

AGENDA
HEALTHY SAANICH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room #2
Wednesday October 25, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

1. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** (attached)
 - September 27, 2017 meeting
2. **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**
3. **SPECIAL EVENTS**
4. **ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE AND REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK**
 - Update from Engineering
5. **SCAN UPDATE**
 - Update from SCAN
6. **RECREATION HIGHLIGHTS** (attachment)
 - Update from the Senior Manager, Recreation Services
7. **WORKING GROUP REPORT**
 - Committee discussion

* Adjournment *
Next Meeting November 22, 2017

Please advise Elizabeth van den Hengel the committee secretary at
elizabeth.vandenhengel@saanich.ca or 475-1775 local 3430
if you are unable to attend.

Go Green!
Members are encouraged to bring their own mug to the meeting.

MINUTES
HEALTHY SAANICH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at the Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room #2
September 27, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Chair: Councillor Colin Plant

Members: Dorthy Rosenberg, Marlene Davie, Jean Hodgson, Merie Beauchamp, Nadia Rajan, Jasindra Jawanda

Staff: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Adam Flint, Planning Graphic Technician; Elizabeth van den Hengel, Committee Clerk.

Regrets: Marsha Henderson, Philip He, Peg Orcherton, School District #61 Representative

MINUTES

MOVED by M. Beauchamp and Seconded by M. Davie: "That the Minutes of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee meeting held June 28, 2017, be adopted."

CARRIED

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair provided the Committee with updates and the following highlights are noted:

- Thank-you to the working group who meet over the summer.
- The focus of the HSAC for the balance of 2017 will be multiculturalism.
- The meetings will continue to have a start time of 6:00 pm.

SCAN UPDATE

Committee Member, J. Hodgson spoke to a presentation on restoring the board walk at Swan Lake that was given at the SCAN meeting. Active fund raising is underway to secure the necessary money for the board walk restoration.

MOVEMBER

The Planning Graphic Technician presented an update of the work done by the Movember Organization in promoting awareness of the health needs of men. Movember campaigns have raised significant funds for men's cancer research and for mental health care for men. Saanich staff have been very supportive of the Movember campaign.

MOTION: Moved by N. Rajan and Seconded by M. Beauchamp: "That the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee requests that Council approve the raising of the Movember flag at the Municipal Hall for the month of November in perpetuity to support the Movember campaign."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**RECREATION UPDATE**

The Senior Manager, Recreation Services presented a report of the Recreation Highlights for June, 2017. The following was noted:

- Moonfest will be held from 5:30-8:00 pm at Lambrick Park.
- World class diving events will be held at Saanich Commonwealth Place at the end of September.
- Gordon Head Recreation Centre will host an All Body Swim in November.
- The steam room at GHRC is nearing completion after numerous construction issues.

WORKING GROUP UPDATE

The working group has begun to look at several Saanich policies and procedures through a multicultural lens and the following is noted:

- Very little on multiculturalism mentioned in the 2 documents that were reviewed.
- Little recognition given to diverse populations.
- The literacy level in the Public Policy Handbook is high, which can pose problems for citizens whose English is a second language.
- Saanich does not have clear definitions of diversity, multiculturalism and culture.
- Inclusionary practices should be expanded from the standard socio-economic definition to include cultural/diversity inclusiveness.
- Recreation Services have more references to diversity, multiculturalism and ethnicity.
- City of Victoria has a Cultural Master Plan.
- Consider creation of a "Social; Planner" position within Saanich to facilitate multiculturalism.
- Next step could be to perform a gap analysis with respect to Saanich and multiculturalism.
- City of Victoria has a Cultural Master Plan.
- Creation of a Saanich demographics should be considered.
- Explore Saanich as a Sanctuary City as Saanich is ethnically diverse.
- How can definitions of culture, diversity and inclusiveness be included in Saanich policies?
- The Director of Planning will be invited to give a presentation to the Committee on OCP Planning and how culturally significant data could be integrated.

**** M. Davie left the meeting at 6:45 pm****

****N. Rajan left the meeting at 7:15 pm****

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for November 22, 2017.

