

AGENDA
For the Special Meeting of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee
To be held in Council Chambers
Saanich Municipal Hall, 770 Vernon Avenue
Wednesday, April 7, 2021 - 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Due to COVID-19 measures, Saanich is unable to accommodate the public for any Council, Committee of the Whole, Advisory, Board or Foundation meetings while maintaining the limits on large gatherings due to the Public Health Order.

As per the Order of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, *Emergency Program Act*, Ministerial Order No. M192, public attendance at the meeting is not required if it cannot be accommodated in accordance with the applicable requirements or recommendations under the *Public Health Act*.

To hear this meeting by phone, please call: 1-833-214-3122
Access code: 78381253#

- 1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT**
- 2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
 - March 3, 2021 (attachment)
- 3. CHAIR'S REMARKS**
- 4. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY & OLDER ADULT STRATEGY**
 - Staff report and presentations (attachments)
- 5. PRESENTATION – HELLO, HOW ARE YOU?**
 - C. Anseeuw, City of Edmonton, Department of Social Development. Speaking to ongoing local mental health initiatives such as:
 - [Urban Isolation/Mental Health Council Initiative](#) (includes the Hello, How Are You? Campaign)
 - [Living Hope: A Community Plan to Prevent Suicide in Edmonton](#)
 - [Community Mental Health Action Plan](#)
- 6. REVIEW OF COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN**
 - Continuation of committee discussion
- 7. DIVISION REPORTS**
 - For information (attachments)
- 8. COMMITTEE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**
 - Mental health, the overdose crisis, climate change, housing crisis and participatory democracy. Updates as applicable.

Updated version: February 2021

Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement

It is appropriate that we begin by acknowledging that the District of Saanich lies within the territories of the ləkʷəŋən (lay-kwung-gen) peoples represented by the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the W̱SÁNEĆ (weh-saanich) peoples represented by the Tsartlip (Sart-Lip), Pauquachin (Paw-Qua-Chin), Tsawout (Say-Out), Tseycum (Sigh-Come) and Malahat (Mal-a-hat) Nations.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement

We are committed to celebrating the rich diversity of people in our community. We are guided by the principle that embracing diversity enriches the lives of all people. We all share the responsibility for creating an equitable and inclusive community and for addressing discrimination in all forms.

MINUTES
HEALTHY SAANICH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Council Chambers
March 3, 2021 at 6:03 p.m.

Present: Councillor Ned Taylor (Chair), Clare Attwell, Carren Dujela, Kam Judge, Liz Miller (SCAN), Abigail Toledo (via teleconference), Jasindra Jawanda (via teleconference), Nadia Rajan (via teleconference), Jasmine Noble (via teleconference).

Guest: Stewart Guy, Chair of Resilient Saanich Technical Committee.

Staff: Cristina Caravaca, Senior Manager, Community Services; Rebecca Newlove, Manager of Sustainability; Adriane Pollard, Manager of Environmental Services; and Megan MacDonald, Committee Clerk

Absent: Silvia Mangué Alene and Ryan Henderson.

MINUTES

MOVED by C. Dejula, and seconded by L. Miller: "That the minutes of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee meeting held February 3, 2021 be adopted as amended."

CARRIED

AGENDA

MOVED by C. Dejula, and seconded by L. Miller: "That the March 3, 2021 Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee agenda be amended to include "Strategic Priorities" on the agenda as item 8."

CARRIED

RESILIENT SAANICH FRAMEWORK

The Manager of Environmental Services presented the Resilient Saanich Draft Goals and Objectives overview (Powerpoint on file). The following was noted:

- Resilient Saanich is a framework of existing/improved/new bylaws, policies, strategies, programs and procedures. This includes a new Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, the Climate Plan and enhanced stewardship opportunities.
- The Resilient Saanich Technical Committee (RSTC) has been appointed to work with staff to shape the "Resilient Saanich" Environmental Policy Framework.
- The Resilient Saanich Draft Goals and Objectives have been published. Public engagement is currently taking place to gather feedback.
- When the engagement is complete, staff will present the proposed goals and objectives to Council. Council will decide on the final goals and objectives.
- Members of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee are encouraged to provide feedback on the Resilient Saanich Draft Goals and Objectives.

In response to comments from members of the committee, the following was noted:

- Members of RSTC were appointed by Council. The committee membership includes professionals with a variety of environmental related backgrounds including public servants, First Nation's representatives, and trained biologists. More information on each of the members is available on the Saanich website.
- Marine regulations and protections are needed, such as bylaws and policies to protect the shoreline during developments. The Islands Trust staff are a great resource for information on shoreline development permits and regulations.
- The public engagement includes committee feedback, virtual open house sessions, feedback forms, videos, newspaper advertisements, information at senior's centres, as well as targeted stakeholder engagement.
- Kristi Bridgeman created the artwork for messaging related to the RSTC, which depicts the good, the bad and the ugly aspects of the community that can impact biodiversity.

A. Pollard and S. Guy exited the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

CLIMATE PLAN REPORT CARD

The Manager of Sustainability provided a verbal update on the Climate Plan Report Card (Powerpoint on file) the following was noted:

- The Climate Plan is a detailed plan to reduce Saanich's greenhouse gas emissions. There are six focus areas, which detail 131 actions to achieve the Climate Plan goals.
- The Climate Plan Report Card is an annual report on progress made towards the goals and actions outlined in the Climate Plan.
- Saanich received an "A" grade through the global Carbon Disclosure Project for monitoring and reporting on sustainability initiatives and environmental impacts.
- Changes have taken place with how Saanich reports emissions regionally, in addition to global methodology changes. These changes have improved the accuracy of reporting.
- Considerable progress was made in 2020 despite the COVID-19 pandemic, which had an impact on financing and community engagement opportunities.
- Highlights of the actions taken are provided, along with progress on corporate targets, overall progress on 2020 actions, progress by focus area and detailed summaries.

