



# Burnaby Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

## 2017 ANNUAL REPORT





# CITY OF BURNABY

## Our Vision

A world-class city committed to creating and sustaining the best quality of life for our entire community.

## Our Core Values

We embrace community, integrity, respect, innovation and passion as our core values and principles that guide our actions and decisions.

## Goals

The City of Burnaby's Corporate Strategic Plan outlines six goals which describe the key focus areas of our work, and which help us prioritize our efforts and resources. The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department aligns with each of the six goals in the City's Corporate Strategic Plan.

**A Safe  
Community**

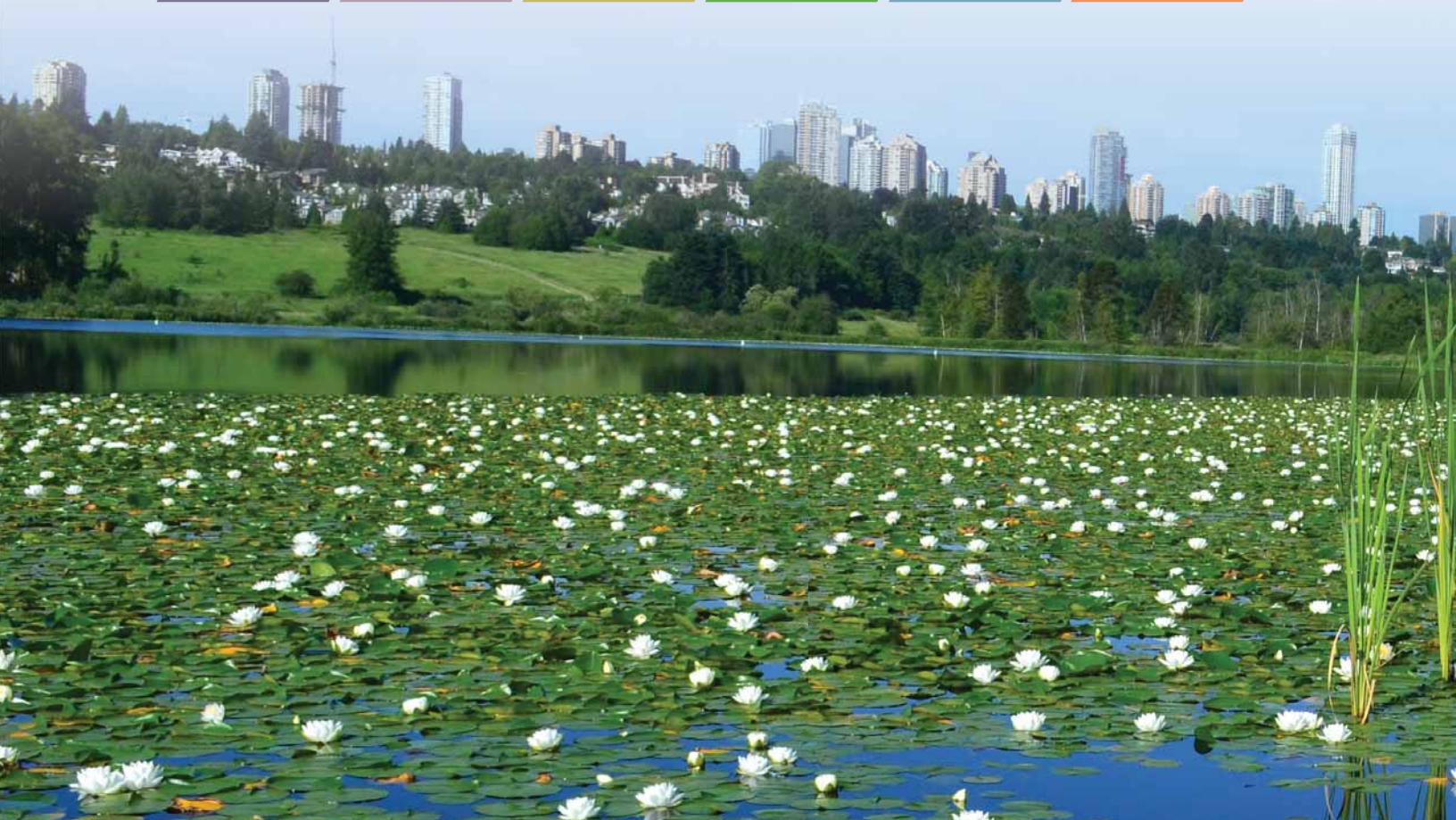
**A Connected  
Community**

**An Inclusive  
Community**

**A Healthy  
Community**

**A Dynamic  
Community**

**A Thriving  
Organization**





## PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The City of Burnaby's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS) Department provides amenities, programs and services that support a safe, connected, inclusive, healthy and dynamic community. To do this, this department continues to work collaboratively and cooperatively with businesses, organizations, residents and other governments.

### OUR DEPARTMENTAL GOALS

- » To ensure that sufficient public land is reserved for active and passive park and recreational use.
- » To develop park, recreation and cultural facilities that meet the needs of the community.
- » To maintain park, recreation and cultural facilities for the enjoyment of the community.
- » To ensure that the community has a balanced program of cultural, athletic and other recreational services.
- » To encourage community organizations to provide recreational opportunities.
- » To cooperate with the Burnaby School Board, the Burnaby Public Library and other publicly funded agencies in leisure and cultural program planning and in the joint use of facilities.
- » To stimulate private sector involvement in developing and delivering appropriate recreational services.







## PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission has been delegated the administrative power of Council relating to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS) Department. The Commission is also the community's liaison to the PRCS Department and is comprised of a dynamic group of volunteers who are committed to working on behalf of Burnaby residents.

Along with regular monthly meetings at City Hall, the Commission had three well-attended community meetings in 2017 at Bonsor Recreation Complex, Confederation Community Centre and Edmonds Community Centre. These important community meetings continue to provide opportunities for the public to ask questions and discuss topics with the Commissioners.





**2017 City of Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission**

Left to right: Karin Alzner, Guyle Clark, Lance Matricardi (Deputy Chairperson), Lee Loftus, Paul McDonell (Chairperson and Council Representative), Barb Larkin, Dan Johnston (Council Representative), James Jang, Dan Staschuk

## GREETINGS FROM THE COMMISSION

The year 2017 was a particularly amazing one for Burnaby and Canada as it marked a historic milestone in both our city and our country's history. Canada turned 150 years old on July 1, while Burnaby celebrated 125 years on September 22.

Festivities and events to mark Burnaby and Canada's two significant anniversaries were held throughout the year and across the city, culminating in Burnaby's Weekend of Fun in September. During this three-day celebration, Burnaby's community facilities were home to many affordable, dynamic and fun family-friendly events in nearly every corner of the City.

Of course, it's with the incredible support of our dynamic community, volunteers and staff that these events were a success, and that Burnaby continues to be a safe, connected, inclusive, healthy and dynamic community for all to enjoy and participate. As well, the goal of the City and its PRCS team is to ensure that Burnaby remains a thriving and spectacular place to live, work and play.

Councillor Paul McDonell  
2017 Chair  
Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Lifelong memories were made in 2017! This extraordinary year celebrating Burnaby's 125th and Canada's 150th anniversaries brought families and our community together at events and festivals across the city.

