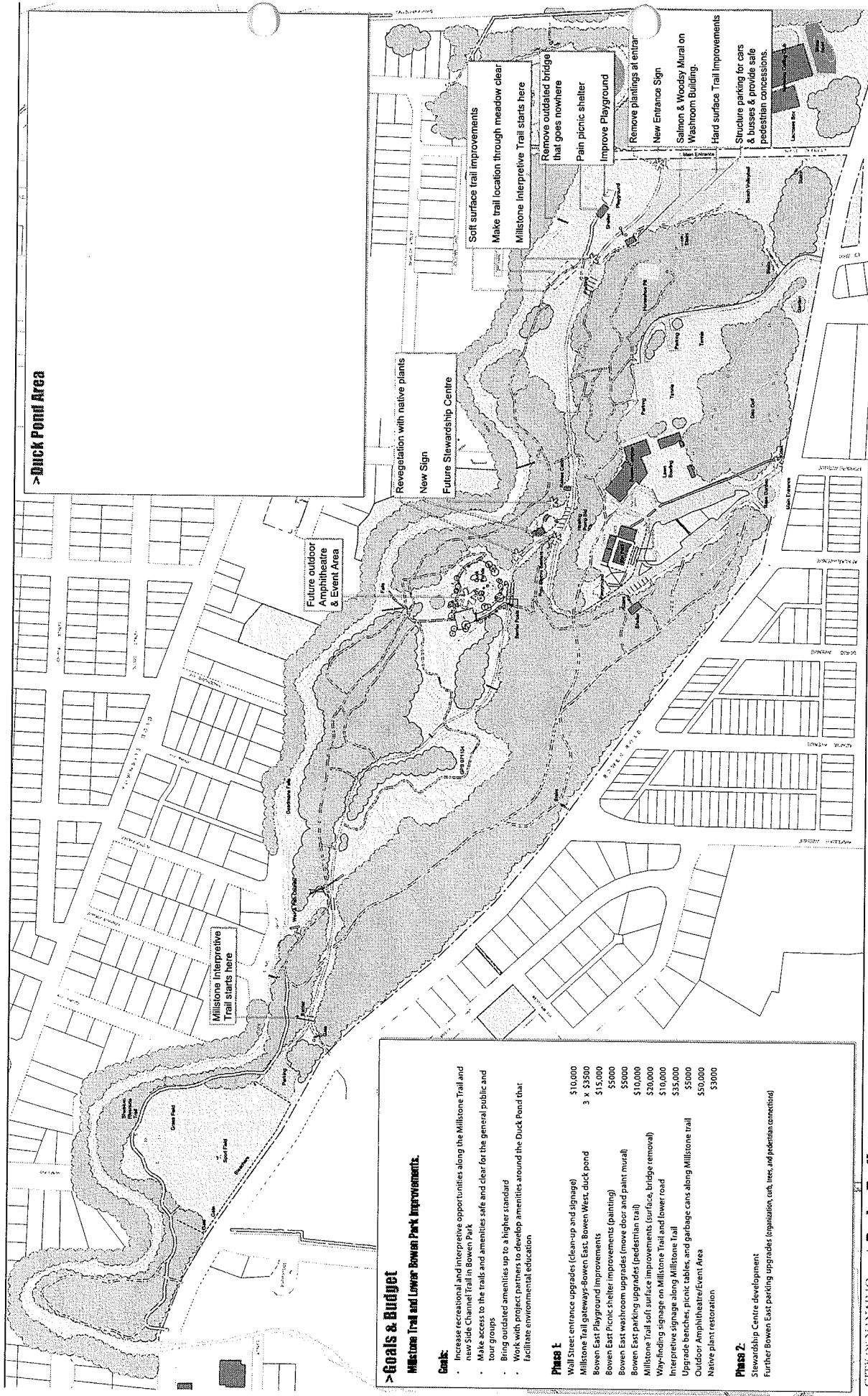
The Millstone Side Channel project has enabled the City of Nanaimo to create the opportunity to set new trends in the field of parks and open spaces. The Millstone Side Channel endeavor has been a progressive and innovative project that has set Bowen Park apart from other parks in the country.

At their meeting of 2008-MAR-13, the Parks Committee recommended that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission direct staff to proceed with Phase One of the Interpretive Plans for the Millstone Side Channel in Bowen Park using the funds allocated in the 2008 Capital Plan.

Respectfully submitted,



Phil Field, Chair,
Parks Committee.



> Duck Pond Area

Future outdoor Amphitheatre & Event Area

Millstone Interpretive Trail starts here

Soft surface trail improvements
Make trail location through meadow clear
Millstone Interpretive Trail starts here
Remove outdated bridge that goes nowhere
Pain picnic shelter
Improve Playground
Remove plantings at entrance
New Entrance Sign
Salmon & Woody Mural on Washroom Building
Hard surface Trail Improvements
Structure parking for cars & busses & provide safe pedestrian concessions.

Revegetation with native plants
New Sign
Future Stewardship Centre

> Goals & Budget

Millstone Trail and Lower Bowen Park Improvements.

- Goals:**
- Increase recreational and interpretive opportunities along the Millstone Trail and new Slide Channel Trail in Bowen Park
 - Make access to the trails and amenities safe and clear for the general public and tour groups
 - Bring outdated amenities up to a higher standard
 - Work with project partners to develop amenities around the Duck Pond that facilitate environmental education

Phase 1:

Wall Street entrance upgrades (cleanup and signage)	\$10,000
Millstone Trail gateway-Bowen East, Bowen West, Duck pond	3 x \$3500
Bowen East Playground Improvements	\$15,000
Bowen East Picnic shelter improvements (painting)	\$5000
Bowen East washroom upgrades (move door and paint mural)	\$5000
Bowen East parking upgrades (pedestrian trail)	\$10,000
Millstone Trail soft surface improvements (surface, bridge removal)	\$20,000
Way-finding signage on Millstone Trail and lower road	\$10,000
Interpretive signage along Millstone Trail	\$35,000
Upgrade benches, picnic tables, and garbage cans along Millstone trail	\$5000
Outdoor Amphitheatre/Event Area	\$50,000
Native plant restoration	\$3000

Phase 2:
Stewardship Centre development
Further Bowen East parking upgrades (signage, curb, lines, and pedestrian connections)

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NOTES OF THE REGULAR CULTURAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN
BOWEN PARK CONFERENCE ROOM ON WEDNESDAY, 2008-MAR-12
COMMENCING AT 4:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioner S. Lance, Chair

Members:

Commissioner L. Avis
Commissioner D. Johnstone
Ms. E. O'Rourke
Ms. J. Husband
Ms. J. McGladrey

Staff:

B. Kuhn
H. Richardson (recording)

S. Samborski

ABSENT:

Commissioner L. Fraser
Mr. M. Harmes
Ms. M. Pettitt

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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

3. ADOPTION OF MEETING NOTES

- (a) Meeting Notes of the Regular Cultural Committee Meeting held Wednesday, 2008-FEB-13 at 4:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Bowen Park Complex.