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary

DRAFT



The Corporation of the District of Saanich

Report

To: Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee
Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee

From: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager - Recreation

Date: 10/19/2017

Subject: October 2017 Monthly Report

RECOMMENDATION

That the Parks, Trails and Recreation and Healthy Saanich Advisory Committees receive this report as information.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the Committees with an overview of the previous month's Recreation Divisions activities.

DISCUSSION

Change in Centre Managers

After 25 years as the Manager of Saanich Commonwealth Place, Tom Bryce has decided to retire - or "re-position" as Tom calls it. Tom's legacy is truly second to none. His leadership and management of SCP is visionary, while his support of high performance aquatic sports reached international waters, and his support of community programs and opportunities for Saanich residents spans generations. Best wishes to you and your family Tom for a long and healthy re-positioning. Tom's last day with Saanich will be Tuesday, October 31st.

Effective November 1st, Charlene Parker will move from Gordon Head Recreation Centre to Saanich Commonwealth Place, Steve Meikle will move to Gordon Head from Pearkes and Chris Filler will become the acting manager at Pearkes until the process for a permanent manager is completed.

Special Events

The **Moon Festival - Lantern Celebration** took place on September 30th at the Gordon Head Recreation Centre and Lambrick Park. An estimated crowd of 3000+ took part in the event. Parking lots were completely full within 20 minutes of the event starting, and long lines were consistent at all planned activities. The weather was decent for late September, and despite some clouds and showers during set-up, the moon did make an appearance along with a beautiful rainbow above the illuminated labyrinth.

This free, family friendly event welcomes people of all ages and cultures to share in an uplifting creative cultural celebration that featured live traditional Asian dance and musical performances by community groups; lantern making for children and a sampling of mooncakes and traditional green teas. The event culminated with outdoor lantern installations, and the illuminated community lantern procession through the park followed by an outdoor musical performance by the Lion Dancers.

Marking the “Harvest Moon” is a cultural practice celebrated by many Asian cultures around the world. Moon Festival Lantern Celebration fosters understanding and appreciation for cultural diversity by sharing Asian cultural traditions in music, arts, dance and performance, as well as offering hands-on opportunities for everyone to participate.

Moon Festival 2017: Canada 150 Lantern Contest

This year, as part of the special Canada 150 and national Culture Days celebrations, Saanich Parks and Recreation ran a Community Lantern Contest and offered prizes for lanterns created by community members. Prize-winning lanterns were to reflect one or more of the major themes of Canada 150: diversity and inclusion, reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, the environment and youth.

Community members rose to the occasion with some very creative lanterns! Here are some responses from prize winners:

“[my son] decided on the Jellyfish since it is the Oceans that connect us together here in Canada (we were thinking that [my son] has family that have come from across both Oceans). The Moon festival is one way that [my son] is able to participate in his Chinese heritage. We both look forward to the festival each year and try to come up with some new each year. The prize money will no doubt go to next year’s festival. As it is the year of the Dog (his year) the lantern will be even more elaborate. [My son]... is proud of his effort.... He was so excited we had to telephone is Opa to share the news.”

“Both [person] and my family are so happy that we got the prize... Thank You. We will make something bigger next year...”

The contest was very well received and supported the event’s goals for community engagement and the celebration of diversity and creativity. It is hoped that in future we will be able to find small additional resources or sponsorship to host the contest again.

Cedar Hill Campus

Despite the weather-delayed start to the golf season this year, the new Junior Golf program, supported by the Lleutwyler Foundation Endowment to the Cedar Hill Golf Club, was extremely successful. Through schools, summer camps, SNAG (Start New at Golf) and Golf Canada Future Links, over 400 children aged 4 – 17 and their families were introduced to golf. The 8-17 year old program was full at 24 participants and we hope to double that number in 2018. Youth in this program participated in Future Links which covers skills, rules, etiquette, sport psychology, health and fitness, playing and competition, and life skills (honesty, teamwork, “sports-personship” and emotional regulation). There is also a component of this program for parents on sport introduction for children and the roles of parents and coaches. All the participants received a hat and cute fuzzy animal club cover, as well as their own online account to track their progress. Parents got to participate with their children in a fun 9 hole tournament and BBQ in late August and the turnout was exceptional.

