

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: RENAMING OF METRO SKATE PARK

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council receive this report for information.
2. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Volkow family and to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission for information.

REPORT**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Burnaby, like most cities, dedicates landmarks, buildings and facilities in the name of residents that have made a significant contribution or impact to the community. Some examples in Burnaby include the following: the Alan H. Emmott Centre; Drummond Walk; Randall Pool; Lawson Creek; George McLean Park; and most recently, Lewarne Park. The namesakes of the aforementioned landmarks all served on Burnaby City Council.

Accordingly, Council, at its Closed meeting held on 2021 August 30, adopted a report to rename Metro Skate Park, within Bonsor Park, Metrotown, in honour of the late Councillor Nick Volkow. Further, Council directed staff to prepare a report on a plan to commemorate Nick Volkow.

2.0 POLICY

The renaming of the Skate Park after the late Councillor supports the following goals of the City's Corporate Strategic Plan:

Goal

- A Connected Community
 - Social connection – Enhance social connections throughout Burnaby

- A Healthy Community
 - Healthy life – Encourages opportunities for healthy living and well-being

- A Dynamic Community
 - City facilities and infrastructure – Build and maintain infrastructure that meets the needs of our growing community

2.0 BACKGROUND

Mr. Nick Volkow grew up in East Vancouver and moved to Burnaby with his family in 1983. He immediately took an active role in helping to shape the City and, after a few years, joined the Advisory Planning Commission and the Parks and Recreation Commission. In 1996, Mr. Volkow was elected to Burnaby City Council where he served as Councillor until his passing in 2020.

Mr. Volkow grew up in a working family, and was employed as a truck driver. He worked tirelessly to build a better community for residents of all ages and lifestyles, accessible for families of all income levels. He advocated ardently for many of the City's facilities, green spaces and events. His work led to the creation of the following: Burnaby's first skateboard park, Metro Skate Park; development of City trails, including the Central Valley Greenway; restoration of Burnaby Lake; and the annual Burnaby Blues and Roots Festival.

2.1 Metro Skate Park

Metro Skate Park opened in 2004. An extensive public consultation process resulted in the design of a unique multi-level and multi-skill family skate park, which provides access to skateboarders of all ages from the beginner to the advanced. The City also pioneered the use of an environmentally friendly concrete for skate parks. The concrete was also successful in creating a higher quality and more durable surface.

In 2011, Burnaby received an International Architectural Award for the Metro Skate Park for sports and leisure facilities innovation. The skate park has received many other awards including the Canadian Park and Recreation Association Award of Excellence for Innovation; BC Recreation and Parks Association Facility Excellence Award; Skaters for Public Skateparks – Skatepark Terrain Diversity Award; and the Connie Award for Excellence in Concrete Construction.

To: *His Worship, the Mayor and Councillors*
From: *Executive Committee of Council*
Re: *Renaming Metro Skate Park*
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3.0 RECOMMENDATION

The Metro Skate Park will be re-named after the late Councillor Nick Volkow, in recognition of his long service as a Burnaby Councillor and contribution to the community. Staff have notified the Volkow family and will prepare plans for the re-naming and dedication of the Skate Park in early 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor S. Dhaliwal
Chair

Mayor M. Hurley
Vice Chair

Copied to: Chief Administrative Officer Director Corporate Services Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Director Planning & Building
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