It was moved and seconded that the Meeting Notes be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

4. DELEGATIONS:

It was moved and seconded that the Delegations be permitted to address the Cultural Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

- (a) Ms. Kirsty MacDonald, Parks and Open Space Planner, speaking to the Harbourfront Plaza Public Art selection.

Ms. MacDonald advised that the selection panel for a public art project for Harbourfront Plaza received 23 submissions from artists. These submissions were shortlisted to three, and ultimately the choice of "Songbird" by Muse Atelier

(Jacqueline Metz and Nancy Chew of Vancouver) was made by the selection panel. This is a 24.5 foot tall sculpture of a tuning fork which will be made out of pre-oxidized steel. The selection panel requested that the sculpture be placed on an angle rather than straight up and down. A bird made of bronze will sit on top of the fork. The sculpture will be anchored on a base of marble inlaid in the pattern of piano keys. Ms. MacDonald had samples of the marble to be used for the base of the statue. The Cultural Committee would like to see a change in the colour of the marble to closer reflect the colour of black and white piano keys. The selection committee suggested that the bird that sits on top of the tuning fork have a hole drilled in it to allow for the wind to blow through it, creating a whistling sound.

It was moved and seconded that the Cultural Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommends that Council approve the concept "Songbird" by Muse Atelier as the public art to be installed on the Commercial Street entrance of the Harbourfront Plaza. The motion carried unanimously.

- (b) Ms. Kirsty MacDonald, Parks and Open Space Planner, speaking to the Nanaimo Cultural Capital "Community Plan for Public Art".

Ms. MacDonald advised that an RFP for a consultant for the development of a Community Plan for Public Art has been written. This position will be advertised early next week, with the deadline of 2008-APR-15 for submissions. The position requires the consultant to write a Community Plan for Public Art which will set out a 20-year plan for public art and will identify priority sites. Funding for this project is through Cultural Capitals of Canada. An open house will be held in early June to begin the public process for the new Community Plan.

It was moved and seconded that the Delegations be received. The motion carried unanimously.

5. REPORTS ON ADVISORY BODIES

- (a) Art In Public Places Project Committee.

- (i) Pacific Sails Lighting – the artist is pursuing new lighting options for the Pacific Sails project.
- (ii) E.J. Hughes Mural – restoration is going well, and will be ready for transportation to the Port of Nanaimo Conference Centre (PNCC) at the end of April, where the restoration will be completed. Staff will arrange a viewing of the mural for the Cultural Committee after it arrives at the PNCC. Cinnibar Vista Productions is filming the process and will produce a documentary.

- (b) Cultural Awards Presentation Project Committee.

Next year's Cultural Awards night will be held on 2009-JAN-08. The second Thursday in January of each year has been designated as the Cultural Awards Presentation evening.

(c) Art In The Park

The Nanaimo Arts Council is interested in managing Art In The Park during the summer of 2008.

It was moved and seconded that the Reports on Advisory Bodies be received. The motion carried unanimously.

6. QUESTION PERIOD:

- (a) J. McGladery, asked what will happen to the TheatreOne Cultural Operating Grant, since the organization has announced that its 2008 season has been cancelled. Staff replied they will contact the TheatreOne executive and report back

7. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded at 6:00 p.m. that the meeting terminate, with the next Meeting of the Cultural Committee to be held on Wednesday, 2007-APR-02 at 4:00 p.m., if required, or at the discretion of the Cultural Committee Chair.

The motion carried unanimously.



S. Lance, Chair
Cultural Committee

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



R. Harding, Director
Parks, Recreation and Culture

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

REPORT TO: PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION

FROM: SHIRLEY LANCE, CHAIR, CULTURAL COMMITTEE

RE: THE HARBOURFRONT PLAZA ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION:

That Commission receives the report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In 2007, the City of Nanaimo and Downtown Nanaimo Partnership (DNP) developed an Improvement Plan for Harbourfront Plaza. The plan identifies many upcoming changes to the plaza including a "Meet Here" public art piece to be located at the Commercial Street entrance to the plaza. This site has also been designated as an Art in Public Places priority in several capital budgets but has been 'on hold' until a plan was complete. All of the plaza improvements are intended to make it more inviting, enhance pedestrian activity through and into the plaza, enhance aesthetics and plaza function, and visually link the plaza to adjacent streets in the downtown.

At their 2008-MAR-12 meeting, the Cultural Committee recommended that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council approve the concept "Songbird" by Muse Atelier as the public art to be installed on the Commercial Street entrance of Harbourfront Plaza.

BACKGROUND:

The project goals for public art in the Harbourfront Plaza were:

- to provide a memorable landmark in the downtown that will become a "meeting place".
- to be safe, vandal resistant, low maintenance, and promote public interaction.
- to integrate well into the plaza (today and the improvements identified in the plan) and context (materials and forms should enrich the site and built environment).
- to have an arts and culture theme.

The Selection Panel was appointed according to the Art in Public Places Guidelines and was comprised of:

- 2 Cultural Committee members (1 a Commissioner):
 - Commissioner Lynda Avis and Cultural Committee member Jeorge McGladrey.
- 1 Design Community representative (e.g. local architect, Landscape Architect):
 - Doug Backhouse, Landscape Architect.
- 2 Arts Community representatives:
 - George Hansen, DNP, and Camela Tang, DNP and Cultural Capitals of Canada Chair.

Selection Panel Staff support consisted of Kirsty MacDonald, Parks and Open Space Planner, and Liz Williams, Manager of Outdoor Events and Sports Tourism.

The Selection Panel met with Staff and developed a Terms of Reference and a Request for Proposal (RFP) package that was sent to potential artists. The RFP was also advertised in the media and 23 proposals were received. The Selection Panel reviewed all the proposals and selected three finalists to prepare a Stage 2 submission which included a scale model (maquette) of their proposal. Each finalist presented their proposal and maquette and were interviewed by the Panel on 2008-MAR-06.

Of the three finalists, the Panel recommended the "Songbird" proposal by a Vancouver artist team named Muse Atelier. The selected artists are Jacqueline Metz and Nancy Chew of Muse Atelier. They are accomplished artists with Island roots and have completed many high profile public art commissions throughout North America.

Their proposal, "Songbird", refers to the musical, as well as the industrial, legacy of Nanaimo. The primary sculpture is a tuning fork that forms an arch at the plaza entrance. It will be 24 feet tall and over 5 feet wide and made of corten steel. The steel weathers to a ruddy color that matches well with the brick and paver colors on the conference centre and throughout Harbourfront Plaza. The form will also meld well with the proposed theatrical towers that will be installed in the plaza this spring. The towers are similar in form, material, color, and since the towers are reusing wood from the former Foundry at Maffeo Sutton Park, they both resonate Nanaimo's industrial heritage. The tuning fork engages sound waves on the ground plane which are created out of black and white stone pavers. These sound waves become piano keys and also are reminiscent of vinyl records. The portal is illuminated by light at night and is capped off by a bronze bird which sits on the top of the sculpture.