The Arts Centre received BCRPA funding for a pilot afterschool program with neighbouring schools that provides creative exploration, outdoor experiences and physical activity. Creative Pathways - a partnership with nearby Doncaster Elementary – runs Mondays with students taking part in a "walking school bus" through Cedar Hill Park, exploring nature along the way, followed by a fun hands-on creative activity in the Arts Centre studios. The program runs throughout the school year.



A Call for 2018 Exhibitions for individual and group shows is underway for the Arts Centre at Cedar Hill and Saanich Municipal Hall. Deadlines are October 31 and November 1 respectively.

On exhibit through the coming months at The Arts Centre:

October 4-29, 2017

- Main & Café Gallery: Victoria FCA Fall Exhibition - Works by the Federation of Canadian Artists - Victoria Chapter

November 1-27, 2017

- Main Gallery: West Coast Dreaming - Anne Bowen
- Café Gallery: Realism and White - Keith Taylor and Elizabeth Murrison

Community Services

Our third season of the IPAL (Intergenerational Physical Activity Leadership) program is revving up to begin in the second week of October. The IPAL program integrates grades 4 and 5 students from Marigold Elementary School, grade 10 students from Spectrum Community School and older adults in our community. Members from each of these age demographics participate together in leadership training to prepare themselves with the tools necessary to lead playground games and activities during the lunch recess at Marigold Elementary School to all grades K-grade 5. Past evaluation has shown that as a result of participation in this program, participants have experienced a significant change in creating positive attitudes between the demographic groups. Following two 2-hour training sessions, the IPAL program will run for 6 weeks during lunch recess Mon-Thursday and will culminate with a health fair for all the leaders to enjoy. Another component of the IPAL program provides an opportunity for the grade 4/5 leaders to learn how to teach gentle chair aerobics to older adults. Following training and practice, the grades 4/5 will travel to an older adult facility and teach their first chair aerobic fitness class!

Grant funding continues to reach new records; presently over \$70,000 has been allocated to funding requests through the support of the Canadian Jumpstart Charities program. These funds have supported children ages 4-18 years to participate in activities both in Saanich Recreation and in outside sport/dance/martial arts etc. organizations. Our internal grant funding program KidsFUNd continues to support children whose programs are not supported through Jumpstart funding.

With youth drop-in programs in full swing, we are seeing a shift with past participants moving along to other activities and new participants joining us for Girls Group, Sports on the Courts, Wheel Riders and Friday Nights are Alright. The Flipside Youth Activity Centre is partnering with Saanich Neighborhood Place to offer R.A.F.T. (Reducing Anxiety for Teens) in which referred youth are learning socialization skills using play and recreation in our Teen Centre. Open Houses and Safety Fairs have been attended by Youth Staff at schools and stores to promote our programs and services as healthy, recreational options for maintaining one's quality of life. Colquitz Middle School's Boys Group is attending The Flipside weekly as an opportunity to practice social skills.



Girls Group recently practiced food literacy skills by cooking and enjoying a diverse meal together. Participants often exclaimed how impressed they were with themselves! A number of the girls have grown up in Saanich programming, and are familiar with the staff and have parents who appreciate our reputation. One of the participants lost her mother a few years back and her dad recently lost his job. Our Youth Leader Tammy Williams



provides a consistent maternal figure in her world. One of our own Youth Staff grew up in foster care and is concurrently learning life skills like these herself, as she prepares to lead the group.

On the heels of running a very successful drop in program for girls at Royal Oak Middle School (ROMS), we have started a similar program for boys at ROMS. The program, run by staff at the Upside Teen Centre at SCP follows the same formula of great staff, safe space and tons of fun activities, events, and games for the Grade 6-8 boys to dive into. This partnership program with SD63 sees a counsellor from the school paired up with one of our amazing Saanich staff to deliver much needed lunchtime support for this growing school. This collaboration embodies many of our Youth Development Strategy outcomes.

Another great community program is our Toastmasters for Youth initiative which runs out of the Upside Teen Centre at SCP on Saturday mornings. This free program, in its second season has 19 youth registered. The participants range in age from as young as 8, all the way up to 16. The program is designed to give young people a chance to practice their public speaking skills in a safe space, and gain an increased feeling of comfort in performing this much needed social and career skill. This unique and valuable program would not be possible without the generous support of our volunteer leader Fred Jones.