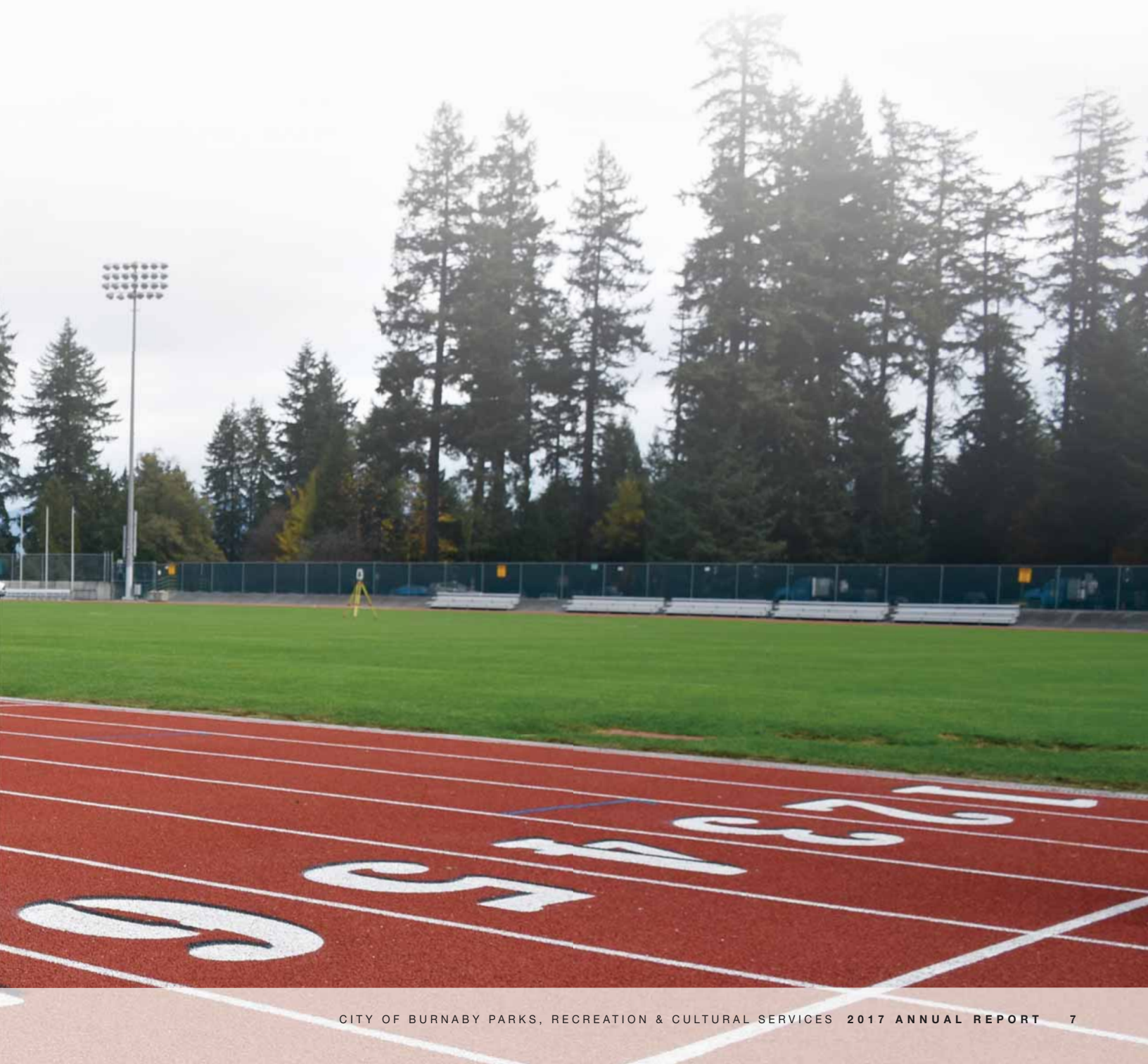
To help commemorate these two remarkable milestones, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS) Department undertook several key projects that are sure to have a positive impact and long-lasting legacy on our community, including: new amenities and facility upgrades to the second floor of Bonsor Recreation Complex; planting of more than 400 trees and 600 shrubs in Central Park;

developing the first phase of a perimeter trail at Central Park; creating a new outdoor fitness circuit at Burnaby Fraser Foreshore Park; commencing construction of the Willingdon Linear Park; replacing the track at Swangard Stadium; creating concept drawings for the construction of new arenas in South Burnaby.

Our mandate is to promote and help facilitate healthy and active lifestyles for Burnaby residents. And we continue to do this by taking a leadership role through programming, facility development and creative partnerships with both public and private sector groups who share our passion for a dynamic, inclusive, innovative and fun community.

Dave Ellenwood  
Director  
City of Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department









# #CelebrateBurnaby



@v8song



@kevinkjchow



@burnabyheights



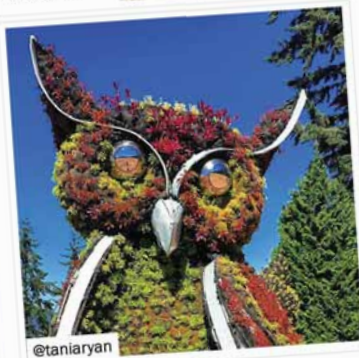
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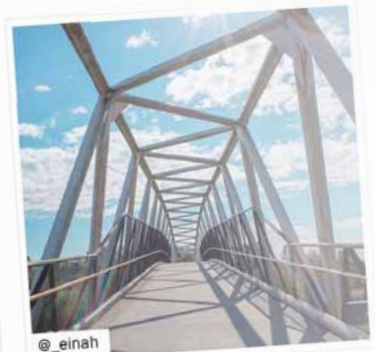
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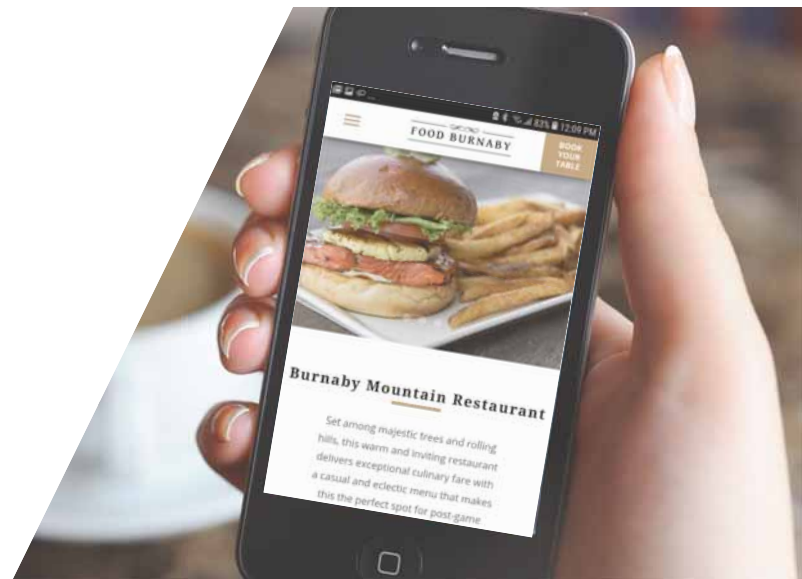


## A CONNECTED COMMUNITY

The City of Burnaby's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS) Department is proud to be actively engaged with the public in connecting our community through various digital, social and geographical connections and partnerships. Keeping residents aware and informed of Burnaby's activities, programs and services continues to be our priority.

### 2017 SOCIAL MEDIA FIGURES

Facebook Pages	22
Twitter Accounts	12
Instagram Accounts	12
Fans and Followers	46,000



### Digital Connections

The PRCS Department provides online access to services and information through systems such as program registration, theatre tickets, golf tee time bookings, restaurant reservations and our array of websites.

The incredibly successful #celebrateburnaby online gallery is one important initiative that truly helped to connect Burnaby residents and visitors in 2017.

In this campaign, we asked the community to share what they love about Burnaby via Instagram using the #celebrateburnaby hashtag. The result was remarkable, as this dynamic photo gallery now boasts more than 2,000 images that highlight the best of our spectacular, world-class city.

Other 2017 digital initiatives include:

Launching the new foodburnaby.ca website to share information and provide better access to the City's food services, including restaurants, rentals and catering.

Commencing the upgrade to Webreg, the online system for residents to enroll in recreational programs and book facilities. This was done by gathering staff feedback and developing requirements to replace the current web registration system (Webreg).





## Social Connections through Community Events

One of the primary foundations of the PRCS Department is enhancing social connections throughout the community.

As an example, the 2017 events and festivities for Celebrate Burnaby 125 and Canada 150 were pivotal in bringing the community together. This double anniversary united Burnaby residents to celebrate our city as a spectacular place to live, work, learn and play. Other efforts included a look back at Burnaby's history through the *Then and Now* exhibit at the Burnaby Village Museum along with the Burnaby Neighbourhood History Series, commemorative outdoor street banners, special Eco-sculptures and flower garden features, and a volunteer program.

Celebrate 125 and 150 events were held throughout the year with more than 140,000 residents and visitors taking part in the festivities.