"Songbird's" scale, materials, colors and use of vertical and ground plane are very suitable to the site. The work will be interesting to view throughout the arts and culture district, throughout the plaza and on Commercial Street. It is people friendly and requires minimal maintenance. The artist's objective for this piece was to create a lyrical ensemble of musical references from the natural and cultural worlds. It takes an iconic musical tool and transforms it, by scale and material, into an urban portal to the plaza.

At their 2008-MAR-12, meeting the Cultural Committee recommended that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission request that Council approve the concept "Songbird" by Muse Atelier as the public art to be installed on the Commercial Street entrance of Harbourfront Plaza.

Respectfully submitted,



Shirley Lance, Chair,
Cultural Committee.

**THE PORT THEATRE
MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT
FEBRUARY 2008**

DATE	EVENT	TIME	CATEGORY	AUD/Artists
1	Open Minds Open Windows	7:30pm	Multi-Artist Concert	505/ 77
2	Dancestreams	7:30pm	Dance recital	386/ 18
3	Highland Dance Assoc.	9am to 4pm	Competition day	569/ 58
4	Liberal Party	6:30pm	Private Reception	200/28
5	Harmac Rm- Volunteers	6pm	Orientation	14/2
6	Harmac Rm- Port Clients	10am to 12:30pm	Marketing Workshop	22/5
7	Michael Campbell	7pm	Speaker event	725/4
8	Harry Manx	7:30pm	Folk Music Concert	385/4
9	Broadway Idol	1pm	Rehearsal day	0/ 43
10	Broadway Idol	7:30pm	Musical Theatre	153/ 43
11	Training Session	6pm to 8pm	Volunteer Workshop	35/2
12	V.I.S.	3pm to 9:30pm	Rehearsal	0/52
13	V.I.S.	9:30am	Concert for Schools	752/ 52
13	V.I.S.	11am	Concert for Schools	780/ 52
14	V.I.S.	9:30am	Concert for Schools	758/ 52
14	V.I.S.	11am	Concert for Schools	777/ 52
14	V.I.S.	1pm	Concert for Schools	597/ 52
15	Jazz Festival	11:30am	Concert for Schools	800/ 247
15	Jazz Festival	7pm	Jazz Concert	745/ 247
16	V.I.S.	7:30pm	Symphony Concert	707/ 52
18	The Power Project	9am to 6pm	Promo Photo Shoot	0/11
20	Gerald LaRoche	7:30pm	Music Concert	393/8
21	City of Nanaimo- Harmac Rm	6pm to 9pm	Meeting	30/0
22	Craig Kielburger	7:30 pm	Speaker event	677/4
23	Black Umfolosi	7:30 pm	World music concert	603/8
24	Marion Bridge - load in		TheatreOne play	0/9
25	Marion Bridge - Rehearsal		TheatreOne play	0/10
26	Harmac Rm - private mtg	1pm - 4 pm	Meeting	0/16
27	Marion Bridge - Preview	7:30 pm	Preview	61/7
28	Marion Bridge	7:30 pm	Opening Night	130/10
29	Marion Bridge	7:30 pm	Theatre performance	107/10

TOTALS

Number of Events = 32
Estimated Audience Attendance: = 10,911
Estimate Number of Artists: = 2446
Total people through the building = 13,357

THE PORT THEATRE

	# Events 2004	# Events 2005	# Events 2006	# Events 2007	# Events 2008	# Patrons 2004	# Patrons 2005	# Patrons 2006	# Patrons 2007	# Patrons 2008
Jan	19	24	18	12	22	10,776	7,082	7,609	5,626	5,126
Feb	18	23	26	20	32	9,223	8,141	11,692	8,161	10,911
Mar	25	20	19	18		10,952	5,758	8,075	8,305	
Apr	24	34	31	32		7,859	12,520	10,784	12,389	
May	31	31	38	29		11,901	14,170	15,615	13,851	
Jun	23	36	25	25		13,059	15,262	14,408	12,055	
Jul	3	26	4	11		704	6,317	2,191	4,304	
Aug	3	3	3	3		672	643	865	701	
Sep	12	9	15	20		2,862	2,245	3,551	5,934	
Oct	30	20	19	13		9,504	8,069	7,915	5,119	
Nov	24	22	28	21		10,725	12,326	14,392	9,765	
Dec	17	19	31	14		7,684	6,895	15,378	5,049	
TTL	229	267	257	218	54	95,921	99,428	112,475	91,259	16,037

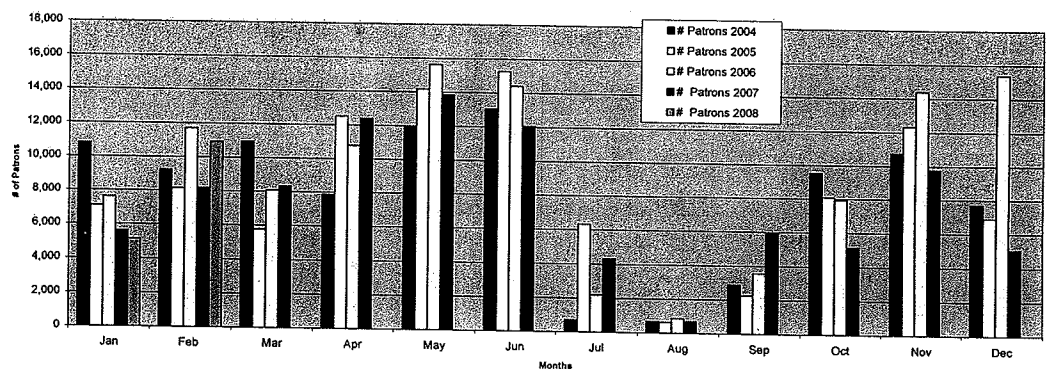
comparison of attendance for the same month last year
comparison of events for the same month last year

-9% decrease
83% increase

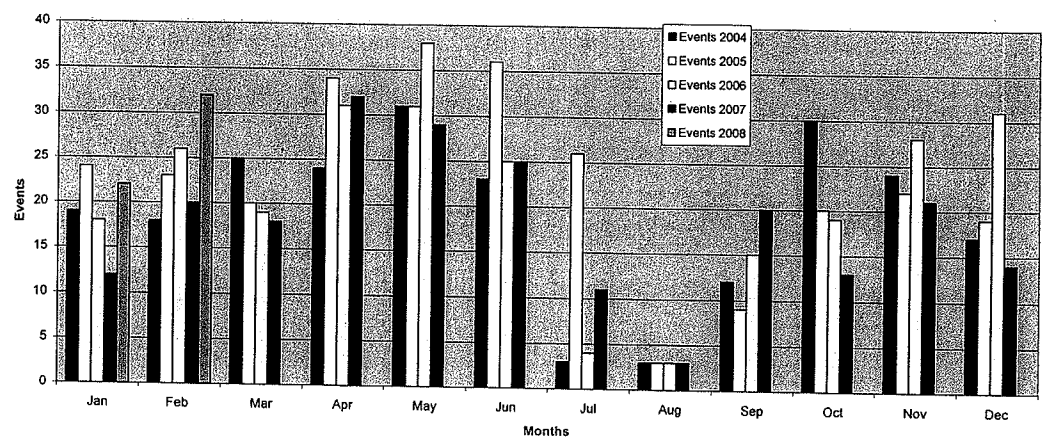
five yr. average attendance for same month
five yr. average number of events same month

9,626
24

Patron Attendance Comparison



Event Comparison



Nanaimo Museum Monthly Report to the Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission

Submitted March 13, 2008 by Debbie Trueman

Financial

- Yearend statements are now available and have been delivered to City finance department.
- ITC – all progressing well, on schedule. We will have access to the gallery next week. Construction is happening in the current museum.
- Cultural Services Annual Grant – our \$25,000 request (increase from \$22,000) was approved.
- Vancouver Foundation – on matching endowment of \$100,000 received and deposited with Nanaimo Community Foundation to bring our endowment to \$200,000. Fundraising for this will continue this year.
- CAHSP #2– was approved and work on a new graphic image, merchandising, training manuals and packaging continues.

