

**SPORTS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, March 12, 2026**

A Regular Meeting of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee convened on Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 7:01 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

*\* Indicates virtual attendance*

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Trish Mandewo, Chair  
Councillor Craig Hodge, Vice Chair  
Sara Maglio, Coquitlam Field Sport Association\*  
Andrea Mattinson, Coquitlam Indoor Athletics Association  
Cameron McBryer, Citizen Representative  
Emily Moughtin, Citizen Representative  
Karen Schofield, Citizen Representative  
Isabel Silvestre, Citizen Representative  
Cydney Smythies, Citizen Representative\*  
Carl Trepanier, Citizen Representative

ABSENT: Dan Cooper, Citizen Representative (regrets)  
Erin Davidson, Citizen Representative (regrets)  
Chuck Peries, Coquitlam Tennis Club (regrets)

GUESTS: Joanne Turnbull, Special Olympics Coquitlam (re: Item 2)

STAFF: Jenny Lush, Director Partnerships and Planning  
Doron Fishman, Senior Manager Park Planning and Design  
Kathleen Reinheimer, Senior Manager Parks  
Vinh Truong, Manager Community Recreation  
Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgement.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES****1. Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, February 4, 2026**

The Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 were approved.

**OLD BUSINESS****NEW BUSINESS****2. Community Sport User Group – Special Olympics Coquitlam**

The representative of the Special Olympics Coquitlam gave a presentation entitled “Special Olympics Coquitlam” and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Understanding the participation of athletes with both intellectual and physical disabilities, who constitute the large majority, and related coaching methods.
- Understanding the group’s facility needs, particularly for an athletic track, and considerations for the use of the Centennial Track, Percy Perry Stadium, and the Burk Mountain Athletic Park under construction.
- Concerns about inappropriate or conflicting uses of the athletic track at Percy Perry Stadium during programmed group use, related safety concerns, and difficulty securing public compliance, which may be exacerbated by ableism.
- Understanding challenges and opportunities for volunteer commitment, particularly related to post-secondary students studying in related fields.
- Understanding the group’s aquatic sports programming, and suggestion to participate in the aquatic sports user groups meetings for facilities allocations.
- Understanding the challenges in recruiting younger athletes and suggestions to seek support and partnerships with School District No. 43, Kinsight Community Society, SHARE Family and Community Services Society, and the BC Recreation and Parks Association.
- Understanding the impact of ableism within the sporting community and the importance of leadership in creating inclusive cultures and environments.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- The Centennial Track has not been prioritized in the asset renewal program and renewal is complicated by the extent of repairs needed and siting on School District No.43 property; current use is limited and under risk management.

- Options for enforcement of appropriate use at Percy Perry Stadium will be investigated including volunteer opportunities to serve as facility hosts.

The Chair thanked the representative for their presentation and for the time and effort given to sporting opportunities in the City.

The representative of the Special Olympics Coquitlam left the meeting at this time and did not return (7:34 p.m.).

### **3. Glen Park Redevelopment Update**

The Senior Manager Park Planning and Design gave a presentation entitled “Glen Park Improvements” and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Cydney Smythies entered the meeting at this point (7:39 p.m.).

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Concern that trails leading from the park to Westwood Street result in jaywalking, creating a safety hazard.
- Suggestion that covered picnicking areas include larger tables and seating spaces to accommodate use by families and groups, particularly with the concentration of high-density residences in the area.
- Appreciation of the nature play area shared with Glen Elementary School.
- Suggestion to consider relocating the Inspiration Garden to Glen Park from Town Centre Park when Metro Vancouver construction affects its current site.
- Understanding the focus of the concept plan on passive and flexible use to support recreation of nearby high-density residences and to complement the facilities of Town Centre Park.
- Desire to maintain the great lawn despite many anticipated requests for structured uses.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- The relocation of the dog park to the current siting of a pump track and a beach volleyball court will result in the relocation of the pump track, but no decision has been made regarding the court.
- There is no planned tree removal, but risk assessment arising during the project may result in select removals.
- A variety of shelter options are under consideration for the relocated dog park.
- The project will build on experimentation in other parks with movable furniture that allows for the personalization of the user experience.

The Senior Manager Park Planning and Design left the meeting at this time and did not return (7:56 p.m.).