G.R. Pearkes Recreation Centre

The Gold Rink at Pearkes Recreation Centre turns 50 years old during the 2017 – 2018 hockey season. The exact date of the grand opening was October 6, 1968 however records from various teams indicate that they began to play at Pearkes in the 1967-68 season, including the Saanich Braves Jr. B Hockey team, who are also celebrating their 50th season. There will be events throughout the season with a “kick-off” skating event on Saturday November 4th and the Saanich Braves celebrating this milestone on Friday night, November 10th. The primary celebration event will happen on Family Day, February 12, 2018.

The Pearkes' Hockey Program has a new sponsor this year. In the past it has been sponsored by the Royal Bank. However they have now focused their funding elsewhere, so Edges on Ice Power Skating Program has taken on the role of primary sponsor for this program. The Pearkes Hockey Program provides an affordable opportunity for children and youth to learn to play the game and experience playing hockey when they might not otherwise be able to due to financial barriers. Between 70 and 80 children and youth between the ages of 6-12 participate in this program each year.

Pickleball continues to grow in participation rates and opportunities at Pearkes. This fall a Pickleball league has been started by several players organizing and recruiting competitors. The Victoria Pickleball Association is also organizing advanced play and league play options for competitors this fall.

Ice allocations have reached a point where there is very little remaining time available. New groups to join the Pearkes' community this fall include: South Island Jr. Royals Hockey team, the Greater Victoria Firefighter's Hockey league and the Burnside Gorge Community Centre Out of School Care Program. These are consistent rental user groups in the facility add to the overall use of space and ice.

The busy fall trade show season at Pearkes is well underway. Events hosted by the Pearkes Fieldhouse so far this September and October include a Bridal Exhibition, Baby Fair and Toy Show.

Upcoming events include:

October 20-22: Victoria Home Show

November 4: Teen Fest

November 4: Kickoff event for Pearkes 50th Anniversary

November 10-12: Craft Fair

Gordon Head Recreation Centre

The steam room OPENED after a lengthy delay. So far patrons are very happy with the operation and continue to rate it as the best in Victoria. There are a few lighting issues that remain outstanding, but they do not currently impact use of the steam room.

The Bert Richman building will get a small upgrade with new acoustic panels to support the growing Swing Dance Club that meets weekly in the dance hall. This has been a great use of the aging “barn” and the club's events are well attended by the community.

Staff turnovers in the aquatics programming team will mean 2 new faces over the next few months.

Saanich Commonwealth Place

SCP hosted the Pan Am Junior Diving Championship September 28- October 1. Teams from Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Columbia, Brazil and Cuba competed in this event. There was very good media coverage, and local divers, Bryden Hattie and Kiera Lu took home silver medals, while Carson Paul a bronze medal.

Several more meets are scheduled for the rest of October, culminating in the annual Water Polo Spooktacular Tournament with 200 plus participants expected.

On the dry side, SCP has piloted a monthly, two hour blood pressure clinic, using the facility's Take Heart staff. Clinics are hosted in our main lobby and about 25 people stopped by to take advantage of this new service on the first day.

The Indian Cultural Association hosted the Vishki Festival at SCP, with 300 in attendance. This is a women's event with dancing and food, and many of the dance groups rent weekly practice space at SCP during the year.

The universal change rooms have been re-opened to the public after a month long closure for retiling. Patrons are extremely happy to have this much used resource back in operation. Areas along the front sidewalks along the main drive have been dug up and repaired, where the tree roots had heaved up the sidewalk.

Upcoming events:

FLU Clinics - November 9, 16, 23 & 30 1-6pm

Victorian Christmas Craft Fair - November 18 & 19

Blood Pressure Clinic- November 30 10am-Noon


November 10, 11, 12 - Bennett Cup Swim Meet (450-500 athletes expected)

November 24, 25, 26 - Canada West University Swim Championship (250 athletes expected)

Submitted by


Kelli-Ann Armstrong
Senior Manager – Recreation

Approved by


Suzanne Samborski
Director, Parks and Recreation

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