New Space Planning

- Capital Campaign – 3rd Major sponsor getting close. A new donor came to us-details in next newsletter! Bob Bennie and I are working on the final 2 sponsors.
- Sports Hall of Fame – Nominations close March 31st, we have 18 nominations to date. The first induction event will be Saturday, Sept. 20th.
- Cultural Capital – Interpretive Plan and programming being developed by Liz Crocker will satisfy most of our commitment. Steve Lane from Malaspina has informed me that unfortunately no students have been found to assist with the project.
- Exhibit Design – This was presented to our members at the AGM March 11th and then to others.
- Artifact Shelving – materials are on order with installation slated for April.
- Lights & Flooring– are on order.

Programs and Events

- In April we have the CMA visit to the site, volunteer event visit April 29th and then we should also do a donor visit.
- Bastion opens May long weekend.
- Only summer event is Chowder Fest in August.

Other Activity

- Planning continues for our joint programming with the VI Regional Library.
- Outreach school programming is doing amazingly well with almost every available slot for March booked with bookings received for April and May.
- Canadian Museum Association Conference – in April will include a day trip to Port Alberni and a visit and hardhat visit to the new museum.

REPORT TO: PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURE COMMISSION
FROM: RICHARD HARDING, DIRECTOR, PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE
AUTHORED BY: MICHELE DUERKSEN, LEAP COORDINATOR
RE: LEISURE ECONOMIC ACCESS PROGRAM (LEAP)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council amend the Leisure Economic Access Program (LEAP) guidelines to enable eligible adult LEAP clients to receive 50 free swim/skate passes per year.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The LEAP program allows children 50 free swim or skate admissions. Currently, adults are not eligible for free admission but have access to unlimited half price swim or skate admissions. Adults are also able to increase their participation levels by purchasing fitness passes at a 50% discount.

Staff recommends that Commission support the recommendation to allow Adult LEAP clients 50 free swim/skate admission. This change would benefit all LEAP participants by creating greater incentive to become more active and fit through using department facilities. Family members who access department facilities through the LEAP program would be able to recreate together on a more consistent basis.

A number of communities have worked towards consistent program offerings to all age groups in their financial assistance programs. Greater Victoria Communities allow 52 free drop-in admissions to all age categories and the access cards are accepted at any facility in any municipality in the Capital Regional District.

BACKGROUND

The Leisure Economic Access Policy Program (LEAP) was introduced in the fall of 1993 and was designed to make recreation opportunities more accessible for people 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. Unfortunately, recreation, for many who are struggling to make ends meet, is a non-essential expense. Participation in swimming and skating provides benefits of physical fitness and skill development but also can positively influence mental health, intellectual and character development.

Eligibility - LEAP clients not only come from the City of Nanaimo, but also from the surrounding communities. The program extends our boundaries to include Regional District Electoral Area A (*Cranberry, Cedar, South Wellington*), Electoral Area B (*Gabriola Island*), Electoral Area C (*Extension, East Wellington*), Lantzville and Snuneymuxw First Nations.

The City of Nanaimo uses the Federal Government's Before Tax Income Low Income Cut Offs (gross annual income before tax) to establish the baseline of those who qualify for the LEAP program. This is consistent with a number of other communities including City of Coquitlam, City of

Surrey, City of Vancouver, District of Saanich, and Prince George. Current financial requirements are based on family size as follows:

1 person (\$17,784)	4 persons (\$33,046)
2 persons (\$22,139)	5 persons (\$37,480)
3 persons (\$27,217)	6 persons (\$42,271)
7 persons (\$47,063), with further increments of \$3,000 per additional family member.	

Total LEAP participants in 2006 totalled 1,863, and declined in 2007 to 1,424. Contributing factors for this decline may include a strong economy, the inclusion of income from Child Tax Benefits in total income and/or changes to the application process.

Over the past year, the application process changed to using the applicant's Notice of Assessment rather than relying on three months of paystubs, Employment Insurance stubs, and bank account information to calculate income. This not only provides greater confidentiality to the applicant, but creates a more accurate assessment of total gross household income.

Program Offerings - As previously discussed, there are some inconsistencies in the program offerings between children and adults. Some of the differences result from other funding programs being available to children but not to adults, such as the Canadian Tire Jumpstart Program.

The LEAP program provides the following opportunities to the participants:

Children	Adults
50 free swim/skate passes	Half price drop in admissions
	Reduced price for books of tickets
50 % (\$40 max) discount on four registered programs per year (can be combined with Canadian Tire Jumpstart for additional savings of 25%)	50% (\$40 max) discount on four registered programs per year (can be used towards fitness passes)
Free locker tokens	Free locker tokens
Free helmet and skate rentals	Free helmet and skate rentals

Financial Impact - In 2007, just under \$17,000 in fees were collected from adult LEAP participants. Changes to the LEAP program will result in decreased revenue being collected from adults participating in the program. They will most likely purchase fewer discounted economy tickets and will not be paying the half price admission until after the 50 free visits have been used.

By removing the financial barrier for general admissions for our adult participants, families will have more opportunities to recreate together.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Harding, Director,
Parks, Recreation and Culture.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

REPORT TO: THE PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION

FROM: RICHARD HARDING, DIRECTOR, PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

AUTHORED BY: BOB KUHN, MANAGER OF NANAIMO CULTURAL CAPITAL OF CANADA 2008

RE: CULTURAL CAPITAL OF CANADA 2008 UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION:

That Commission receives the report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cultural Capitals 2008 events taking place during March and April of 2008 include:

Cre8 The Youth Arts Experience

Nanaimo Cultural Capitals is pleased to partner with the Vancouver Island Arts Festivals Society (the Children's Festival producers) in presenting **Cre8: The Youth Arts Experience**. The program gives Vancouver Island students from grades seven to 12 opportunities to exercise their creative talents through a series of professionally-led workshops this spring break (2008-MAR-17 to 20). Arts venues in downtown Nanaimo will host half-day, full-day and multi-day workshops featuring input and guidance from arts and technology professionals and parallel the categories of the **cre8** competitions held in January and February.