In response to comments from members of the committee, the following was noted:

- Community Engagement targets and actions are being adapted as festivals and events are not happening with the ongoing pandemic.
- There is a lack of decentralized programs that foster neighborhood engagement. The Saanich Neighbor to Neighbor program is currently being discussed with One Planet Saanich and Greater Victoria Acting Together to get input on how to bring people together in a safe manner during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- There could be benefits to providing free bus passes for youth.
- The off-street parking review will improve the walkability of neighborhoods, as well as enable neighbors to engage meaningfully within the community.
- It is helpful to understand opportunities or barriers that users of active transportation and public transportation experience, especially when it comes to equity. Decision makers having experience with the services they provide is beneficial for all.
- Rebates do not benefit those who cannot afford to purchase the items up front.
- Car pollution is an issue, it is important to get youth using active transportation.

 J. Jawanda exited the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

REVIEW OF COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

The members of the committee provided a verbal update on the feedback related to the Saanich's Strategic Plan. The following was noted:

- The COVID-19 pandemic is anticipated to significantly impact the mental health of the general public.
- Presentations on innovative ways to manage mental health effects can be arranged.
- The committee could make recommendations to Council on what can be done locally.

MOVED by J. Noble, Seconded L. Miller: "That the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee recommend that Council make the following additions to the District of Saanich Strategic Plan 2019-2023:

Page 6 of the Strategic Plan, under "Goals: Community well-being: A healthy community is a worthy investment," add text:

- **Support the mental health and well-being of our residents in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Page 11, under "Initiatives/Actions Community well-being" Add:

Initiative:	Description:	Timing:
"Explore ways to support the mental health of Saanich residents, in response to the COVID pandemic."	Implement initiatives that improve or support the mental health of Saanich residents through policy development, education and public outreach programs. The Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee to develop a special post-COVID mental health strategic recommendation report for Council's consideration and response.	2 years."

During committee discussion, the following was noted:

- The local government has the closest connection to residents. There is an opportunity to look at how the mental health of residents can be supported. The Healthy Saanich Advisory Council (HSAC) has identified mental health as a priority topic.
- Mental Health is not mentioned in the Strategic Plan.
- There is ongoing research to help manage mental health related repercussions of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. HSAC could explore low cost or free recommendations to support mental health for consideration by Saanich Council, tailored to ensure recommendations fall within the local government jurisdictional boundaries.
- It is important to support community groups (such as Block Watch) that promote decentralized participatory learning and community engagement. This helps to improve the quality of neighborhood relationships and build resilience.
- Workshops for residents and the community associations about the Saanich Neighbor to Neighbor program and other local initiatives would be appreciated by all.

- Mental health should be a priority in all aspects, not just in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

MOVED by L. Miller and seconded by K. Judge: “That the motion be amended to remove the wording: “in response to the COVID-19 pandemic” in the “Goals” section.

The amendment was CARRIED

The main motion, as amended was CARRIED

Main Motion, as Amended:

“That the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee recommend that Council make the following additions to the District of Saanich Strategic Plan 2019-2023:

Page 6 of the Strategic Plan, under “Goals: Community well-being: A healthy community is a worthy investment,” add text:

- Support the mental health and well-being of our residents.

Page 11, under “Initiatives/Actions Community well-being” Add text:

Initiative:	Description:	Timing:
Explore ways to support the mental health of Saanich residents, in response to the COVID pandemic.	Implement initiatives that improve or support the mental health of Saanich residents through policy development, education and public outreach programs. The Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee to develop a special post-COVID mental health strategic recommendation report for Council’s consideration and response.	2 years

Further discussion on feedback related to the Strategic Plan took place, the following was noted:

- It is important to look at some of the colonial aspects of the Strategic Plan.
- The Saanich motto is provided in English and Latin, but there are not any indigenous language translations or considerations.

MOVED by C. Dejula and second L. Miller: “That the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee recommend that Saanich Council consider the Strategic Plan through a post-colonial lens and to visit the language and structure of the Strategic Plan to ensure that it is equitable and reflects the diversity of the community.”

Committee discussion ensued with the following comments:

- Marginalised communities may not be able to interpret the Strategic Plan as the primary format the plan is provided is a document written in English.
- It is important to consider equity in the way we communicate materials.
- Council should look at the plan from a place of unpacking colonialism.

MOVED by K. Judge, seconded by L. Miller “That the motion be amended to add “and is accessible to all”.”

The amendment was CARRIED

The Main Motion, as amended was CARRIED

Main Motion, as Amended:

“That the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee recommend that Saanich Council consider the Strategic Plan through a post-colonial lens and to visit the language and structure of the Strategic Plan to ensure that it is equitable, that it reflects the diversity of the community and is accessible to all.”

UPDATE ON OVERDOSE CRISIS

The Chair provided an update on recent Council actions related to the overdose crisis, the following was noted:

- On February 8, 2021 Saanich Council unanimously passed a motion to submit a resolution to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) and Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) declaring the overdose crisis as a national public health emergency.
- On March 1, 2021 Council unanimously passed a resolution to advocate for appropriate funding and commitments to new policy, budget and legal framework that fulsomely supports creation of a separate and distinct system to address the volume and variety of mental health calls requiring rapid response through the Provincial Government.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The strategic priorities will be added as a standing item on the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary



The Corporation of the District of Saanich

Report

To: Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee
From: Cristina Caravaca, Senior Manager of Community Services
Date: 4/7/2021
Subject: Report on Youth Development and Older Adult Strategic and Implementation Plans

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee receive this report for information.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Committee on the Older Adult and Youth Development Strategic and Implementation plans.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (YDS) 2015-2020: 2020 marked the fifth and final year for the YDS, but it is in no way a stopping point for programs that have been developed in response to the six YDS initiatives: Increased Participation, Collaboration, Risk and Outdoor Play, Social Wellbeing, Youth Spaces and Communication. Successful programs have been developed in all of these areas, and we now have a full complement of meaningful activities that are geared specifically toward youth. Additionally, these programs act as a continuum to the school-age programs that have always been offered by the department.

It is important to acknowledge that much of the work done to respond to these YDS initiatives is progressive in its approach and builds upon the traditional recreation programming model. While there are certainly sport and physical literacy activities- the brunt of YDS offerings focus on low-cost or no-cost mental health, social inclusion, job readiness, homework help, creativity, nature exploration and providing safe spaces for marginalized youth (i.e. Low Income, BIPOC, LGBTQ2+). Resoundingly, these topics are what Saanich youth tell us they crave. The global pandemic only heightened the demand by youth and their families who were now without the structure of the school day to help guide their development. With that understanding, the Provincial Health Orders identified an essential need to continue providing these types of programs, even if the numbers had to be smaller and the distances between friends greater.

Now that the initial implementation phase of the YDS is complete, Community Services intends to move into a period of maintenance in order to support the newly established programs. We feel that at this time we have adequate youth participation, as well as collaboration from local services organizations and the school districts, to continue generating meaningful relevant programming for the community. In addition, we anticipate the development of a new departmental strategy coming forward for Parks, Recreation and Community Services within the next two years. Reflection and evaluation of Youth Services programs will be a component of that strategic work.

For more detailed examples of the 2020's youth programs, please see Attachment A.

OLDER ADULT STRATEGY (OAS) 2017-2022: With full funding in place in May 2020 Saanich was able to complete or take action on a number of goals from January to March 2020. Many of these were challenged due to the COVID pandemic, but staff continuously retooled the programs to fit within COVID safety parameters, and the outcomes are listed in Attachment A.

Several notable successes occurred this year such as the “HeaArts Together” program that provided free art-making kits to assisted living facilities. Residents were encouraged to paint a clay or wooden heart with a personal message of togetherness, and then the hearts were displayed publicly and in an online gallery. Programs like this have allowed those who are the most isolated to engage in COVID safe community activities. Along a similar vein, Community Services coordinated live performance to take place on the grounds of assisted living facilities so that residents could be treated to a live music concert right from the safety of their own window. For those who could safely get outside, the guided “Gentle Walk and Talk” program has been an easy way to get exercise and reduce the social isolation of quarantine.

Earlier in the year the NEAT (Neighbors Engaging in Activities Together) was in full swing; meeting residents in their neighbourhoods and coordinating trips to locations that would otherwise be hard to reach. Staff was also supporting programs for elders at the Victoria Native Friendship Centre in much the same way. Staff would meet with the group, hear their requests, and then coordinate and provide the desired activity.

Several OAS goals for wellness have been completed, such as the walkways at Horner and Lambrick Park, and the “Seniors Social and Movement Class” which was designed to provide social, exercise and recreation opportunities for adults with mild to moderate cognitive decline. Creative opportunities are always popular with residents and the “Voices in Motion” and “Community Art Circle” both had a strong following before being paused for safety. These programs can restart easily when restrictions lift.

We know that communication is crucial to wellness and connectedness for Older Adults and as such, emphasis has been given to support communication and outreach strategies that are specifically geared to the community. The Community Services webpages have been populated with “at-home” activities like Brain Busters and Healthy Recipes, and also provide information on “What to Expect” when you are able to visit Recreation Community Centres again. The CONNECTIONS guide is being produced with information specific to older adults on programming, COVID requirements, partner resources and transportation opportunities. The Parks Washroom strategy is complete and the plan provides for clean washrooms in key areas to encourage residents to get out and get active without fear of not having an appropriate facility when they need it. The Parks web pages also host up-to-date information on washroom amenities and changes due to COVID.

Finally, the Older Adult Signage Strategy for Recreation Community Centres was completed at the end of 2020. It has many recommendations that will enhance navigability for older adults who visit our sites, and is set for implementation beginning in 2021.

For more detailed examples of the 2020’s older adult programs, please see Attachment A.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

At this time the Youth Development Strategy is fully funded and has sufficient resources to continue providing the services described within the plan. Additional resource and non-discretionary requests will be brought forward in a timely way to keep up with expenses and inflation.

Full funding for the Older Adult Strategy was not approved until mid-year 2019. While much progress was made after the allocation was received, COVID19 arrived in the spring of 2020 and created significant

barriers to service delivery. Saanich's older adult population is currently receiving vaccinations in our community, and we are ready to restart programming once Provincial Health Orders allow. At this time, the program is awaiting Council's funding decision for the fiscal year 2021.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The implementation of the OAS and YDS directly support the Saanich Council Strategic Plan 2019-2023 under the goal of "Community Wellbeing". The initiatives that comprise both the OAS and YDS actively promote that "diversity, respect and inclusion is vital" and that we take action to "acknowledge the diversity of our community and changing demographics, and ensure the inclusion of all by adapting Saanich plans appropriately". We also affirm that through the outcomes of the OAS that we will "continue support to the Age-friendly Initiative"

CONCLUSIONS

Saanich Parks, Recreation and Community Services recognizes and values the diversity of the community and endeavors to provide meaningful activities that enrich the lives of residents no matter their age, ethnicity, orientation, gender identity, national origin, ability or financial means. The pursuit of these community-driven strategic plans has been a meaningful journey that has laid a solid foundation of participant-driven practice for the department. COVID-19 has only enhanced our commitment to providing these crucial services to those who need them ensuring that, in Saanich, "Everyone Belongs".

ATTACHMENTS:

A. 2020 Highlights of YDS and OAS Goals, Actions and Outcomes

ATTACHMENT A

2020 HIGHLIGHTS
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (YDS) and OLDER ADULT STRATEGY (OAS)
GOALS, ACTIONS AND OUTCOMES

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

YDS INITIATIVE: Increase Participation		
GOAL	ACTION	OUTCOME
Engage youth in decisions about program and service design.	Directly involve youth in program and service design.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth Programmers engage participants at all three teen centres, and Cedar Hill Friday Night on an ongoing basis to help evaluate and create new and exciting programs - Specific programs resulting from these engagements include: Breakout Adventures Youth Summer Camps, Outdoor Adventure Club, Art Workshops Series such as Intro to Watercolour and Needle Felting, Job Readiness like Low Cost First Aid & Food Safe Certificates
	<p>Create new introductory-level programs at recreation centres and parks to encourage youth to try something new in friendly environments</p> <p>Initiate discussions with Aquatics and Fitness Programmers and Centre Managers recommending late-night access to swims, skates and weight room specifically for youth 15-18 years.</p> <p>Work with local sports and arts organizations to provide entry-level opportunities for youth of all ages (e.g)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - From 2016-2020 we have seen an increase in introductory programs available including: Healthy Cooking Programs at GHRC + Job Skills Readiness workshops, Intro to Karate Programs Introductory classes for a variety of art mediums with Cedar Hill. -Programmers will continue to make this a priority for youth in 2021 and beyond - Girls Only and Boys Only weight room orientations at SCP currently running - Youth Programmers are currently working with the Aquatics dept. at GHRC to collaborate on Advanced Aquatic & swimming stroke development programs for youth in anticipation of the lessening of COVID restrictions -Continued with our partnership for HEROS (Hockey Education Reaching Out Society) to provide entry level hockey opportunity to ~18 youth despite COVID, this is the only program in Canada still able to operate during COVID Pandemic.

		<p>-Cedar Hill has increased the number of introductory classes for youth in Badminton and Tennis with full registration as this is a COVID friendly – physically distanced program</p> <p>-Cedar Hill Squash Club provides free equipment and entry-level instruction in a youth-friendly environment</p>
Continue to reduce cost barriers for youth	Initiate discussion between Saanich LIFE Programmer and Youth Services Team to review current LIFE offerings for youth and recommend ways that Saanich can enhance existing levels of service and awareness to youth	Expanded Saanich-based LIFE Youth Passes have been highly promoted. Youth using the LIFE program has risen significantly since the introduction of the low barrier adjudicator form. This is one of our most successful outcomes of the YDS Strategy, reaching our most vulnerable and marginalized youth. This will continue to be a focus for youth programmers in the years to come.
Create "Safer Spaces" for disadvantaged youth, which may include indigenous, immigrant, LGBTQ2+ and socially isolated youth	Youth Programmers will continue to build relationships and create programming with groups of youth who are not accessing recreation due to social marginalization and/or isolation as a direct result of the barriers they face due to mental health, identity and home instability.	<p>- Through partnerships with Saanich Neighbourhood Place & Grow Counselling, referred and provided free mental health support, and crisis intervention to youth in need at the Flipside Teen Centre/Tillicum Community. <i>Note: this program is temporarily curtailed while the Flipside is being used as a fire station.</i></p> <p>- Expanded support (staff and resources) for LGBTQ2IA+ drop in at Backdoor.</p> <p>- Expanded 2SQTY(2SpiritQueerTransYouth) Program at Upside Teen Centre at Commonwealth in order to increase the number of youth attending under COVID safety protocols</p>
YDS INITIATIVE: Collaboration		
GOAL	ACTION	OUTCOME
Renew relationships and agreements with School Districts 61 and 63 regarding youth Recreation and Parks opportunities located in middle and high schools in Saanich	Invite discussions and deepen relationships with schools, administration, counsellors, teachers, district and school PACs who are committed to youth development and extracurricular opportunities	<p>-The creation of the Teacher & Schools Resource document has been shared with our community of schools. It outlines all we have to offer, financial assistance for youth through LIFE and our Youth Start Up funding.</p> <p>-Youth Programmers continue to meet regularly with school partners to discuss training opportunities, job skill development programs and programs to address mental health, stress and anxiety.</p> <p>-Although COVID has slowed these meetings down, Claremont Secondary has still requested assistance with mock interviews</p>

		and Grade 12 Cap Stone Presentations, as well as continued support for the Duke of Edinburgh Awards.
Increase internal department collaboration related to increasing youth recreation	Meetings held to increase collaboration between Saanich departments	-Think Tank was held similar to Lunch and Learn that allowed for discussions of needs, wants, and dreams for youth programming. Increased collaboration has been done with the Parks department and individual centre based meetings have occurred. -Programmers increased youth programming for tennis and badminton programs -Arts Programs at CHRC with a series of workshops have been successful.
Collaborate with Regional Youth Service agencies and networks	Advocate the YDS Strategic Priorities with regional youth serving agencies and other government and NFP organizations.	-Youth Services are represented at regional meetings, including: Health and Recreation Partnership (HARP), Mobile Youth Services Team (MYST), Inter-municipal Recreation Youth Workers Committee, Youth Services Provider Network (YSPN) -Youth Services continue to work, support and are represented with our NFP partners such as Saanich Neighbourhood Place (SNP), The Foundry, ICR, VIRCS, VNFC and Community Living among others.
Build relationships with local Aboriginal organizations, communities and councils as well as immigrant and settlement service providers	Youth Programmers initiate a meeting structure with regional partners. that is mutually beneficial with Songhees Nation, Victoria Native Friendship Centre, Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria and Victoria Immigrant Refugee Centre Society, and Community Partnership Network to support youth development in their communities	-An increase of understanding and responses to the needs of new comers to Canada and our Aboriginal Youth -Weekly meeting spaces is allocated to VIRCS and ICA at our Youth Centres, Syrian Youth groups are given space after their swimming times. -To increase cultural awareness, Jessica Underwood a partner with VNFC presented Red Willow Dream Catchers for youth at Flipside. Telling the traditional story with harvested red willow from the Langford region, dream catchers were made by youth individually or in a small group, a truly beautiful way to pass down culture and create deeper understanding.
YDS INITIATIVE: Risk and Outdoor Play		
GOAL	ACTION	OUTCOME
Promote the benefits of outdoor play and risk with the goal of increasing the number and variety of outdoor opportunities	Champion outdoor play for youth in our programs, parks and services, provide outdoor program options, and promote outdoor options over indoor options	-from 2016-2020 an increase in outdoor youth offerings have taken place with Outdoor Adventure Clubs increasing from 1 days to 2 and monthly out-trips learning skills from whittling to shelter building in all-weather types.

