

COMMISSION REPORT

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE
COMMISSION

DATE: 2021 Sept. 07

FROM: DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION &
CULTURAL SERVICES

FILE: 64000-20

SUBJECT: GRADE 5 BE ACTIVE PROGRAM

PURPOSE: To request that the Grade 5 Be Active Program be reinstated starting Fall 2021.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** approval be given to resume the City of Burnaby's, Grade 5 Be Active Program on an annual basis starting Fall 2021.
2. **THAT** Grade 6 be included in the Grade 5 Be Active program for the 2021 school year to accommodate Grade 5 students missed with last year's suspension of the program.
3. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Burnaby Board of Education for their information.

REPORT**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The City of Burnaby, Parks Recreation and Cultural Services Department has had a Grade 5 Be Active Program in place since 2009. The conditions that required the program to be suspended during the Covid-19 Pandemic have been lifted and the City of Burnaby's Recreation Services are returning to normal capacities. Furthermore, Grade 6 students this year did not get the opportunity to access the program in their Grade 5 year due to the suspension of the program.

2.0 POLICY SECTION**Goal**

- A Healthy Community
 - Healthy life –

To: Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission
From: Director - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
Re: BURNABY'S GRADE 5 BE ACTIVE PROGRAM

.....Page 2

- Encourages opportunities for healthy living and well-being
- Healthy environment –
Enhance our environmental health, resilience and sustainability
- Lifelong learning –
Improve upon and develop programs and services that enable ongoing learning
- Community involvement –
Encourage residents and businesses to give back to and invest in the community

3.0 BACKGROUND

The Grade 5 Be Active Program started as a pilot project in 2009 and became a regular program in 2010. This program allows for students in Grade 5 to obtain a pass to participate in public swimming, skating, drop in gym, and the City's golf driving ranges for free. Of the City's average of 1,700 Grade 5 students, approximately 1,254 would obtain passes (between 70-75%) and combined, they would attend City of Burnaby public programs on an average of 11,568 visits per year. This is an average of 9 visits per Grade 5 pass holder. As children of this age group reduce their involvement in organized sport, this program is an opportunity to help them transition into recreational alternatives using Burnaby's facilities and develop lifelong healthy habits.

As B.C. continues its restart plan in Step 3, and 4 the City of Burnaby's facility capacity is returning to normal. In this environment, the Grade 5 Be Active program will be financially sustainable since students bring a paying parent or sibling when using services.

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Grade 5 Be Active program be reinstated and include Grade 6 students for this school year. It is further recommended that a copy of this report be forwarded to the Burnaby Board of Education for their information.



Dave Ellenwood
DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES

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