All the City's incredible celebrations and parties in 2017 were made possible through community partners and local businesses, along with the 80+ volunteers who selflessly gave more than 528 hours of their time to help make these events so successful.

As well, the Burnaby Art Gallery celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2017. The gallery honoured this milestone with a special anniversary exhibition titled *The Ornament of a House: Celebrating 50 Years of Collecting*, which brought together 50 individuals who played a significant role in building the Gallery's character – including collectors, curators and the artists.

The Chalk Art Experience is a relatively new City event that gained popularity in 2017. Held in June at Bonsor Recreation Complex, this free two-day art event welcomed some of North America's top chalk artists.

The iconic RCMP Musical Ride was another key highlight to help mark Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017. This beloved, sold-out event welcomed more than 4,400 attendees at Swangard Stadium in August to watch as skilled RCMP riders and their beautiful horses demonstrated some thrilling cavalry drills to music.

Each year, the PRCS Department proudly hosts and welcomes the community for various affordable and/or free family-friendly events throughout the City's community recreation centres, facilities and parks.





## 2017 Community Highlights

Along with events and festivals throughout the year, a number of special programs help to bring the community together. Some 2017 community highlights include:

**Art in the Park** 24 free events with 670 participants

**Bonsor Butterfly Project** 54 butterflies completed by over 200 participants

**Gilmore Community School Murals** 11 murals with over 570 participants

**Rosser Elementary School Mural** 100 participants

**Painted Park Bins** 100 participants

**Summer Movies** 8 movies in total 2,575 in attendance

**Group Picnics** 284

## Key 2017 Event Attendance

BC Day – Burnaby Village Museum	2,200	Healthy Kids Preschool Fairs	1,124
Bonsor Big Boo	1,600	Heritage Christmas – Burnaby Village Museum	53,000
Bonsor Car Trunk Sale	2,000	Kids Stuff Swap Meet	1,000
Burnaby Blues + Roots Festival	3,500	Labour Day – Burnaby Village Museum	2,100
Canada Day – Burnaby Village Museum	11,300	Rhododendron Festival	2,700
Canada Day – Edmonds Centre	6,500	Seasonal Celebration – Shadbolt Centre	1,750
Canada Day – Swangard Stadium	8,200	Summer Sundays	1,000
Chalk Art Experience – Bonsor Complex	2,200	Victoria Day – Burnaby Village Museum	3,500
Edmonds City Fair	2,500	VSO Symphony in the Park	12,500
Festival of Lights – Edmonds Centre	2,300	World Rivers Day – Burnaby Village Museum	2,300
Giro di Burnaby	5,000	Youth Week	1,500
Haunted Village – Burnaby Village Museum	5,700		





## Geographic Connections

In 2017, the PRCS Department undertook projects to help ensure residents continue to enjoy our green spaces and move easily throughout Burnaby.

### **Willingdon Linear Park**

Work began on this community green space that features a four meter wide multi-use trail, pedestrian lighting, seating areas, art installations and a community hammock in one of two pocket parks.

### **Sidewinder Trail**

The last leg of this trail connecting Gaglardi Way to the eastern section of University Drive was completed.

### **Central Park Perimeter Trail**

Phase one of this multi-use trail that runs along the western edge of Central Park was completed. It includes lighting, a tree canopy and seating areas.

## Partnerships


The PRCS Department continues to work collaboratively with businesses, educational institutions, associations, governments and other communities.

As part of this effort, the second annual Burnaby Festival of Learning was held in May with more than 10,000 in attendance at 72 events on local history, health, science, natural history, art and literature. This successful event takes place in partnership with Simon Fraser University and the Burnaby School District.

The City was able to produce the Celebrate 125 celebrations, along with building community recreational infrastructure by working in partnership with the federal government. As an example, the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Grant program provided partial funding for the Central Park Perimeter Trail, as well as the Willingdon Linear Park and Swangard track replacement.

As well, the Department of Canadian Heritage granted funding to the City, through its Building Communities through Arts & Heritage program, to commemorate Celebrate 125 by engaging local artists and performers for the many festivities.