The workshop run most days from 9:30 to 4:00 pm and include Video Production; Theatre Backstage & Tech Wizardry; Fine Arts; Improv Comedy; Writers Workshops; Music; Francophone Culture and First Nations Arts and Culture.

Student Jazz Programs

There will be a student workshop on Tuesday, 2008-APRIL-22 at the Malaspina University-College Music Building with a Grand Finale Performance on Tuesday, 2008-APRIL-22 at 7:30pm at the Port Theatre. Tickets will be priced at \$10.00.

All Nanaimo/Ladysmith music students and Malaspina University-College music students will be invited to attend the Malaspina workshop. The workshop will be an opportunity for music students to take their jazz talent to the next level by studying with world-class artist Hugh Fraser and the Vancouver Ensemble of Jazz Improvisation (VEJI), who were nominated in 2005 as the Best Big Band in Canada by the National Jazz Awards. Later that same night students that were nominated and applied for a 'rep' jazz band will share the stage with Hugh and VEJI, performing a grand finale jazz concert at the Port Theatre.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Harding, Director,
Parks, Recreation and Culture.

REPORT TO: RICHARD HARDING, DIRECTOR, PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

FROM: JEFF RITCHIE, SENIOR MANAGER OF PARKS

RE: MONTHLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2008 – PARKS OPERATIONS

The following highlights are the park initiatives for February 2008. Regular maintenance tasks are not listed.

PARK DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

- School District #93 and Parks, Recreation and Culture staff are partnering on a "Community Connections" grant proposal for L'ecole Ocean on Estevan Road. This program helps schools improve their facilities for the good of the school and the community. The planned playground improvements, trails and a multi-use court would benefit the school and would be open to the public for recreational use.
- New playground equipment at Knowles Park has been installed and site finishing should be complete by the end of April. Neighbourhood children are enjoying the new play space.
- Requests for Proposals have gone out for playground equipment upgrades at five neighbourhood parks and bids should be awarded in March.

VOLUNTEER IN PARKS (VIP)

- The Deverill Square Park Neighbourhood Association is actively fundraising for upcoming park improvements.
- Community garden participants at Beaufort Park and Protection Island are planting spring crops.

SPORTS TOURISM AND OUTDOOR EVENTS

Recreation Coordinator Highlights

- The Steve Nash Basketball program at Oliver Woods Community Centre has 60 children registered with 23 on the waitlist. This program is designed for boys and girls ages 8-12 years.
- A weekly drop-in sports schedule for Oliver Woods Community Centre has been developed.
- Staff have been hired and trained for Spring Break Adventure Sports Camp. A flyer has gone out to schools, which will encourage registration.
- Planning has begun for Canada Day 2008. This year's event is tied into the Culture Capital of Canada project. The Recreation Coordinator is representing Parks, Recreation and Culture at the Culture Capitals monthly meetings.
- Planning for Parks Day is underway. Letters are going out to community agencies to invite them to participate in the Parks Day event on 2008-JUL-19.
- Staff met with Malaspina University-College to plan a new program called Community Hoops. Community Hoops is a Spring Basketball program run in partnership with Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture and Malaspina University-College.

Manager of Sports Tourism and Outdoor Events Highlights

- The Spring/Summer Field User group meeting was held on 2008-MAR-06.
- Sport & Cultural Tourism contacts this month include: Newcastle Island Artisan Fair scheduled for 2008-AUG-02 and the Harbour City Half Marathon.

- Projects that are currently being worked on include: Harbourfront Plaza re-design and public art selection; Maffeo Sutton Park Request For Proposal Consultant Team Selection Committee; Port of Nanaimo Centre Grand Opening; 2009 World Under 17 Hockey Challenge; 2008-2012 Sport Field Improvement Plan and Bicycle Route Map.

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

- Westwood Lake Trail stabilization (riprap) has started.

MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION

UTILITY

- Staff installed concrete pads in front of all the benches at Pipers Lagoon.
- Exposed aggregate garbage cans and ashtrays were installed at Oliver Woods as well as picnic tables on the decks.
- New concrete floors and players benches at Serauxmen Sports Field were installed this month.
- Staff changed out sprinkler heads to more efficient rotors at Knowles Park.
- The utility crew are turning on all irrigation, drinking fountains and washrooms that were winterized.

CARPENTRY

- Upgrades to benches in Maffeo Sutton Park are proceeding as planned. The completion date is the end of April.
- Bowen and Harewood Lacrosse boxes were repaired and Minor Lacrosse has started use for the season.
- Signage is complete for Oliver Woods Community Centre.
- Miranda Construction is completing the Serauxmen Rotary Field House. Main columns and beams are being installed. Trusses/roof will be added in approximately three weeks.
- Caledonia Park gateway improvements are complete.

HORTICULTURE AND SPORTS FIELDS

- Dormant tree pruning is complete.
- Rotary Club ladies will be renovating a Rotary garden bed in Bowen Park off Wall Street as a community project this season. This group has been planting spring bulbs along the parkway trail over the past few years and was looking for a new project.
- Maffeo Sutton protection works have taken place near the top of the bank where the visible erosion is. The addition of the riprap has improved the aesthetics in this area of the park.
- The horticulture team has been reworking the City Hall Gardens after the completion of the irrigation upgrade.
- Maffeo Sutton Park continues to have ivy removed.
- Soil testing is complete in horticulture areas. Tests have shown most areas are lacking good compost material. A sample was also sent from the local "International Composting Corporation" which came back with good reviews. Staff will be purchasing some of this material to mix into beds as a compost additive.

TURF AND PARKS

- The turf division has been working extensively on ball diamonds this month getting them ready for the upcoming season. With the help of Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association staff are trying to create a standard with the diamonds so they are all uniform in shape and style.
- Preparation work at Robins Den located at the end of Prince John Way is complete. The local VIP group will be installing the playground equipment in April.
- Soil and tissue samples were taken from City sports fields and sent off for analysis.
- Material tenders have been awarded for this year.

URBAN FORESTRY

- The Urban Forest Coordinator is working on several development files. These files include tree protection issues for the new seniors development adjacent to a heritage oak on the corner of Hecate Street and Robarts Street; a development at Cedar Ridge Place which has a significant garry oak/arbutus meadow; a strata development on Nelson Road adjacent to Randerson Ridge Elementary that also has a significant garry oak rocky knoll and one 120 cm plus significant arbutus.
- Hazard tree removals have taken place on Hammond Bay Road adjacent to private property. Hazard trees in Connaught Park, Pipers Lagoon Park, Glen Oaks Park and Bowen West Park have also been removed.
- Davey Tree Service has completed the annual pruning of all the downtown boulevard trees.
- *City Trees and You* questionnaire mail out is complete the return data is being analysed with the assistance of Rick Rollins, Recreation and Tourism Department, of Malaspina University-College. There were 2004 surveys sent out randomly to residents with 205 undeliverable. Of the deliverable surveys, 1184 were returned representing 66%.
- Staff have completed a revised draft of the Urban Forest Plan, excluding the detail work of the working modules and are now in editing mode. Staff will be presenting an update to the Parks Recreation and Culture Commission on 2008-APR-23.
- Staff have completed the site preparation for the installation of new trees in the median on Uplands Drive at Longwood Station. There is a delay in the delivery of trees to the site, but this should be completed within two weeks.
- The upgrading of the boulevards on the 100 block of Victoria Road from Selby Street to Milton Street has begun. When Public Works have completed the installation of new curbs and gutters 14 flowering cherry and plum trees will be planted.
- The landscape installation at the Port of Nanaimo Centre has begun. To date seven red oak and 12 ornamental pears (non-fruiting), have been installed with irrigation and wiring for future lighting.

