

DATE OF MEETING DECEMBER 15, 2021

AUTHORED BY LYNN WARK, DIRECTOR, RECREATION & CULTURE

**SUBJECT NANAIMO LAWN BOWLING CLUB REQUEST – GREEN REPAIRS
AT BOWEN PARK**

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report

To provide information to Council on the Nanaimo Lawn Bowling Club's request for financial support for repairs to the bowling green at Bowen Park.

Recommendation

That Council approve the allocation of up to \$20,000 from 2021 surplus project funds to support the repairs necessary at the Lawn Bowling Club.

BACKGROUND

The Nanaimo Lawn Bowling Club (NLBC) has been in existence since 1923, and has been housed at Bowen Park for 54 years. This is a very active club, providing many programs for their members, others who wish to try the sport, as well as competitors from out-of-town.

There is a Licence of Use Agreement (LOU) in place which provides for the NLBC to operate the Lawn Bowling facility in Bowen Park. Over the years, the City and the Club have collaborated well together to cost-share and manage the various responsibilities, provide regular maintenance, and make capital improvements to the green and to the Clubhouse.

DISCUSSION

Recently, the NLBC approached the City with concerns about the deterioration of the Bowling Green plinth, ditch and backboards (Attachment A). This area surrounds the green, functions as a stopper zone for the bowls, and is used as a step to get on and off the green. The boards need to be replaced as their current condition have deteriorated to the point of being a liability and pose a risk of injury.

The NLBC has two quotes for the work and will be responsible for the hiring and supervision of the successful contractor for the repair work.

The NLBC executive has the ability to contribute \$10,000 to the project, and currently have these funds available. They are asking that the City help to cost-share the project and provide up to \$20,000 to cover the remaining costs.

Project funds are available from 2021 project surplus to support this project due to savings from an existing 2021 project.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Funds will come from project surplus for 2021 projects. The NLBC have \$10,000 available for this project and ask that the City contributes up to \$20,000 for the project. |

OPTIONS

1. That Council approve the allocation of up to \$20,000 from 2021 surplus project funds to support the repairs necessary at the Lawn Bowling Club.
 - The advantages of this option: The allocation of these funds will allow the Nanaimo Lawn Bowling Club to arrange for the required work to be done prior to their next season which begins in March, ensuring that there will be no disruption to the playing season. As well, the repairs will help to extend the operational use of the facility.
 - The disadvantages of this option: None.
 - Financial Implications: \$20,000 in savings from a 2021 project would be committed to this project.
2. That Council provides alternative direction.
 - The advantages of this option: None.
 - The disadvantages of this option: Needed repairs would not be completed leaving a potential for risk of injury to players, and shortening the operational use of the facility.
 - Financial Implications: No immediate costs, but the potential for an injury to occur could end up in a costly scenario.

SUMMARY POINTS

- The Nanaimo Lawn Bowling Club has been operating at Bowen Park for 54 years.
- The Lawn Bowling Facility in Bowen Park is in need of some repairs to the plinth, ditch and backboard area that surrounds the green.
- The Nanaimo Lawn Bowling has agreed to contribute \$10,000 to the repairs and is asking the City to contribute up to \$20,000 to cover the remaining costs.

ATTACHMENTS:

ATTACHMENT A: Photo of deterioration of plinths . |

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