

TO: PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION (PRCC)
FROM: GENERAL MANAGER PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE
SUBJECT: **PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE OPERATIONAL UPDATE**
PURPOSE: To provide Commission with a monthly update on the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department's operational activities

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report titled "Parks, Recreation and Culture Operational Update" dated July 11, 2023, from the General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture be received for information.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

The PRC operational update aligns with the City of Burnaby's Strategic Plan by supporting the following goals and sub-goals of the plan:

- Practice open and transparent communication among staff, Council and the community.
- Foster an environment for teamwork, efficiency and excellence to deliver customer service in alignment with our core values.

2.0 BACKGROUND

To provide Commission with a monthly update on the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department's operational activities.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

3.1 Planning and Design

- **The following projects have been completed:**
 - **Squint Lake Park** – Playground and fitness circuit which features junior preschool structures with shade roofs, an accessible spinner and new pickleball courts.
 - **Charles Rummel Park** – New shade structure and picnic table installation.
 - **Lou Moro Park** – New shade structure and picnic table installation.
 - **Wesburn Park** – Playground and spray park upgrades including a new playground, spray park and bioswale. In addition, the basketball court

received new surfacing and back boards. To connect the features, new pedestrian and maintenance access routes have been created.

- **Bell Park** – The park has been upgraded including a re-surfaced and fully enclosed basketball court, a walking loop/maintenance access route, shade trees along the pathway, a planted drainage swale and a fully enclosed area for dogs.
- **Willington Park** – Dog park is now fully enclosed, with pockets of tree planting for future shade. Recycled logs, boulders, and slide pieces have been incorporated as an agility course.
- **Burnaby Lake Sports Complex East** – Basic playground redevelopment including a “Lookout Tower” themed play structure with a spiral slide from a 9 ft. high deck, picnic tables with integrated shade, accessibility upgrades and benefits from adjacent new misting post for playground and field users.



- **The following projects are under construction:**
 - **Eastburn Park** – Basic playground redevelopment featuring “Treehouse” themed play structures with a variety of climbing opportunities, accessibility upgrades and increased seating. Construction began on May 29th and is anticipated to be complete in late July.

- **Sumas Park** – Basic playground redevelopment featuring “farm” themed play structures, zipline, triple bay swing structure with inclusive nest swing, accessibility upgrades, bike rack and increased seating. Construction began in late June and is anticipated to be complete in late August.
- **Public Input Surveys for 2024 Playground Redevelopments**
 - Online surveys open June 1st to June 30th

3.2 Recreation

- **Edmonds Year End Recital May 8th at the James Cowan Theatre.** This was the first year that Edmonds hosted our year end dance recital off site! This is a milestone moment, as it represents the continued growth of the Edmonds Dance Program since the Centre’s opening in 2014. Dancers in our long-term (September-June) and mid-term (January-June) classes performed; to further build the sense of community, we also invited community groups to join. This included the Byrne Creek Dance Company, as well as the Shadbolt Youth In Motion Dance Companies. A total of 71 participants (in house), 40 participants (guest performers) and 11 total performances. As Edmonds is still early on in the development of the Dance program, the guest performances provided inspiration to all of our young dancers and their parents and showed what can be done with perseverance in their art. It was an inclusive, dynamic, and fun opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of the South East Area of Burnaby.
- Eileen Dailly Pool held its 30th birthday party on May 18th. The fun filled event ran from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. and had 338 attendees. The lobby and pool deck were beautifully decorated, creating a festive atmosphere. Guests engaged in water games and poolside activities. In addition, a button-making activity allowed guests to create personalized keepsakes of the event, adding a special touch to the celebration. The party was a fantastic opportunity to recognize and appreciate long-standing employees who have contributed to the pool’s success. It was a remarkable celebration that highlighted the facility’s importance as a beloved community landmark.
- Fred Randall Pool offered 25 advanced aquatics courses totaling 309 participants for the Spring 2023 season. Amongst these, we trained 24 new Swim & Lifesaving Instructors along with 48 candidates receiving their Standard First Aid certification. These courses are the first steps to becoming a Lifeguard/Instructor.
- Bonsor Pool diving board repair/replacement has been completed, allowing the diving board to re-open.