		<p>-Break Out Adventures Youth Summer Camps have gone from its humble beginnings to running at full capacity several weeks throughout the summer. These have included Bike trips thanks to our SPD partners.</p> <p>-These opportunities have provided knowledge and self-assessment skills on risks vs hazards and allows for unstructured exploration of the natural surrounds throughout all of our outdoor programming.</p>
	Propose new and inventive ideas into playground design, youth specific spaces and park features	<p>-Working with Parks partners to engage youth in park design projects (Reynolds, Horner, Rosedale and Cedar Hill) through school surveys.</p> <p>-Horner Park upgrade was completed with a youth element added in 2020</p> <p>-Tripp Station Bike Pump Park underway</p>
Engage youth and youth champions (parents, grandparents, teachers etc.) in parks planning and decision-making processes for community parks, trails and open spaces	Parks staff adopt youth-friendly practices to invite youth and youth champions to participate and engage in planning,	<p>-Youth have been integrated and involved in meaningful decision making, especially with the Tripp Station development.</p> <p>-Youth Services will continue to work with the Parks department to recruit youth in the planning/designing/implementation of youth elements for parks</p>
YDS INITIATIVE: Social Wellbeing		
GOAL	ACTION	OUTCOME
Support positive mental health programs and resources for youth. Create awareness of how to mitigate the effects of high levels of stress and anxiety in youth population through parks and recreation	Promote recreation, culture and the arts as some avenues to support positive youth mental health specifically addressing alarming rates of anxiety, stress, depression and mental health issues	<p>-Youth are increasing the use of recreation activities to reduce the effects of stress and anxiety, previously the New Roots program out of the Upside Teen Centre, and Workin' on Wellness program out of the Flipside Teen Centre.</p> <p>-Partner with SNP & Grow Counselling with beloved therapy dog Lawrence, to help provide much needed mental health support to youth in the Tillicum Community</p> <p>-Currently Arts Workshops, Outdoor Adventure Club and ongoing support groups (LGBTQ2IA+) have offered outlets of expression for anxiety and depression since COVID has begun.</p> <p>-Working now and in the future to provide Trauma Informed Yoga with our partners Grow Counselling.</p>
	Work with School Districts 61 and 63 counsellors and staff to enhance school initiatives regarding mental health.	-Ongoing collaboration, relationship building and pilot programs aimed at improving mental health started with SD 61 and 63.

	Share resources, develop supports (e.g., arts, introductory dance classes, walking club, facilitated outdoor play, learn to run, yoga, meditation, etc)	<p>–Some of these programs include: Steppin’ up to High School referral transition program with SD61.</p> <p>-2016-2017 Pro Boy and Pro-G Day activities helped to address ongoing issues related to mental health through art, games and more & yoga classes at lunch in Lambrick High School</p> <p>-2018-2019 saw programs offered within the schools and requested by youth for Dance Clubs, lunch hour sports, and Girls/Boys Only groups.</p> <p>-As COVID restrictions begin to lift, Youth Programmers will once again prioritize supporting school administration, Counsellors and teachers offering recreation programs and support for mental health issues.</p>
	Collaborate with Victoria Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (SD61) and Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils of Saanich (SD63) to host parent education/info sessions in a variety of venues and settings	<p>-Working with our partners in the Inter-municipal Youth Committee & Schools, we have provided several successful speakers and educational sessions. They have included:</p> <p>Gordon Neufeld, Janet White, & the screening of Screenagers with the White Hatters</p> <p>-Mental Health First Aid Workshop for parents and caregivers was provided at the Backdoor Teen Centre.</p>
Enhance spectrum of Youth Leadership and Development Opportunities	Continue to support and develop summer leadership programs including Teens In Action 1 and 2 (12-15 yrs) and Internship (16-18 yrs)	<p>-Provided relevant leadership training to youth in the form of successful Teens in Action and Internship programs from 2016-2019.</p> <p>-2019-2020 Internship programs went through a low, then suspended in summer 2020 due to COVID</p> <p>-Currently we are receiving a number of calls and inquires re: our TIA & Internship programs of which we will be addressing with Leadership programs and volunteers in our SNPP program.</p>
	Work with School Districts 61 and 63 to create volunteer opportunities for job shadowing, work experiences, and career/skill/transitions	<p>-Working with Career Planners at SD61, Youth Programmers worked in partnership for the Springboard to Success & Girls On Fire Programs. These are transitional programs to help support the next steps in school or for job prep. Programmers were able to provide punch cards to Recreation, Parks & Trail Maps and mentorship potential.</p>
Support life skills, work-readiness, certifications, artistic	Complete a scan of existing Saanich and regional	-Throughout the YDS implementation, Youth Programmers provided a variety of job

practice and career development initiatives for youth to increase employability while contributing to youth well-being	offerings, and research successful models for programming and certification offered in other municipalities	readiness & life skills courses and workshops. They include: Low cost first aid, Food Safe, Jewelry making , maker to market program, naloxone training at GH and SCP, and with our SD partners: Girls on Fire, Steppin' Up and Spring Board to Success. -This has become a priority on the work Youth Programmers do to help our Youth in the Community develop skills to become future healthy contributing citizens.
YDS INITIATIVE: Youth Spaces		
GOAL	ACTION	OUTCOME
Refocus Youth Programmers' roles on the new expectations for collaborative work with schools, agencies and community	Community Services Manager with Youth Programmers to determine the Youth Programmers' new responsibilities moving to a community development approach to programming and community engagement	-From the YDS Implementation in 2016 to 2020 and beyond, Youth Programmers in Youth Services have refocused their portfolios to collaborative work with our SD 61 & 63 partners and other youth serving organizations like SNP, ICA, VRCS and VNFC, as seen in multiple examples of collaborative programming offered. -It is the goal of Youth Programmers to continue this good work and look forward to re-connecting in person with partners after COVID
Maximize use of Teen Centres for youth	Initiate discussions with potential partners to enhance existing services and programs for youth and families (e.g. Public Health Nurse, Youth Clinicians, Youth and Family Counsellors)	-Ongoing meetings with Youth & Family Counsellors from our schools to discuss programs to address youth in need of support -Working with Grow Counselling and partnering with SNP to provide individual support and small group support for youth in our Tillicum area -Continuing to plan and meet with SNP & Island Health over possible future programming to meet the needs of youth in our community
	Utilize Teen Centres as resource 'hubs' for youth in the community	-Teacher & School Resource Guide for our Youth Centres designed and given to schools -Youth Spaces given for groups at the school to meet in a peaceful, safe and private place -Resources posted in Teen Centres and a Mental Health Resource Guide designed for staff regarding youth health and wellbeing. -Maximized through community user agreements, and other youth serving agencies using teen centres as meeting places.
Create youth opportunities in the Cedar Hill area.	Youth Programmers will co-lead planning with Cedar Hill Recreation Centre staff	-Along with Friday Night Social Programs and free weight room orientations Youth