The PRCS Department maintains its partnership with Burnaby School District 41. For example, the Golf division continues to work with schools through its Junior Golf Outreach Program, with roughly 1,380 elementary and 1,415 high school students participating in 2017.

The City provided 395 after-school programs to more than 5,300 participants and over 10,800 hours of gym allotments in 35 gyms throughout the year.

Thanks to funding from the CN EcoConnexions *From the Ground Up* program, some 400 native conifer trees (e.g. Western Hemlock and Douglas-fir) and 600 shrubs, such as elderberry and huckleberry, were planted in the heart of Burnaby at Central Park. As a result, the park and surrounding communities will benefit from a sizable reforestation program that protects, preserves and replenishes this valued green space.

The City's partnerships with volunteers is another prized connection for the PRCS Department — with hundreds of volunteers donating countless hours for various activities, events and programs year after year. In fact, some 500 hours of labour were donated for a series of four volunteer "Trail Days" at Burnaby Mountain. This unique partnership between City staff and volunteers from the Burnaby Mountain Bike Association focused on repairing heavily used trails in the Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area.







## AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

As a dynamic and world-class city, Burnaby is home to many incredible multicultural groups that make up a vibrant tapestry of communities and cultures. The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS) Department strives to celebrate this remarkable cultural diversity through various City events and inclusive activities, programs and services.

### Celebrate Diversity

The PRCS Department creates events and opportunities that help to unite the community and celebrate diversity.

An example is Burnaby's second annual National Aboriginal Day celebration held at Civic Square in June. The Burnaby Public Library worked with the PRCS Department, the Burnaby School District and other community partners to create a vibrant, varied event that included student workshops, an author reading, traditional dancers, indigenous hip hop music and an Aboriginal storyteller.

Throughout the year, the City plays host to an array of important cultural events that celebrate diversity and connect Burnaby to other communities around the corner and around the world. In fact, thousands of event-goers attend a range of diverse cultural events hosted by various community organizations at Swangard Stadium year after year.

#### 2017 Cultural Events hosted at Swangard Stadium

Chinese Festival	3,100
European Festival	6,500
Fijian Festival	3,500
Korean Festival	4,100
Taco Festival	4,200

### Serve a Diverse Community

The PRCS Department continually strives to meet and serve the needs of our dynamic community and create a sense of belonging through an array of arts, recreational and other programs.

A key example is the Burnaby Recreation Credit Program, which helps low-income residents pay for program costs and/or admissions to recreation facilities. In 2017 alone, more than 6,800 people were approved for recreation credit through this innovative program.

The PRCS Department believes that all people should be treated with dignity and respect, and have a reasonable opportunity to take part in recreational activities. In 2017, some 225 participants enrolled in various adapted programs. The City's recreation centres and swimming pools also feature a broad range of special equipment specifically designed for easy accessibility, allowing people with disabilities to exercise and be creative with varying degrees of independence.







## 2017 HEALTHY LIFE FACT AND FIGURES

Aquafit Participants	67,839
Fitness Program Participants	406,000
Outdoor Recreation Programs Participants	3,272
Skating Participants	217,037
Swims in Burnaby pools	1,233,300



## A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

The City of Burnaby continually aims to create and enhance opportunities for residents to stay active and fit in their local communities.

### Active in Burnaby

Sports, fitness and arts enthusiasts were again well served by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. Indeed, the spring/summer and fall/winter issues of the *Leisure Guide* are a testament to the success and wealth of available programs.

Throughout 2017, the community took part in the City's many arts, cultural and fitness activities – from the creative arts to cross-training, dance, indoor cycling, sports programs, yoga, Zumba® as well as outdoor recreational opportunities and more.

Burnaby's indoor and outdoor pools continue to be hubs of activity with various learn-to-swim programs, public and lap swimming, waterslides and aquafit classes. Families also cooled down in the summer through active outdoor play in the City's wading pools and spray pads.

In 2017, Bonsor expanded its recreational services with substantial renovations to its upper floor. This new space includes a new indoor cycling studio, sound-proof music studio and an active studio with a wood sprung floor for fitness and dance programs.

To encourage outdoor recreation, the City's golf courses are uniquely designed to provide a challenging and enjoyable experience for golfers of all ages and abilities and boast outstanding year-round playing conditions. More than 170,000 rounds of golf were played in 2017 at the two 18-hole golf courses and two pitch-and-putt courses.

Along with the dozens of parks and open spaces available for casual recreation, the City's organized programs continue to bring people outdoors to enjoy nature and wildlife while also learning new skills through kayaking, canoeing, hiking, snowshoeing and other activities.







## Recreation in the Community

Community teams in a variety of sports have clocked thousands of hours of practice and game time on the City's fields throughout 2017, including more than 148,000 participants at Burnaby Lake Sports Complex West.

The City hosted sport tournaments and events throughout the year at our sporting venues. Some of the key highlights are:

- » Rugby Canada at Swangard Stadium
- » African Canadian Soccer Tournament and Remembrance Day Girls Youth Soccer Tournament at Burnaby Lake Sports Complex West
- » SunRype Kids Triathlon, Do it for Dad Run/Walk and BC Rugby Provincial Youth Rugby 7's Tournament at Burnaby Lake Sports Complex East
- » Cliff Avenue Active Start Soccer Jamboree at Confederation Park

## Healthy Environment

Getting away from the urban rush is easy given Burnaby's wealth of both natural and cultivated green spaces. Ours is a city blessed with 152 parks and trail systems comprising 2,221 hectares of land and 196 hectares of water. As well, the City's dedicated parks personnel work to maintain, repair, plant, clean, weed and mow these verdant spaces for everyone to enjoy.

Key project highlights in 2017 include:

Monitoring invasive plant species through manual and herbicide treatments at 572 sites across 50 parks. This included organizing five community events for invasive plant removals and restoration.

Installing 26 bee condos with the help of volunteers in 19 parks across the city.

Organizing 11 nature walks at five locations (Burnaby Mountain, Burnaby Village Museum, Central Park, Deer Lake Park and Stoney Creek).

Coordinating 18 Eco-sculpture planting events involving some 268 participants over nine days.





## Lifelong Learning

From toddlers to seniors – and everyone in between – the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department works to provide a broad range of accessible activities, programs and services that make staying active and fit part of a healthy lifestyle.

In addition to a number of programs for youths and seniors, Burnaby has four youth and four senior centres offering various recreational and social activities.

During the summer months, the City also presents numerous summer camps and programs through drop-in playground activities with park leaders.

### 2017 KEY FIGURES

Day Camp Participants	20,400
Drop-in Playground Participants (in 19 parks)	45,100
Grade 5 Be Active Visits	5,200
Youth Centre Visits	28,900
Seniors' Memberships	5,700







## Community Involvement

The City encourages local citizens and businesses to give back and invest in the community to benefit and help enhance the way of life for all residents.

Thanks to the generous support of local community groups, a number of recreational infrastructure initiatives were completed in 2017. A key example is the opening of the fitness circuit in Burnaby Fraser Foreshore Park, which was successfully built due to the generous support of the Rotary Clubs of Burnaby. The equipment at this free outdoor fitness park will provide the community with an affordable way to stay active and fit for generations to come.

The track at Swangard Stadium was replaced in 2017, for which the City gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the Government of Canada and the Achilles Track Club. This upgraded track provides immense opportunities for both community groups, and future sporting competitions and events in Burnaby.

## 2017 DONORS

Donors who contributed more than \$5,000 towards building the City's community programs and infrastructure.

Achilles Track Club  
Appia Developments  
BC Arts Council  
Burnaby Now  
Canadian Tire Jumpstart  
Chevron  
CN EcoConnexions  
Concord Pacific  
Fortis  
Government of Canada  
Rotary Clubs of Burnaby  
Solterra  
Tourism Burnaby









## A DYNAMIC COMMUNITY

The City of Burnaby's mission is to plan, design and develop the operational infrastructure for our citizens to make the most of their city and maintain healthy, active lives.

### City Facilities and Infrastructure

Throughout 2017, many key upgrades were made to local facilities and parks to help ensure sustainability and make the most of our dynamic City's many amenities and assets for now and years to come.

