

# *Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism Committee Minutes*

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**Present:**

Councillor Hepner, Chairperson  
Councillor Kooner, Vice Chair  
T. Allen, School Trustee  
D. Baird  
G. Bhurji joined the meeting at 6:15 pm  
G. Rai  
K. Sidhu  
N. Sangha

**Absent:**

B. Burnside

**Staff Present:**

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
N. Aven, Director, Parks  
L. White, Director, Recreation Services  
J. Danyk, Community Service Coordinator  
R. MacDonald, Community Service Coordinator  
N. Higgs, Park Operations Coordinator  
A. Patterson, Guildford Manager  
S. Chand, Legislative Services Coordinator

**Guests**

E. Hassan, Last Man Stands Canada  
D. Steyn  
J. Currie  
P. Mehat

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**A. ADOPTIONS****1. Adoption of the Agenda**

It was

Moved by K. Sidhu

Seconded by N. Sangha

That the agenda of the Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism Committee meeting of April 3, 2024, be adopted.

Carried

**2. Adoption of the Minutes**

It was

Moved by Councillor Kooner

Seconded by D. Baird

That the minutes of the Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism Committee meeting of February 7, 2024, be adopted.

Carried

**B. DELEGATIONS****1. Request for Squash Courts in the City of Surrey**

*P. Mehat, J. Currie and D. Steyn*

The delegation provided a presentation on a proposal for the development of squash courts in Surrey. The highlights included an overview of racket sport in B.C and how it promotes a healthy lifestyle for Surrey residents. The delegation provided many examples of the growing sport and an overall study on squash courts available in the lower mainland.

G. Bhurji joined the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Following the presentation the Chair opened the floor to questions/comments from the Committee:

- What is the number of squash courts that are available both privately and publicly? The delegation advised that there is a diverse range of clubs, some run-in partnership with the city for community engagement and some operate privately nonprofit with city participation, although they are not owned by the city;
- What are the current age statistics of participants in B.C playing squash? The delegation shared that the age range of players in the rankings varies between men and women. There is a wide age range for junior and senior squash tournaments, starting from eight years old;
- The Chair inquired about recommendations for the squash court's placement location to which the delegation provided.

The General Manager of Parks, Recreation and Culture noted that staff will conduct an inventory of public courts and public-non-profit partnerships facilities in the lower mainland and report back to the committee regarding potential future opportunities for facility develop in Surrey at a future meeting.

## 2. **Cricket Growth and Community Engagement**

*E. Hassan, Last Man Stands Canada*

The delegation provided a PowerPoint presentation on the importance of the growth and needs of amateur cricket in Surrey through Last Man Stands Canada DEI Foundation.

The Chair thanked the delegation for the presentation and opened the floor to questions and comments from the Committee:

- Cricket BC prepares the wickets and there is one natural turf in Surrey for athletes that require a professional ground;
- Traditional cricket matches can be many hours long throughout the day and evening.

The General Manager of Parks, Recreation and Culture informed that the City currently has thirteen utilized grounds. A new field is being added at North Surrey Community Park located at 97A Ave and 155B St. Two all weather gravel fields at Royal Kwantlen Park have recently been renovated to accommodate tapeball cricket and support the growth of cricket. It was noted that staff will review and reassess allocations due to the rapid growth in utilization for cricket grounds and report back at a future meeting.

**C. STAFF PRESENTATION****1. Accessibility Action Plan 2024**

Staff provided a PowerPoint presentation on the City's updated Accessibility Action Plan that will go to Council on April 8, 2024, to seek endorsement. The Plan outlines the City's commitment to improve accessibility, in compliance with the *Accessible British Columbia Act*. Highlights included:

- The Accessible Canada Act (ACA) was passed in 2019, with the goal to make Canada barrier free by January 1, 2040.
- Council endorsed the draft Accessibility Action Plan on September 25, 2023. Under the ABCA, the City is required to:
  - Establish an accessibility advisory committee;
  - Develop an accessibility plan that outlines how it will identify and prevent barriers for people interacting with or working in local government. The plan must be reviewed and updated at least once every three years;
  - Create a public feedback mechanism.
- Key focus areas of the Plan include:
  - Inclusive service design and delivery;
  - Accessible communication and engagement;
  - Built environment and public spaces;
  - Accessible employment practices;
  - Accessible procurement.
- Community feedback that was received in fall 2023, aligns with the Plan;
- The Plan will be reviewed and updated once every three years;
- Discussion ensued on sensory sensitive individuals that are included in the Plan and considered in delivery of the programs and events.

**D. REPORT****1. Surrey Parks Key Messaging and Metrics**

It was  
 Moved by G. Bhurji  
 Seconded by D. Baird  
 That the Parks, Recreation and Sport  
 Tourism Committee receive the Surrey Parks Key Messaging and Metric Staff  
 Report for information.

Carried

**2. Youth Week May 1-7, 2024**

It was  
 Moved by N. Sangha  
 Seconded by G. Rai  
 That the Parks, Recreation and Sport  
 Tourism Committee receive the Youth Week May 1-7, 2024, Staff Report for  
 information.

Carried

### 3. Status of Cricket Inventory in the City

The General Manager of Parks, Recreation and Culture informed that the City is making ongoing investments in cricket by adding an additional field this year. They will continue to collaborate with the community to ensure fair allocation of resources.

It was Moved by Councillor Kooner  
Seconded by G. Rai  
That the Parks, Recreation and Sport  
Tourism Committee receive the Status of Cricket Inventory in the City Staff Report for information.

Carried

### 4. Outdoor Sports Advisory Committee Meetings Update

The General Manager of Parks, Recreation and Culture noted the significance of building relationships within the sports community and working together to address the requirements of the City's sports development through the Outdoor Sports Advisory Committee.

It was Moved by N. Sangha  
Seconded by D. Baird  
That the Parks, Recreation and Sport  
Tourism Committee receive the Chimney Heights Park Staff Report for information.

Carried

## E. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

### 1. Chimney Heights Park Staff Report – Petition for Community Centre File: 0360-06

The General Manager of Parks, Recreation and Culture advised that Chimney Heights Park enhancement project will continue into next year, with ongoing discussions involving the community.

It was Moved by Councillor Kooner  
Seconded by D. Baird  
That the Parks, Recreation and Sport  
Tourism Committee receive the Chimney Heights Park Staff Report for information.

Carried

**F. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**1. Verbal Updates**

- The General Manager of Parks, Recreation and Culture provided the following updates:
  - Tree planting program for this spring posted on the City’s website: <https://www.surrey.ca/news-events/events/community-tree-planting>;
  - Earth Day celebration at the City of Surrey on April 27, 2024: <https://www.surrey.ca/news-events/news/city-of-surrey-host-largest-earth-day-event-bc>;
  - National volunteer appreciation week April 14-20.

**G. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2024.

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

It was  
Tourism meeting be adjourned.

Moved by D. Baird  
Seconded by Councillor Kooner  
That the Parks, Recreation and Sport

Carried

The Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism Committee adjourned at 7:06 pm.

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Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk and  
Director of Legislative Services

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Councillor Hepner, Chairperson