

Good day to the Executive Committee of Council of the City of Burnaby

Thank you for the attached letter and to the Burnaby City Counsel for the in-kind grant for printing services.

Unfortunately this does not meet the needs for Central parkrun, Burnaby in terms of what we'd applied for to resume our events at Central Park. Just like back in 2019 where we'd received a grant which was used to set off the allotment fees, our request is for the same.

parkrun is not-for-profit and our events are free to attend. The events that we have held at Central Park pre-COVID have been successful at bringing running and outdoor enthusiasts to Central Park. While we currently have sponsors for parkrun Canada, the idea is to not rely on sponsorships because the last thing we want to do is cancel events because we cannot sustain operations. Our cost model is highly efficient and more recently we've tried to digitise much of the timekeeping etc. process to reduce start up and ongoing costs. parkrun Canada's other events across the country (as far as I'm aware), do not have allotment fees/ permit fees as parkrun Canada will not be able to pay these - parkrun Canada cannot grow otherwise. Our continuing goal is to bring parkrun to the communities, and within the Lower Mainland, Burnaby was the second location after many years. We'd hate to have to cancel the event at Central Park but may need to if we're not able to come to a solution. If there is any way at all that a fee waiver can be considered (as the permit has already been approved), then it will ensure that we can continue to run at Central Park.

We're currently diverting parkrunners to our sister runs in Coquitlam and Richmond, where we're seeing strong attendance despite the almost winter conditions, and I continue to get weekly emails from the community asking about when the Central Park location will resume.

Again, we appreciate the effort that Peggy, Georgette and the team has put in to date so I'm writing to see if there is anything else we can do on our end.

Kind regards,

Debby Fu
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