	regarding drop-in and low-cost opportunities for youth (e.g. arts, social and sports drop-ins)	<p>Programmers and Programmers from CHRC have collaborated on Youth Art Workshops.</p> <p>-These Youth Workshops have been designed to help youth express themselves due to social isolation due to COVID, but also with other mental health issues, stress and anxiety through a variety of art mediums,</p> <p>-CHRC programmers assisted with finding the appropriate art specialists to deliver these programs</p>
Improve Teen Centre Facilities	Improve kitchen facilities at Flipside (stove/dishwasher - Pearkes) and Upside (stove - SCP) Teen Centres	<p>-Plans for the kitchen renovation at Pearkes Flipside are complete and the renovation project is now in the Pearkes capital improvement queue.</p> <p>-Flipside would benefit from this Kitchen renovation with a stove to teach youth in this Community food security, basic life cooking skills, nutrition and meal planning.</p> <p>-Nutrition education and cooking skills have been integrated into Teen Centre programs, e.g. Life Skillz cooking at the Backdoor and Upside (pre-COVID)</p>
YDS INITIATIVE: Communication		
GOAL	ACTION	OUTCOME
Involve youth in the co-creation of creative, innovative and progressive communication strategies to youth	Utilize the Community Arts Specialist as a resource for creative artistic opportunities	<p>-Low cost Art Series will begin this Spring Break e.g. Jean Jacket /Canvas painting Bob Ross Style!</p> <p>-Needle Felting & Intro Watercolour for Youth with the aid of Art Specialists through CHRC</p>
Ensure communication to youth is youth-friendly, age-appropriate, relevant and current to changing needs, trends and technology	Adopt best practice of 'going to youth' to promote programs as current methods have not been effective in reaching youth	<p>-During non-COVID times, programmers would regularly meet at schools and provide lunch hour programs where they would disseminate information and build relationships with youth and teachers.</p> <p>-Information and posters are given for school newsletters & PAC meetings</p> <p>- Even in this past COVID year, schools have still requested information re: programs and Claremont Secondary regularly asks for assistance for programming with their students.</p>

Create a regional communication plan to promote the L.I.F.E. program to youth	Work with regional partners and the Inter-Municipal Recreation Youth Programmers Committee to identify multiple avenues that inform youth and their families of the available options	-With the creation of the Adjudicator form, School Counsellors have successfully been able to access LIFE for youth -It has improved clarity regarding the benefits available through the LIFE program -Since the YDS implementation the number of youth accessing LIFE is: 2018 - 374 2019 - 397 2020 – 242 2021 – 77 (as of just Feb 17th)
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OLDER ADULT STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS

OAS INIATIVE: Programming Continuum		
GOAL	ACTION	OUTCOME
Older Adults have access to wide range of social opportunities	<p>Cedar Hill Social Club (CHSC), Recreation Centres and Saanich partners continued to provide opportunities from Lawn Bowling, Bridge, guest speakers, art sessions, socials, skating, water fitness, tax help, woodworking, intergenerational and exercise programs</p> <p>HeArts Together collaborative community art project responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by inviting the community to come together creatively while remaining close to home designing hearts individually that were then displayed collectively at five public parks and online for all to enjoy</p>	<p>General provision January to March with limited resumption through summer, fall and winter</p> <p>CHSC full operations January to March, resumed chair fitness and brain games September to December in 2020</p> <p>Project approved May and first HeArt made June 2020. 250 Older Adults involved. New Relationships, additional collaborations formed and ongoing from this project</p>
2.d Share information with older adults and Parks and Recreation staff to encourage use by self-organized groups	Self-organized multicultural and event group supported by Gordon Head staff with use of lobby and multi-purpose room to celebrate, hold potlucks and inclusive gatherings	Active January to March 2020 Eager to return when allowed with public health orders
3. Saanich offers a diverse range of outdoor programs	Gardening, gentle walks in trails and parks, croquet and music events were available throughout the year	Gardening group maintained yearlong, walks January to March, resumed June to December and summer croquet opportunities in 2020

3.a, 9.c Explore new opportunities for outdoor programming	Music events were provided on site at non-profit seniors housing. Older Adults participated from their balconies	July, August and September 2020
Design programs for 75+ population	Diversification of walking program to include “easy” walks for 70+ years, or persons wanting shorter, flatter, fully paved walks	Feedback received fall 2020 Program starting January 2021
5. Opportunities offered at modest, low or no cost to older adults	Continued to offer Community Art Circle a low-cost, low-barrier program with access to the joy of art making, in a creative and socially supportive environment	Ran January to March and September to November 2020
6. The benefit of parks and recreation on older adults’ social, mental and physical health is measurable	Joint venture between Saanich Recreation, Island Health and the University of Victoria Medical Sciences to review the longest standing (23 year) collaborative program between Island Health and Recreation, the Take Heart Program	Review complete 2020 Presentation of results February 2021
8.a Develop and pilot respite programs where caregivers and the cared-for can participate in recreation with a grant and funding	Seniors Social and Movement class continued with social, exercise and recreation opportunity for adults with mild to moderate cognitive decline. Gave caregivers a break for themselves. Funded by Island Health grant	September to November 2020
8.b Collaborate with community organizations for input on how caregivers can access support, in order to maintain their health through recreation programs	Continued collaboration with Voices in Motion Choir. Caregiver and older adult with dementia participated together maintaining health and social wellbeing through the joys of singing together and being part of a choir.	January to March 2020, offered independently virtually by instructor after March but eager to return when able
10. Health services and programs are offered to support older adults	Take Heart program continued to be offered to older adults with chronic disease and for cardiac health	January to March 2020, resumed September to December 2020, Ongoing
10.c Identify potential funding sources to support community health services in centres	Review identified as a necessity for evaluation of Take Heart program sustainability	Review complete 2020 Presentation of results February 2021
11. c Create a Volunteer Greeter program where adults are trained to assist	Volunteer Greeter program with Welcome Ambassadors ran at Saanich Commonwealth	January to March 2020 Volunteers at SCP, SCP staffed March onwards,