TRAIL COUNTS FOR FEBRUARY 2008

Park Sites	November Daily Average	December Daily Average	January Daily Average	February Daily Average	February Peak Times
Walley Creek	159	168	133	169	9am-10am
Linley Valley	32	33	30	33	12pm-1pm
Buttertubs Marsh	140	141	163	217	4pm-5pm
Colliery Dam (lower)	105	124	133	163	2pm-3pm
Loudon Park	67	39	36	47	2pm-3pm
Third Street Trail	220	184	194	235	3pm-4pm
Beaufort Park	54	52	54	62	1pm-2pm
Wardropper Park	32	33	64	78	3pm-4pm
Bowen Side Channel	N/A	61	54	68	3pm-4pm
Harbourfront Plaza (Conference Centre stairs)	NA	NA	112	182	12pm-1pm
Harbourfront Plaza (Commercial Street)	NA	NA	601	655	12pm-1pm
Harbourfront Plaza (Port Theatre Stairs)	NA	NA	544	644	12pm-1pm

VANDALISM REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2008

Building and Engineering Repair & Maintenance

- Graffiti removal \$1,687.50
- Fence repairs \$ 250.00
- Glass replacement Beban Social Centre \$ 328.37
- Painting of miscellaneous buildings \$ 252.00
- Miscellaneous repairs \$ 197.39

Cost **\$2,715.26**

Materials and Supplies

- Replacement tree \$ 658.00
- Miscellaneous materials \$ 849.04

Cost **\$1,507.04**

Labour and Fleet (City Vehicles)

Cost **\$ 974.01**

TOTAL VANDALISM COST **\$5,196.31**

The most significant graffiti damage in February was at the Rotary Skate Park.

REPORT TO: RICHARD HARDING, DIRECTOR, PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE
FROM: SUZANNE SAMBORSKI, SENIOR MANAGER OF RECREATION AND CULTURE
SERVICES

RE: MONTHLY REPORT FEBRUARY 2008 RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES

RECREATION PROGRAMS

Arts and Culture

58 of 62 arts and culture programs ran throughout the winter 2008 season.

Youth

Discussions about the planning and development of a Youth Park in South Nanaimo have started. Representatives from the City, mountain bikers and skateboarders will continue to get organized and start to raise awareness of the project within the community to set the stage for future fundraising endeavors.

The Youth Resource Guide has been updated and will be ready for distribution by the end of March.

Preschool/Children

Over 150 preschoolers enjoyed Parks, Recreation and Culture programs throughout February.

Summer Programs

The 2008 summer program planning is highlighted in a special "summer" section of the new Spring Leisure Guide. A few of the highlights are:

- A wide variety of Children's Daycamps are being offered, with many focusing on sport and culture.
- Daycamps at Beban Park and Bowen Park are licensed making them accessible to children who currently participate in department after school programs through the assistance of a Provincial subsidy.
- Supervised Playground Programs will be operating at five parks. The parks included in the program are Departure Bay Centennial, Harewood, Mansfield, Deverill, Cathedral Grove and Ranchview. These weekday drop-in programs are free of charge and geared to children five to 12 years.
- The Water Parks at Departure Bay, Harewood and Deverill Parks will be open seven days a week June through September.
- The Summer Leader job postings are currently being advertised. Applications will be accepted until 2008-MAR-20 and interviews will take place through April.

The 4-H Barnyard will be moving from Bowen Park to Beban Park this summer. The 4-H Club is working cooperatively with the VIEX to operate this program out of one of the red barns.

AQUATICS

In February, an Assistant Water Safety Instructor program took place and all seven candidates successfully completed the course. These candidates applied to be games leaders and are currently being orientated and trained.

Beban Park Pool hosted the 4th Annual Spa Night on 2008-FEB-16 with 90 individuals and 25 businesses participating. Opportunities for massage therapy, reflexology, make-up and skin care and a number of other great services were provided.

The *Leap Year Event* at the Nanaimo Aquatic Center was a big success; roughly 70 children were involved and the leaders put together some great activities including a dunk tank challenge, a Leap and Laugh game, and a bunch of crazy jumping races – the leaders and children had fun and all went well.

FACILITY MAINTENANCE

Maintenance staff are familiarizing themselves with the Oliver Woods Community Centre and are excited to take over the operation of the facility in March.

The team has been working with the City's Occupational and Health department as the organization continues to update and make changes to the City's safety program.

ARENAS

The Precision Skating Team performed for the senior's public skating session and followed up their performance with an inter-generational free skate and refreshment break on 200-FEB-26 at the Frank Crane Arena.

The Nanaimo Ice Centre and the Beban Park Arenas hosted a number of events and tournaments including a 32 team Old-timers Hockey tournament, four Nanaimo Clipper Junior Hockey Games, the Canadian Tire Great Skate, Sports Fest and a Glow in the Dark Public Skate.

The department welcomes Gary Paterson as the new Arena Coordinator. Gary is a familiar face to the facility users and has strong roots in the figure skating community.

OLIVER WOODS COMMUNITY CENTRE

The public open house held Saturday, 2008-FEB-16 was a huge success with approximately 2,000 people through the doors.

Since its opening there has been a lot of positive feedback about the facility and its programs. However, there are a few residents who are disappointed in the final product (lack of weight room, mixed demographics, etc).

Programs and bookings have been relatively slow (compared to hours available) which provides us with an opportunity to get to know how to operate and schedule the facility. Usage will pick up dramatically as the department moves into the new program season in mid-March.

Eileen Bossons was the successful applicant for the Oliver Woods Recreation Coordinator. She is working on several new programs that have an environmental or nature theme. She is also working with the Seniors Coordinator on several new intergenerational programs.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Grants & Special Projects

The Emergency Alert Lottery wrapped up on 2008-FEB-16. The program resulted in a 26% increase in registered participants including a 19% increase in Business sign-ups.

Christmas Craft Bazaar

Planning for the 2008 Christmas Craft Bazaar is underway. Based on participant feedback from the 2007 event changes are being made to event format, including reducing the event to three days (from four), adjusting table fees and revamping the floor plan.