#### Highlights for 2017

Opening of Burnaby Fraser Foreshore Park free outdoor fitness circuit, featuring 12 exercise stations. This circuit is recognized as a National Demonstration Site by PlayCore for best practices in outdoor fitness.

Renovation of the second floor at Bonsor Recreation Complex, including an indoor cycling studio, music studio and active studio.

Replacement of the eight-lane rubberized track at Swangard Stadium to meet international track certification requirements.

Opening of the newly renovated beachside café at Barnet Marine Park. The café serves classic beach fare to park users.

Installation of accessible play structures at George Green, Parkcrest and Avondale parks; two prototype table tennis tables in Maywood Park; four seating nodes and information kiosks in Central Park; and boat storage at Barnet Marine Park.

Improved access at the entrance to Kensington Arena, Kinnee Park trail and Wesburn Park trails.

Newly designed park signage at two dozen City parks.

Installation and display of festive winter lights at the archery ranges at Kensington Avenue and Joe Sakic Way, Bonsor Recreation Complex, Cameron Recreation Complex, Central Park, Civic Square, Confederation Centre for Seniors, Edmonds Park, Eileen Dailly Pool and along Lougheed Highway south of the Lake City Way SkyTrain Station.

Installation of kiosk wraps at Burnaby Fraser Foreshore Park using historical photographs from Burnaby Archives and Burnaby Village Museum to present historical highlights and help beautify unsightly utilities.

Installation of a boardwalk at Deer Lake with salmon-viewing nodes around two bio-filtration ponds, along with improving trail access, installing new sign kiosks in the parking lot area and bank stabilization.

Throughout 2017, various upgrades were made to Burnaby Mountain and Riverway golf courses, as well as to the pitch and putt courses at Central Park and Kensington. These upgrades include new tee construction, fairway surface upgrades, additional grid drainage, irrigation systems, general landscaping and general improvements for playability.









## A SAFE COMMUNITY

Creating and ensuring safe spaces in the community continue to be a key priority for the City of Burnaby and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department through various efforts and initiatives.

### Pool Safety

Burnaby features eight community pools throughout the city (four indoor and four outdoor) that welcome more than a million swims each year. In 2017, the City's experienced lifeguards attended to more than 1,400 incidents, and help to ensure that Burnaby's pools remain safe for the community to use and enjoy.

### Emergency Preparedness

Enhance plans, procedures and services so that the City is better prepared to respond to emergencies, and able to maintain its programs and services.

### Trail Accessibility and Safety

Ensure the City's pathways and trails are accessible and safe, and keep residents informed, as necessary, of any concerns in the parks and trails (e.g. bear warnings, closures, etc.).

### Community Amenity Safety

Maintain a high level of safety in the City's community centres and facilities for the public and City staff.

## A THRIVING ORGANIZATION

### Communication

One of the key City goals of A Thriving Organization is to practice transparent communication among staff, City Council, the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission and community.

A primary planning and design project for the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department involves the public consultation process for the South Burnaby Arena, which is now in the planning stages based on community input collected at the September 2017 Open House.

Other efforts in 2017 included a design study to replace the 1960s washrooms and house controls for the Edmonds Spray Park, as well as a water management plan conducted at Confederation Park to identify more efficient drainage options to improve water infiltration and reduce erosion from creeks flowing into Burrard Inlet.







## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



### Expenditures

	2017	2016
Parks Services	\$26,527,742	\$24,665,449
Recreation Services	\$30,029,344	\$28,460,715
Cultural Services	\$10,455,623	\$10,311,921
Golf Services	\$6,743,800	\$6,564,828
Business Operations	\$11,726,442	\$10,840,251
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$85,482,951</b>	<b>\$80,843,164</b>

### Capital Expenditures 2017

2017: \$36,053,700  
2016: \$28,980,250

### Revenue

	2017	2016
Sale of Goods & Services	\$31,200,280	\$30,080,437
Other Revenue	\$108,956	\$61,669
Transfer from Reserves	\$1,392,548	\$1,269,231
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$32,701,784</b>	<b>\$31,411,337</b>

### Net Tax Draw

2017: \$52,781,167  
2016: \$49,431,827





[burnaby.ca/active](https://burnaby.ca/active)

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