

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: WOMEN AND GIRLS SWIM

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council receive this report for information.
2. THAT a copy of this report be sent to the City of New Westminster Parks and Recreation Department to provide information on the change.

REPORT

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, at its Open meeting held on 2022 September 12, received and adopted the attached report providing information on the relocation of the Women and Girls Swim upon the closure of C.G Brown Memorial Pool to Bonsor Recreation Complex as of 2022 November 7.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor S. Dhaliwal
Chair

Copied to: Chief Administrative Officer Acting CFO GM Corporate Services GM Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services GM Public Safety and Community Services GM Planning and Building City Solicitor

Commissioner R. Kent
Deputy Chair



Item	6
General Manager's Report No.	8
Meeting	2022 Sep 12

COMMISSION REPORT

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE
COMMISSION

DATE: 2022 Sept. 07

FROM: ACTING GENERAL MANAGER – PARKS,
RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES

FILE: 54000-30

SUBJECT: WOMEN AND GIRLS SWIM

PURPOSE: To inform Commission that the Women and Girls Swim will move to Bonsor Recreation Complex upon the closure of C.G. Brown Memorial Pool.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Commission forward this report to Council for information.
2. **THAT** staff be instructed to advise the City of New Westminster Parks and Recreation Department of this change.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Woman and Girls Swim has been popular with the Burnaby community and there has been strong support for this activity, including a delegation appearance at the 2022 May 10 Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting. The closure of C.G. Brown Memorial Pool on 2022 October 31, necessitates an alternative site be identified for continuation of the program,

To identify a new location the following was undertaken; participants were surveyed, facility schedules were analyzed, physical layouts were scrutinized and geographical locations were reviewed. After taking into consideration all of these factors, Bonsor Pool has been determined as the most suitable location to ensure the success of the programs continuation.

The Survey attracted 129 responses over a two-week period from 2022 August 4 – 18. With the results and comments gathered, and considering the existing Learn to Swim programs, public swims, and allotments scheduled at Bonsor Pool, the Women

To: Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission
From: Acting General Manager – Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
Re: Women and Girls Swim

.....Page 2

and Girls Swim new schedule will be on Mondays from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. starting 2022 November 7.

Bonsor Pool is located in the community hub of Metrotown and is easily accessible by transit, including Skytrain.

The weight room at C.G. Brown Memorial Pool was not well attended during the Women and Girls Swim. Due to the layout at Bonsor Recreation Centre, the weight room will not be included as part of this program.

The change in program time and location will be promoted:

- directly to those who attend the current swim;
- through the City's social media channels;
- on the City's web page; and,
- by direct email to existing participants.

Program participation will be closely monitored and any changes required will be communicated in the same manner as above.

2.0 POLICY SECTION

The Women and Girls Swim is aligned with the following policies and plans adopted by Council: Corporate Strategic Plan (2022), Social Sustainability Strategy (2011).

The City of Burnaby, embraces diversity, belonging and participation. Women and girls face multiple barriers to recreation participation. Providing specific swim times for women and girls has been shown to increase their physical activity overall and build confidence and comfort for participation in other pursuits. This program ensures that everyone has access to aquatic leisure activities, and assists in ensuring that Burnaby is a barrier free community.

3.0 BACKGROUND

The Women and Girls Swim started in the fall of 2013 in partnership with the City of New Westminster. It offers a safe and inviting environment for women and girls of all ages and swimming abilities to socialize, exercise, and benefit from an aquatic environment without barriers. The program has been scheduled at C.G. Brown Memorial Pool on Sundays from 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

After 60 years of service to the community, C.G. Brown Memorial Pool has reached its end of life. The last day of operation on 2022 October 31 is leading to the start of construction for the new Burnaby Lake Aquatic and Arena Facilities.

To: Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission
From: Acting General Manager – Parks, Recreation &
Cultural Services
Re: Women and Girls Swim

.....Page 3

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that this report be received for information and that a copy of the report be provided to City of New Westminster Parks and Recreation Department.



Dean Pelletier
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER – PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES

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cc: CAO
GM Corporate Services