STATISTICS

Arenas

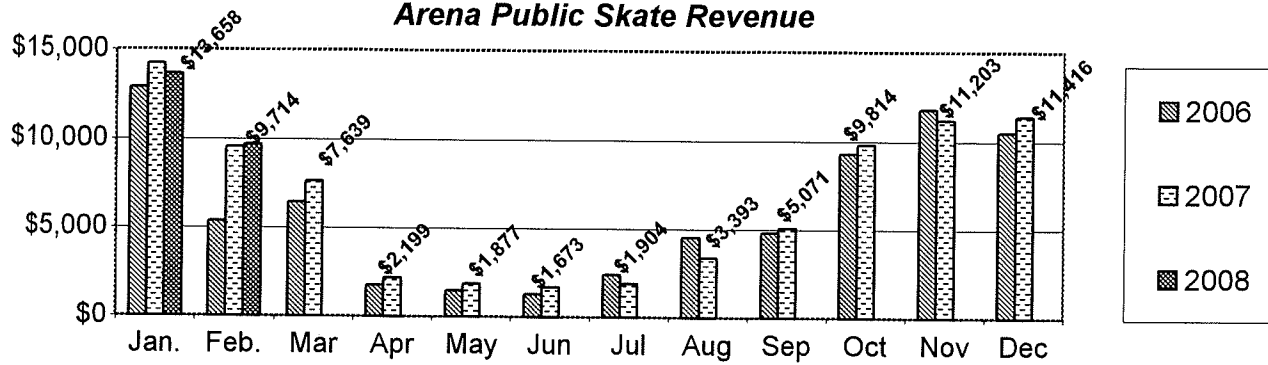
FEBRUARY		Hours of Use		Attendance	
		2008	2007	2008	2007
Public Admissions:		161.5	142.5	4,048	5,692
Lessons: Department programs and Schools:		200.25	227	3,825	4,717
League Rentals:		680.75	703	32,170	25,612
Other/Casual:		140.75	231.25	9,008	6,408
TOTAL:		1,183.25	1,303.75	49,051	42,429
<u>Hours:</u>		<u>Attendance:</u>			
NIC1 –	272.75	NIC 1 –		9,695	
NIC 2 –	322.5	NIC 2 –		11,284	
Cliff McNabb –	270.25	Cliff McNabb –		8,930	
Frank Crane –	317.75	Frank Crane –		19,178	
Total:	1,183.25	Total:		49,051	

LEAP

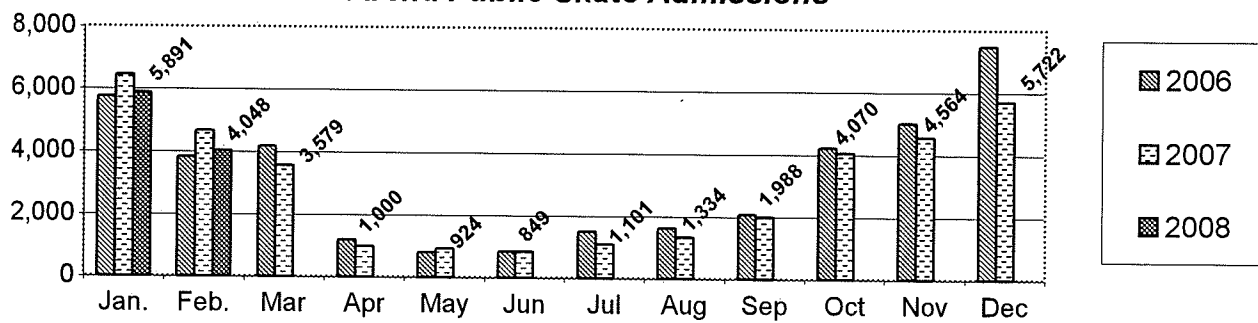
- 2008-FEB: 151 applications
- 2007-FEB: 147 applications

