

SPORTS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 7, 2026

A Regular Meeting of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee convened on Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 7:00 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*
Dan Cooper, Citizen Representative
Erin Davidson, Citizen Representative
Sara Maglio, Coquitlam Field Sport Association
Andrea Mattinson, Coquitlam Indoor Athletics Association
Dan Trinh, Coquitlam Tennis Club
Karen Schofield, Citizen Representative
Isabel Silvestre, Citizen Representative
Cydney Smythies, Citizen Representative
Carl Trepanier, Citizen Representative

ABSENT: Cameron McBryer, Citizen Representative (regrets)
Emily Moughtin, Citizen Representative (regrets)

STAFF: Jenny Lush, Director Partnerships and Planning
Brian Forrester, Manager Sport Services
Tobi Mai, Director Major Capital Projects
Kathleen Reinheimer, Director Parks
Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgement.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, March 12, 2026

The Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, March 12, 2026 were approved.

OLD BUSINESS**NEW BUSINESS****2. Sport/Recreation User Group – Coquitlam Minor Football Association**

This item was not addressed.

3. Urban Forest Management Strategy

The Director Parks gave a presentation entitled “Urban Forest Management Strategy” and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Appreciation of the arboricultural education and information provided by the City.
- Appreciation of the focus on improving access to nature and of the related physical, mental, and social benefits.
- Report of a partnership between SFU and a Chinese university to develop modelling of planting location and size for optimal benefit to environmental systems, and an offer to make connections with the City.
- Interest in education and awareness related to tree care, particularly regarding water restrictions, and related concerns about neglect of tree maintenance by some commercial property owners.
- Concerns about protecting property against urban interface fires in the context of droughts and water restrictions.
- Interest in education and resolution measures for issues of trees on neighbouring properties creating safety concerns and/or causing damage.
- Desire for the City to be considerate of tree nuisance issues that can impose significant costs on property owners and may provide legitimate bases for appeals for tree removal.
- Interest in the distinction between canopy cover and density of trees and in a measure of density to enhance analyses of forest health.
- Interest in means to encourage production and planting of female trees to combat respiratory challenges arising from high levels of pollen.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- The implementation plan for the Urban Forest Management Strategy includes education and engagement initiatives such as an “Adopt a Tree” program, for care of City owned trees, and incentives and information for planting and caring for the right tree in the right location on private property.

- There is both a Metro Vancouver and City of Coquitlam list of recommended trees and the City's list is updated regularly based on suitability and market availability.
- The City does not have recognized heritage trees or trees of significance, preferring an approach that encourages tree care and planting rather than restrictive bylaws.
- The Urban Forest Management Strategy forecasts a need for a framework of all forested areas including a site-by-site identification of environmentally sensitive areas.
- The Mundy Forest Management Plan provided scientific understanding of the development of understory and taller canopy trees and direction for replanting; it will inform similar management decisions for other large forested park areas.
- The City shares slope stability concerns with Port Moody in management of the forest north of Harbour Chines and prohibits tree removal.
- A provincial program "FireSmart BC" aims to reduce the risk of interface wildfires through education and advice, and analysis in Coquitlam identified two areas on Westwood Plateau requiring work to remove potential fire fuel; that work is planned for the fall of 2026.

The Director Parks left the meeting at this time and did not return (7:46 p.m.).

4. Planet Ice Update

The Director Major Capital Projects gave a presentation entitled "Planet Ice Update" and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Interest in means to avoid situations in which City facilities are allowed to deteriorate.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- While the length of the agreement under negotiation cannot be disclosed at this point, the Major Facilities Roadmap identifies the construction of a new ice facility in approximately ten to fifteen years.
- Feasibility, staging, and scheduling of capital improvements are yet to be determined, but the City would seek to ensure disruption to user group access is minimized.
- The contracted operator would incur the costs of all proposed improvements identified in the presentation.

The Director Major Capital Projects left the meeting at this time and did not return (7:57 p.m.).

5. Coquitlam Sports Hall of Fame Annual Update

The Coquitlam Sports Hall of Fame President, Cydney Smythies, gave introductory comments relative to the report found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to recommendations to attend the Coquitlam Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.

The Chair thanked the President for the presentation.

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:

- Report about the 55+ BC Games this summer including registration, location, and sporting events.
- Appreciation of Burke Mountain Athletic Park and Burke Mountain Community Centre construction progress.
- Appreciation of the free Equip Sport equipment rental boxes.
- Report that the Coquitlam Indoor Athletics Association met with senior City staff regarding Planet Ice.
- Report of private pickleball coaching on public courts at Mariner Park.
- Appreciation of the conclusion of the Eagle Ridge Outdoor Pool repairs and anticipated opening.
- Report of Coquitlam Tennis Club activities including a successful open house with excitement about the coming new courts and a busy season start with leagues and lessons for more than two hundred members.
- Concern about lack of parking at the new tennis courts in Town Centre Park due to the loss of a lot and the location of shared lots at a greater distance.
- Report that the PoCoMo Pickleball Club is working with the three Tri-City municipalities regarding facilities planning in light of a growing membership of over eight hundred; there is a need for a minimum 12 courts in one location in order to host tournaments, and Coquitlam has best potential.
- Request for continued progress on facilities booking process improvements, particularly extending reservations to forty-nine hours and accepting e-transfers; digital signature implementation is appreciated.
- Report that the Tri-City Eagles Field Hockey Association is celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary with an alumni dinner to honor the founder, Brian Lewis.

- Report of grant opportunities including a Tennis Canada grant for court refurbishments and a White Caps and provincial government grant for the installation of multi-sport mini-pitches.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- The Burke Mountain Athletic Park is on schedule to open in late summer 2026, with user group allocations to align with opening.
- A review of all signage across the park system is ongoing; this could be an opportunity to update wording about appropriate and prohibited uses.
- Improvements to the Mundy Park Disc Golf course were recently completed with a volunteer work party by the Mundy Park Disc Golf Club and City staff support.
- The Summer of Soccer Block Party Program applications are now open and the first watch party will take place in June.

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – Wednesday, July 8, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Councillor Trish Mandewo, Chair

Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk