

Facility Excellence Award - South Surrey Recreation Centre

In recognition of its outstanding achievements in the design, development, facility concept, public art and operation, the South Surrey Recreation Centre has been awarded the Facility Excellence Award.

This facility was built with sustainability in mind. Features include gym floors made of sturdy wood that would have been discarded by mill because of its colouring. Geothermal heating and extensive natural lighting reduce energy consumption and the two-story design reduces the building's footprint on the site.

The most important element of excellence is the popularity and utilization of facility by the community.

HIGH FIVE @ Excellence Award - High Five & Quest

Surrey was one of the first communities in BC to offer our instructors High Five Certification. Supporting the healthy development of children is a fundamental part of building vibrant communities in our province. High Five is a quality assurance program, implemented since 2003, along with a Quest Assessment follow up component for Managers and Supervisors. Complete with an information-gathering tool that results in healthy dialogue around camp design, exposure to new ideas and enable quick turn-around enhancements to programs. Community and Leisure Services uses this certification with all instructors, including summer leaders, who instruct recreation programs to children between the ages of 6-12 years. As a result of these changes we have experienced an increase in participation, return registrants and positive feedback.

Program Excellence Award - Greenbrook Kids Clubhouse

The Program Excellence Award recognizes the vision of City staff in creating this one of a kind program as well as the strong partnership between the City and BC Housing. The Clubhouse has been successful in targeting underprivileged youth into a wide range of recreational and social activities that both promote and encourage healthy lifestyles, develop respect for community, building self-esteem, mentorship opportunities and general life skills. The Clubhouse is located at a BC Housing location in the Newton area.

Attendance at the program has been increasing and staff have seen important changes in the youth; vandalism and drug use has decreased. The youth are more connected to their community. When asked about their future they are now talking about pursuing volunteering opportunities and post secondary education.

CONCLUSION

Surrey Parks, Recreation and Culture Department received three awards at the recent BCRPA Symposium held in Victoria on April 24th. Awards were received for **Facility Excellence Award** - South Surrey Recreation Centre, **HIGH FIVE @ Excellence Award** - High Five & Quest and **Program Excellence Award** - Greenbrook Kids Clubhouse. Surrey continues to be a leader in the field of parks, recreation and culture as demonstrated through the receipt of these prestigious awards.

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