those new to centres, available at designated hours to provide individualized attention for older adults	Place (SCP) and new volunteers for Cedar Hill planned for 2020	Volunteers planned start at Cedar Hill February 2021
OAS INIATIVE: Age-Friendly Spaces		
14. a Saanich spaces are welcoming and inclusive environments for older adults, explore Welcome Kiosks in the lobbies of each centre	First welcome kiosk established in lobby of Saanich Commonwealth Place in 2019, second kiosk purchased for Cedar Hill in 2020	Saanich Commonwealth Place ongoing use through 2020.Cedar Hill install February 2021
14.c Create signage strategy for department	Signage strategy underway	Consultant hired, strategy completion expected 2021 First signage implemented in Cedar Hill Golf Club renovation expected 2021 Resource request for 2022 centre implementation
14 CONT. b Create public washroom strategy with Saanich Parks	Implementation continues with Saanich Parks, strategy complete 2019	No new washrooms added in 2020 2021 plans to convert and open 6 washrooms previously only available to private clubs as well as add 2 pit washrooms, one portable washroom and two new washroom buildings at McMinn and Playfair parks
18. b Older Adults have access to safe outdoor and indoor walking opportunities	Work done on viability of accessible outdoor walkway loops to be completed in vicinity of recreation centers	Gordon Head completed walkway and paved connection with the bus stop 2020 Horner Park renovation complete with loop trail, outdoor fitness station seating and picnic area available to older adults 2020 Cedar Hill gravel pathway installed to complete walkable loop around centre 2020

		Cedar Hill Park Management Plan approved and completed October 2020 with minor landscaping to be completed 2021
OAS INIATIVE: Collaboration		
19. d Work with community partners to expand community-based opportunities for social connection	Networking and partnership group expanded to include Victoria Native Friendship Centre (VNFC) and Community Response Network	Added as partner in 2020 Connections Guides Elder program offered at VNFC in partnership with Saanich Community Services Plan H grant secured to provide community meals to introduce community groups to resources. Delayed due to COVID, coordinating a virtual community social meal instead
20.b, 23. a, b, e Work within Health and Recreation Partnership (HARP) to identify new opportunities	Continued use of Community Wellness grant for Neighbours Engaging in Activities Together (NEAT) project. Provided outreach programs to older adults in residences, introduced recreation opportunities and decreased isolation	January to August Funding still available for 2021
23.e Meet with cultural groups to define needs and how Saanich can assist in creating opportunities and programs	Community services staff attended Victoria Urban Reconciliation Dialogue's Event, an advisory panel gathering hosted by the Victoria Native Friendship Centre (VNFC)	February 2020
OAS INIATIVE: Enhance Communication		
28. New guide specifically for adults 50+ year	Produced CONNECTIONS throughout the year	Winter/Spring/Fall CONNECTIONS Guide
30. a, b Older adults are more aware of the LIFE program	Cross marketed information and promotional presentations at 55+ show, Burnside Gorge Community Centre and Cedar Shores	In person January to March and online in Spring
31. Older adults are aware of accessibility features of Saanich parks, trails and recreation services	Newsletter to Cedar Hill Social Club (CHSC) with monthly update on accessibility and safe participation information, recreation services, news, brain games and recipes	In print switched to email distribution in 2020

<p>34 Report annually on outcomes of OAS</p>	<p>Saanich's Older Adults Recreation webpage added simple healthy recipes, brain busters and safe participation information</p> <p>Cedar Hill Social Club (SHSC) instructor calls to members to check in, provide information and keep in contact</p> <p>Created a report format and developed an annual report</p>	<p>2020</p> <p>December 2020 Ongoing in 2021</p> <p>OAS Report submitted</p>
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Youth Development Strategy Year Five Report | 2020



PARKS, RECREATION
& COMMUNITY SERVICES

*“Thank goodness
you’re open!”*

- Backdoor Youth participant

In response to COVID-19, Child & Youth Services have adapted programming to ensure the needs of our community youth are met in meaningful ways. Activities described in this report occurred either before the onset of the pandemic, or have been adapted to meet Provincial Health requirements.

Increase Participation



- Breakout Adventures Youth Summer Camps were at full - 100% capacity
- Additional low cost pottery classes and art workshop series added at Cedar Hill Rec Centre
- Continued HEROS Hockey Program with 18 participants
- LIFE Program continues to expand each year with a simplified form, allowing School Counsellors to help youth access recreation services and programs
- Expanded program for the LGBTQ2+ Community at Upside Teen Centre enabling access to this vital program for mental health and wellbeing support

Collaboration



- Continued partnerships with schools including Claremont High school requesting ongoing support with Mock Interviews and Cap Stone Presentation for grade 12 students in preparation for life beyond high school
- Collaborated with SNP, school counsellors and Grow Counselling provided mental health programs and support to youth at the Flipside Teen Centre. Flipside Teen Centre; suspended to provide temporary Fire Station
- Ongoing partnerships with Recreation Centre Programmers and Youth Services to provide youth low cost and introductory programs for the Arts, Aquatics, Skating, and nutritional cooking programs

Risk and Outdoor Play



- Increased offerings in Outdoor Adventure Club to twice weekly with monthly trekking out-trips, running at full capacity
- Youth driven outdoor skill development has included:
 - Safety in fire building for camping
 - Whittling
 - Knot tying
 - Shelter building in all-weather types
- Unstructured outdoor play exploration intentionally added to youth break out adventures summer camps & programs
- Horner Park completed in 2020 with Youth elements added
- Tripp Station Bike Pump Park underway