Summary of Recreation And Culture Services - March 2008

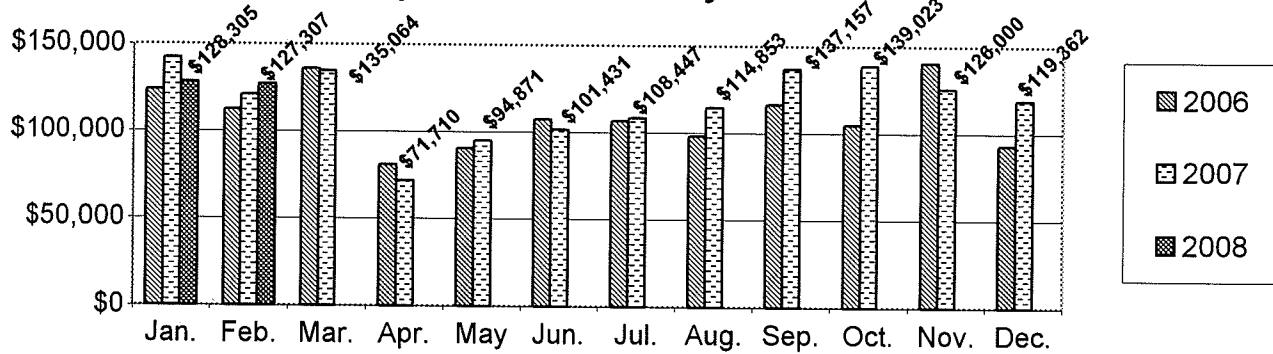
Arena Public Skate Revenue



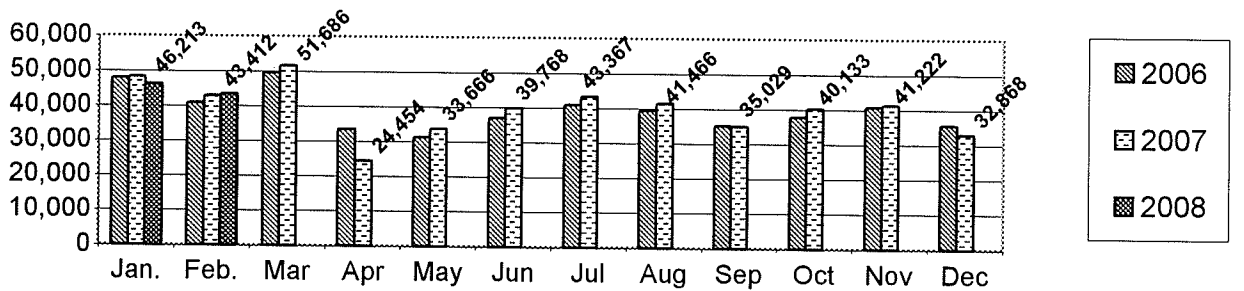
Arena Public Skate Admissions



Aquatic and Fitness Gym Revenue

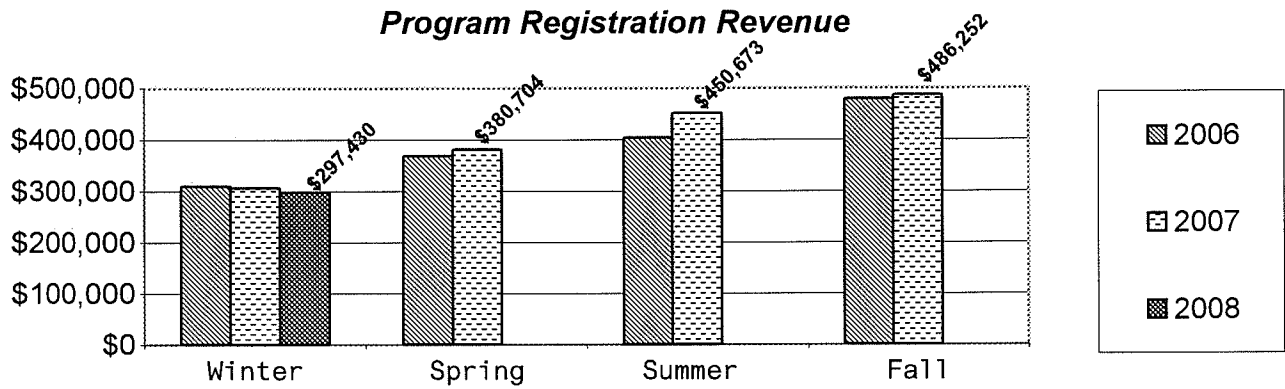


Aquatic and Fitness Gym Public Admissions

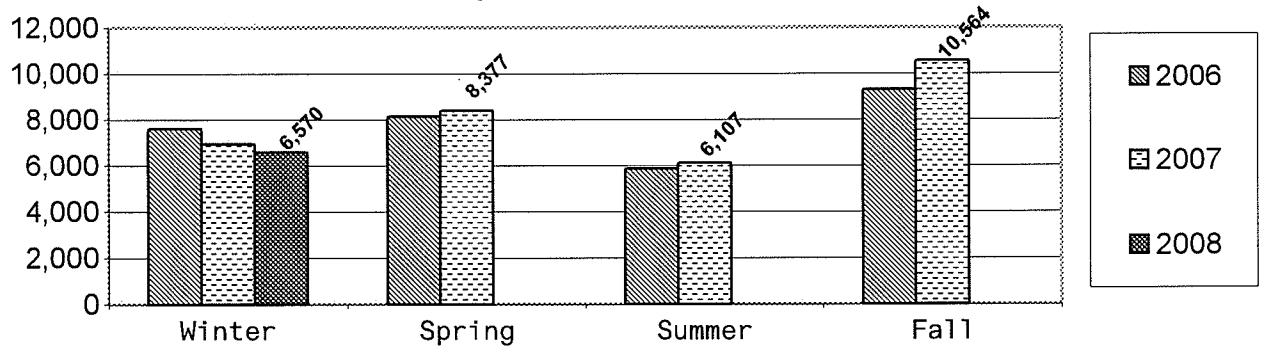


2006 to 2008 Recreation and Culture Programs Registrations and Revenues

Program Registration Revenue



Program Registrations*





P.O. Box 2085, Station A, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 6X5
www.nanaimoartsalive.com

Larry McNabb, Chair
Parks Recreation and Culture Commission
City of Nanaimo
500 Bowen Road
Nanaimo, BC
V9R 1Z7

March 12, 2008

Dear Mr. McNabb,

Thank you for your letter of February 26th enclosing the cheque for \$1400 in respect of the Cultural Fund donation to Arts Alive. The donation is gratefully acknowledged, and will be used to assist our upcoming Summer School program.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vince Katnich".

Vince Katnich
President

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
BOWEN PARK SENIORS - March 7, 2008

In Attendance

President Lynda Avis in the Chair, Anne Smith, Bob Nixon, Colleen Evans, Bob Davies, Pat Parkin, Pat Foley, Brian Sugiyama.

Regrets: Arvo Paivarinta, Jane Adkins, Miriam Peacock.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Changes/Additions to the Agenda

The agenda was accepted as circulated.

Minutes of Last Meeting

M/S/C that the minutes of the February 1, 2008 meeting be adopted as read.

Business Arising from the Minutes

1. Soup & Sandwich Lunch - about 30 people attended the lunch on February 28th so our expenses were covered. Coffee could be included next time. Discussion ensued as to possibility of making this a quarterly event in future. It was decided the next one will be on April 17th, with another lunch to follow later in the year. Directors able to volunteer at the event should arrive at 9:30 a.m. Lynda will email the soup recipe to those willing to help make it. Brian suggested the next lunch could be held in the lobby at Oliver Woods.
2. Lions Wellness Park - Brian said there are five pieces still to be installed in the park so the Directors will not tour the facility until it is complete (likely in April).
3. Plaque for Furniture Donation - Brian is arranging for the plaque to be made by a local trophy shop.
4. Letter to Editor re Oliver Woods facility - letter was circulated for the Directors to peruse.

Correspondence

1. Thank you letter received from the Board's Secretary for the flowers.
2. Letter was sent to Councillor Larry McNabb, enclosing a cheque for \$1,000 towards the lighting component of the artwork in the lobby of the new Oliver Woods Community Centre.
3. Thank you card received from Country Club Mall for our participation in their recent Wellness event - Bowen Seniors cookbooks were sold all weekend.

.....see page 2

Financial Report

M/S/C that the financial report be accepted as circulated. Report attached.

Our bond of \$12,505 matured and has been re-invested. Another bond matures on March 14th and will also be re-invested.

COMMITTEE REPORTS;

Program Committee

Lynda has taken over this Committee from Stu. No meetings will likely be held until September.

Lobby Committee

No report.

Seniors Coordinator's Report

- Current membership is 1450 with 117 sold in the past month.
- Thursday Special Events continue to be well attended, as do the van trips.
- Brian is attending a meeting re Handi-dart issues on March 28th.
- Seniors' Tour & Tea is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11th, at 2 p.m. Directors were asked to attend if possible.

New Business

1. Nominating Committee - Anne will be contacting the Directors to see who is willing to remain on the Board.
2. Volunteer Appreciation Plaque - Bob said the plaque will be installed on the wall in time for next week's special event. The plaque contains 11 names and cost \$105.
3. Transition to Retirement workshop - Pat Parkin reported on the possibility of using the remaining \$300 left over from the Enlightened Aging Forum on a Transition to Retirement workshop. Lynda will look into this and will be discussed at a further meeting. Pat volunteered to go to the next workshop and report back to the Board.
4. Notice of Motion - Brian said if the name of Bowen Park Seniors is to be changed, it would need to come up at the AGM as a Notice of Motion and voted on at that meeting. A notice will be put in the April newsletter to this effect. Suggestions for a catchy name would be appreciated.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Next Meeting

Friday, April 4th, at 9 a.m.

/pf 08.03.11

Bowen Park Seniors



**Councillor Larry McNabb,
Chairman,
Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission,
City of Nanaimo,
Nanaimo, B.C.**

February 29th, 2008

Dear Councillor McNabb,

Please find enclosed a cheque in the amount of \$1000.00 towards the lighting component of the artwork in the lobby of the new Oliver Woods Community Center.

Bowen Seniors are pleased to continue their long history of supporting the City of Nanaimo, by donating to various projects that enhance our community facilities, and ultimately add to the enjoyment of the many citizens who utilize them.

Yours truly,



**Lynda A. Avis
President
Bowen Seniors**

c.c. Mary Smith, Recreation and Culture Services Manager

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