#### **4. Summary of Qualitative Feedback from Planet Ice User Groups**

The Manager Community Recreation gave a verbal update regarding the following:

- Feedback on Planet Ice was solicited through open-ended questions posed to five user groups, namely Coquitlam Minor Hockey Association, Tri-Cities Lightning Speed Skating, Special Olympics BC, Tri-Cities Female Hockey Association, and Coquitlam Moody Ringette.
- Feedback has been categorized in six areas, namely cleanliness, maintenance, ice condition, customer service, amenities, and temperature.
- On cleanliness, groups reported general tidiness and regular cleaning, but bathrooms and changing rooms need improvement.
- On maintenance, groups reported outdated facilities and lights; needed repairs including bathroom and changing room locks, bathroom leaks, changing room floors, faucet water temperature, exposed wood and screws, and scoreboard lights; and requests for automated doors and sound system improvements.
- On ice condition, groups reported both satisfaction and dissatisfaction.
- On customer service, groups reported high satisfaction with skill and responsiveness, average satisfaction with friendliness, and room for improvement on rule enforcement and communication of operational changes.
- On amenities, groups reported high satisfaction with staff, frequent player use of the fitness centre and pro shop, frequent family use of the restaurant, and requests for a child-friendly menu and restaurant operation at additional times.
- On temperature, groups reported satisfaction when space heaters are working and requests for space heaters to be turned on earlier in the year and for heating of the timekeeper's box.
- Overall, the facility is 30 years old so the primary area for improvement is maintenance and upgrades.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Concern that the feedback may be lacking in depth because users with previous direct experience of the facility may not have been engaged through the current process.
- Desire for improved notification, communication, and potential involvement in consultation processes regarding sport facilities, particularly those such as Planet Ice with previously identified interest from the Committee.
- Request for broader consultation with affected groups, particularly the Indoor Athletics Association, and a suggestion that the Association engage its membership and submit a summary of feedback to staff.

- Desire to understand any relationship between this consultation and the Planet Ice contract negotiation and to ensure the City is well informed for the purposes of contract negotiations.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- For the purposes of this feedback, user groups with direct facility allocations were identified, questions were directed to the presidents of those groups, and feedback was generally provided via a meeting following a period of consideration.
- Staff are open to receiving feedback on an ongoing basis, and communication of concerns, particularly about safety, is encouraged beyond specific consultations.
- Information about ongoing contract negotiations cannot be shared publicly.

The Manager Community Recreation left the meeting at this time and did not return (8:33 p.m.).

## **5. Parks and Capital Projects / Community Services Updates (Standing Agenda Item)**

The Director Partnerships and Planning gave a verbal update regarding the following:

- The new Community Services department is in the final stages of hiring the senior management team and an organizational update will be shared at a future meeting.
- The Poirier Forum is categorized as a covered outdoor facility and as such, there is no plan to add an HVAC system in the 5-year capital plan; the facility is scheduled for regular asset maintenance.
- FIFA World Cup community activations have been approved by Council including four watch parties and an enhancement of the block party program to provide equipment for a neighbourhood watch party or a grant to support a soccer-themed neighbourhood event.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Suggestion to collaborate on watch party events with community organizations and businesses connected to the nationalities of the teams playing.
- Offer to connect staff with a contact on the FIFA Committee to have players come to events in Coquitlam for a meet and greet opportunity.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- Neighbourhood watch parties should be held outdoors on private property, indoors on private property or on a City street as other locations such as City parks introduce issues with attendance, licensing, and safety.

**6. Committee Members' Roundtable / Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)**

The Chair invited Committee members to share emerging issues and information regarding events occurring in their communities.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Concerns about erosion on the Coquitlam Crunch Trail.
- Report that the sign-ups will open March 16 for the 55+ BC Games to be held in Kamloops in September featuring twenty-six sports.
- Report that the Coquitlam Express U17 and U18 academy hockey teams will go to Edmonton for the Junior Prospects Hockey League championships and are seeking sponsorships to cover food costs.
- Report of community feedback regarding the development of the Burke Mountain Community Centre and the absence of an ice rink.
- Interest in a report on the upgrades to the Eagle Ridge Outdoor Pool.
- Report that the Class of 2025 induction ceremony to the Coquitlam Sports Hall of Fame will be held on June 10 at Centennial Theatre.
- Appreciation from and for Coquitlam Metro-Ford Soccer Club involvement in the City's FIFA World Cup watch parties.
- Reports of uncertainty in the FIFA World Cup due to the war in Iran.
- Report of a successful KidSport fundraiser over the previous weekend.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- Baffles are being installed on the Coquitlam Crunch Trail to redirect water that causes erosion into the drainage channel.
- Asset replacement progress in the coming months includes completing work at Riverview Park on the ball diamond, playground, and paving; and starting work at Mackin Park on the field and concession.

**OTHER BUSINESS****NEXT MEETING DATE – Thursday, May 7, 2026**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

**MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

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Councillor Trish Mandewo, Chair

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Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk