

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

TO: *MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: SPORT HOSTING GRANT – FALL 2025 INTAKE

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the disbursement of the Sport Hosting Grant totaling up to \$35,500 for the Fall 2025 intake, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the report titled “Sport Hosting Grant – Fall 2025 Intake”, of the Executive Committee of Council meeting of January 6, 2026, be approved.

REPORT

The Executive Committee of Council, at its meeting held on January 6, 2026, received and adopted the attached report seeking Council approval for the Sport Hosting Grant Program, Fall 2025 intake recommendation.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of
Council,

Councillor S. Dhaliwal
Chair

Councillor P. Calendino
Vice Chair

TO: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL (ECC)
FROM: DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE
SUBJECT: **SPORT HOSTING GRANT FALL 2025 INTAKE**
PURPOSE: To seek Council approval for Sport Hosting Grant Program, Fall 2025 intake recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the disbursement of the Sport Hosting Grant totaling up to \$35,500 for the Fall 2025 intake, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the report titled “Sport Hosting Grant – Fall 2025 Intake”, dated Jan 6, 2026, be approved.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sport Hosting Grant recommendations are being presented for the Executive Committee of Council’s consideration before recommending approval by Council. An adjudication panel reviewed the applications using the Council approved criteria and guidelines implemented in 2024. The eligible requests in this report amount to \$35,500 and the panel’s recommendation is \$35,500 in disbursements.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

The provision of Sport Hosting Grants is aligned with the following Council-adopted policies, plans and strategies: *Burnaby Economic Development Strategy (2007)*; *Social Sustainability Strategy (2011)*, *Healthy Community Policy (1991)*, *Corporate Strategic Plan (2017)*, *Parks, Recreation and Culture Interim Facility Allocation Policy (2023)* and the *Benefits Based Approach (2024)* that identifies the importance of a sense of belonging, inclusion and high quality of life.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The City of Burnaby’s Sport Hosting Grant Program was introduced to provide financial support for amateur sporting championships ranging from regional to international levels. The purpose of the program is to foster community pride, promote economic development, and encourage local engagement through sport. Eligible events must be sanctioned championships open to the public and organized by registered non-profit community organizations in good standing with the City. Funding allocations vary based on the scope of the competition, with maximum contributions of up to \$12,000 for international events, \$10,000 for national competitions, and \$5,000 for provincial tournaments. Regional events and eligible golf tournaments are also supported at lower

thresholds. Recipients are required to recognize the City's contribution and provide post-event reporting to demonstrate impact and accountability.

The program was formally established in April of 2024 following Council approval of recommended revisions to ensure clarity, transparency, and alignment with the City's Benefits Based Approach. Sport groups that use City facilities and groups that have applied for funding in the past were made aware of the requirements for eligibility of the Sport Hosting Grant by email in July 2024 to provide sufficient notice regarding the program changes.

At the Oct 28, 2025, Council Meeting, sections 2.e and 2.f of the Sport Hosting Grant guidelines were amended to provide more clarity on the types of tournaments that would be eligible for funding. This amendment led to two previously ineligible applicants to be awarded funding as they now meet the criteria.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

Applications were evaluated using a scorecard reflecting the program criteria:

- registered non-profit
- program merit
- community need
- community impact
- accessibility; and
- the need for financial assistance

Eligible Applications Received

Vancouver Metropolitan Soccer League Society – VMSL All Cups Day

Application # 25-09: \$3,000

The VMSL All Cups Day is a first-time applicant and was assessed as meeting the regional level of funding. This event showcases competitive amateur soccer from U21 through to over fifty-five, promoting lifelong sport participation, teamwork, and an active lifestyle. With over 4,500 players, coaches, officials, and spectators from across Metro Vancouver attending at Burnaby Lake West fields, the event demonstrates strong community impact and accessibility. Based on these factors, the panel recommends a grant of \$3,000 be awarded for this event.

Burnaby Canoe & Kayak Club – Sprint Canoe Kayak Provincial Championship Regatta

Application # 25-10: \$5,000

The Sprint Canoe Kayak Provincial Championship Regatta is a returning applicant and was assessed as meeting the provincial level of funding. Serving as the qualifying event for Canoe Kayak Canada Nationals, it provides over one hundred athletes with opportunities for development and performance at the highest level. The event's

accessibility and contribution to provincial sport development highlights its merit and community impact. Based on these factors, the panel recommends a grant of \$5,000 be awarded for this event.

Burnaby Barracudas Summer Aquatics Club – Burnaby Barracudas Grand Prix

Application #25-12: \$5,000

The Burnaby Barracudas Grand Prix is a returning applicant and was assessed as meeting the provincial level of funding. Hosted at Central Park Pool since the early 1990s, the event demonstrates strong program merit by fostering competitive swimming and community engagement. It attracts over 3,000 participants and spectators, highlighting its significant community impact and accessibility for athletes of various ages and abilities. Based on these factors, the panel recommends a grant of \$5,000 be awarded for this event.

Burnaby Barracudas Summer Aquatics Club – Barracudas July Jubilee Water Polo Tournament

Application #25-13: \$3,000

The Barracudas July Jubilee Water Polo Tournament is a new applicant and was assessed as meeting the regional level of funding. The event supports competitive aquatics programming that emphasizes athlete development, team unity, and sportsmanship, while rebuilding participation following COVID-19 disruptions. Hosted at Central Park Pool, one of the few outdoor water polo venues in the Lower Mainland, the tournament accommodates ages 10–18 and draws over three hundred participants and spectators, fostering community pride and accessibility. Based on these factors, the panel recommends a grant of \$3,000 be awarded for this event.

Burnaby Minor Lacrosse Club – Jack Crosby U11 All Star Tournament

Application #25-14: \$7,500

The Jack Crosby U11 All Star Tournament is a returning applicant and was assessed as meeting the Western Canadian level of funding. As one of the largest and most recognized youth lacrosse tournaments in BC, this long-standing event promotes athlete development, sportsmanship, and community pride while commemorating an important figure in the sport's history. Hosting over 3,000 participants and spectators, the tournament fosters inclusivity by welcoming male and female players and draws teams from across BC and beyond, creating significant community impact and economic benefits. Based on these factors, the panel recommends a grant of \$7,500 be awarded for this event.

Burnaby Speed Skating Club – Burnaby Interclub Meet

Application #25-15: \$7,000

The Burnaby Interclub Meet is a first-time applicant and was assessed as meeting the Western Canadian level of funding. This event promotes athlete development and inclusivity by welcoming skaters of all ages from 4 to 70 including Special Olympics

participants and provides opportunities to achieve qualifying times for provincial and national competitions. Drawing approximately four hundred participants and spectators from across BC and the U.S., the meet fosters community engagement and accessibility while showcasing Burnaby's commitment to sport excellence. Based on these factors, the panel recommends a grant of \$7,000 be awarded for this event.

Burnaby New Westminster Ringette Association – 2025 IceBreaker Tournament

Application #25-16: \$5,000

The 2025 IceBreaker Tournament is a resubmission (Attachment 2) due to guideline changes and was assessed as meeting the provincial level of funding. This long-standing event, now in its 28th year, promotes athlete development and community engagement through competitive play, skills clinics, coaching certifications, and "Come Try Ringette" sessions. Welcoming over 3,000 participants and spectators from across BC and other provinces, the tournament fosters accessibility for ages 4–30 and showcases Burnaby's sport facilities while supporting equity and growth in the sport. Based on these factors, the panel recommends a grant of \$5,000 be awarded for this event.

Ineligible Application Received

Achilles International Track and Field Society – The Jerome Classic

Application # 25-11

The Jerome Classic is a returning applicant and has yet to be awarded any funding from the Sport Hosting Grant Program due to their existing contribution agreement that already permits the event to subsidize use at Swangard Stadium. Based on this factor, the panel assessed this event as ineligible.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

All groups who applied for the current intake will be advised of their eligibility for grant funding following Committee's consideration of this report. Successful applicants of the Sport Hosting Grant program must acknowledge the City's financial assistance on all the program's communications and promotional materials, including brochures, posters, advertisements, websites, news releases, signs, etc.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Funding for the Sport Hosting Grants is provided from the PRC Operating Budget with a maximum of \$75,000 set aside annually. Approval of the seven recommended grant recipients for Fall 2025 intake would reduce the funds available for the remainder of 2026 to \$39,500.

2026 Sport Hosting Grant Budget	\$75,000
Balance Available	\$75,000
Eligible Requests in this Report	\$35,500
Committee Recommendation	\$35,500
Balance Available if Recommendation Approved	\$39,500

Respectfully submitted,

Carmen Gonzalez, Deputy General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Sport Hosting Grant – Fall 2025 Intake

Attachment 2 – Resubmission of Sport Hosting Grant Application

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

This report was prepared by Vince Kwong, Manager PRC Partnerships, and Innovation and reviewed by Rebecca Thandi, Director Strategic Initiatives PRC.