- Pickleball – Four dedicated Pickleball courts and the first shared Pickleball/Tennis courts with eight courts dominantly lined for Pickleball in Burnaby are scheduled to open to the public early July at Squint Lake.
- Removal of the track surface at Swangard Stadium to make for a new, certified World Athletics Competition level track began in late June. Ocean Marker Sport Surfaces is responsible for the new track construction. Schedule is for demolition to begin June 29th. It will not compromise our ability to host scheduled events until mid-July
- Field #5 artificial turf field replacement at Burnaby Lake Sports Complex West is slated to begin in early July. Construction is slated to start early July.
- Tourism Burnaby was successful in the bid for the 2024 Ultimate Canada High School Nationals May 3 – 5, 2024. This represents 16 teams, 200 hotel room nights and spans fields at BLSCE and BLSCW.
- Outdoor Pools
 - School loonie swims were booked at all 4 pools Monday - Friday afternoons – each pool hosting between 50 – 200 Burnaby students per day.
 - Wading pools to open in July, been closed since Covid.
- General for Aquatics
 - Hired 45 Lifeguard Instructors and Slide attendants.

3.3 Culture

- **Burnaby Village Museum**
Burnaby Village Museum is launching a new oral history project, the *Many Voices Project*. The Museum is focusing on stories from people and communities who have not had the opportunity to add to the historical record. This may include cultural minorities, people of colour, and sexually and gender diverse people. The Museum is seeking to capture stories of all areas of life in Burnaby including school, work, recreational activities, social events, family activities, and more through recorded interviews. These oral histories will be available online at HeritageBurnaby.ca and will make up research used in Museum exhibits and programs for years to come.
- **School Programs:**
 - Guided school programs are booked solid through June.
 - BC Heritage Fair will return the Burnaby Village Museum (BVM) in Spring of 2024.
- **BVM involvement at National Indigenous Peoples Day:**
 - Supporting Greater Vancouver community organizations – community/City tent set up.

- Community engagement pieces: weaving, rope making and seed bombs.
- **Canada Day:**
 - Multicultural, family friendly performances, activities throughout site.
 - *The Wall* commemorating 100 years of Burnaby and Chinese Canadian relationships.
- **Summer Camps:**
 - Are all full with wait lists.
- July and August site activities include new offerings:
 - Indigenous Art & Stories, Coast Salish Yarn Spinning
 - How to Harvest – Chinese backyard and market garden interaction continues through August.
- New this year: Seed Bombs and Mahjong to continue.
- **Festivals & Special Events:**
 - The event in celebration of National Indigenous Peoples' Day was held on June 21 at Edmonds Park & Plaza and featured over 50 performers representing the host First Nations, Urban Indigenous populations, and Metis people. In addition to the performances, the event featured free bannock, community booths, Indigenous artisans, food trucks and activities that included commissioned artwork from Musqueam and Tsleil-Waututh artists. Approximately 3,000 people attended over the course of the day – approximately 50% growth over 2022.
 - Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and Vancouver Opera are returning to Deer Lake Park on July 15 and 16.
 - Burnaby Pride Celebrations return in July in a partnership between the City of Burnaby (Culture, Recreation, Planning and Libraries), Burnaby Family Life, Burnaby Neighbourhood House, Mosaic, Tourism Burnaby, and volunteer community members.
 - July 4 – 21: Pride Display at City Hall
 - July 8, 12 – 3 p.m.: Community Picnic at Keswick Park
 - July 17, 1 p.m.: Pride Flag Raising at City Hall
 - July 22, 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.: Burnaby Pride Celebration at Civic Square
 - July 28, 7:30 p.m.: Youth Pride Movie Night & Drag Performance (in partnership with Youth Services & Alphabet Soup)
 - Additional partner events from local breweries will also occur
 - Summer Community events are returning:
 - Summer Stages at Confed Park runs Tuesday through Friday from July 11 through August 25 with shows (music, clown, dance,

- storytelling and more) for kids and their families at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.
- Sounds Like Summer is back July 12 – September 1, bringing pop up music performances to parks, seniors centres and youth centres around the city. Performances are Wednesday through Friday with various times and locations
- Summer Cinema returns in August, showing movies at Civic Square on Fridays August 4, 11, 18, 25 and Sept 1 at 8:15pm and at Edmonds Park on Saturday, August 26 at 8:30pm.
- Planning is underway for the FREE Burnaby Blues + Roots Festival on August 12 featuring Buffy Sainte-Marie, Allison Russell, The Dip, Boy Golden, The Trade-Offs and more.
- Meetings with Tourism Burnaby have commenced for the Burnaby Halloween Festival 2023 edition. New partner events are being added for 2023, alongside returning events such as Pumpkins After Dark, the decorating contest, and the zombie fun run.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morrison-Clark, General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

This report was prepared by Leana Campbell, Administrative Assistant.