Social Wellbeing



- Development of low cost life skills programming including: Low Cost First Aid & Food Safe Certifications & Nutritional Cooking, meal prep & planning
- Provided Mental Health Recourse Guide for staff working with youth
- Provided free mental health counselling and support for Youth at the Flipside, accompanied by Lawrence the therapy wonder dog
- Low cost/no cost art workshops for youth allowing expression of self through a variety of art mediums
- Increased programming times and support for LGBTQ2+ Community at the Backdoor and Upside Teen Centres

Communication



- Saanich branded materials delivered to schools to help promote healthy active living and youth programs at our Youth Teen Centres
- Community Artists provided a variety of art workshops including needle felting and intro to water colours
- The Backdoor Teen Centre displayed youth art creations that represented youth in recreation as a promotion for our programs
- Saanich Youth Services: Community & School Resource Guide developed and delivered to teachers and schools with a focus on:
 - Youth Centre Information
 - Programs & Services Available
 - Financial Support (LIFE)
 - Grants & Funding Requests – Youth Start Up & Wolf's Den Grants

Youth Spaces



- Provide meeting space and networking opportunities to school groups and our nonprofit youth serving partners such as ICA, VIRCS, SPN
- Expanded services to meet the needs of large groups seeking support in our LGBTQ2IA+ and Community
- Adapting youth programs in the Pearkes Fieldhouse while the Flipside Teen Centre houses the Fire Station. These programs are at max. capacity and continuing to support youth in the Tillicum community
- Development of new leadership structure for overall efficiencies of the Youth Teen Centres programs and financial accountability during COVID and beyond
- Backdoor Teen Centre continue to be a hub of activity for low cost life skills programs including low cost first aid, and cooking programs as well as offering a peaceful, safe meeting space for supporting youth from Lambrick High school GSA program



By the numbers

100%
Full Capacity

for Breakout Adventures
Youth Summer Camps



110

Youth Certified
in Red Cross
Babysitters
Course



9036

Archery arrows shot at
Cedar Hill Recreation
Centre in 2020



250 Saanich branded yoga
mats, basketballs, waterbottles,
footballs and sport bags given to
youth to promote youth services,
recreation and healthy living

5

Bikes donated by
Saanich Police
Department for
biking out-trips in
youth camps.



97 Registered
dryland youth
programs offered in
2020 despite COVID



228

Diapers changed by
youth in the Red Cross
Babysitters Program



33

Youth attended
Under 16 Tennis
Development



72

Youth attending
Friday Night Skates
at Pearkes
(Jan-March 2020)

48

Youth attended the
“Green Ball FUN”
program at Cedar Hill
Rec Centre (Racquet
programs)



18

Participants
in HEROS
Hockey
Program –
the ONLY
HEROS
Hockey
program
operating in
Canada during
COVID



**Youth LIFE
Participants:**

2018

374

2019

397

2020

242
DESPITE
COVID



PARKS, RECREATION
& COMMUNITY SERVICES

Older Adults Strategy Report Year Three 2020

In response to COVID-19, Older Adult Services have adapted programming to ensure the needs of our older adult community are met in meaningful ways. Activities described in this report occurred either before the onset of the pandemic, or have been adapted to meet Provincial Health requirements.

Programming Continuum



Self-organized Older Adults were supported at Gordon Head to inclusively connect January-March over potlucks and celebrations on site.

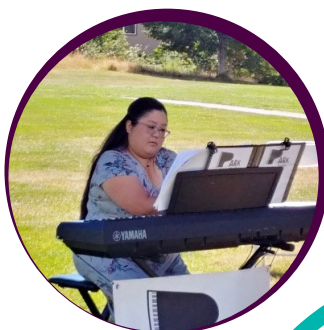
Outdoor programs diversified throughout the year:

- Live music performances delivered on the lawns of low-income housing
- Consulting over the fall with walkers about an "easy" 70+years walking group

Low-cost, low-barrier Community Art Circle program occurred during seven months of the year, supporting creative expression and social connection

Continued support of caregivers and companions January to March with:

- Voices in Motion Choir where caregivers and "carees" with dementia participated together in all the benefits of choir membership and singing together
- Seniors Social and Movement Class, with Island Health, provided social and movement benefits for older adults while caregiver had respite opportunity



Age Friendly Spaces



Second Welcome Kiosk purchased for Cedar Hill Community Recreation Centre following successful model at Saanich Commonwealth Place

OAS signage strategy continued into final stages. Implementation planned over the next few years

Outdoor walkways became more accessible:

- Gordon Head Walkway Trail Loop connection to transit stop
- Horner Park renovation complete
 - Loop trails
 - Outdoor fitness station
- Cedar Hill gravel pathway, walkable loop around centre installed





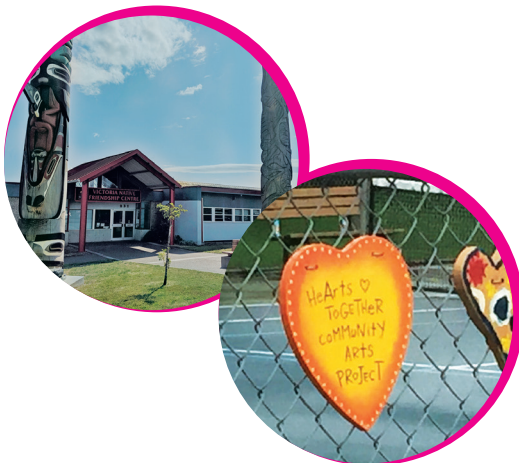
Collaboration

Networking partnership expanded to include Victoria Native Friendship Centre (VNFC) and Community Response Network



- Staff attended Victoria Urban Reconciliation Dialogue's Event
- NEW in FEB! Elder program offered at VNFC in partnership with Saanich Community Services
- HeArts Together Community Art Project supports isolated and vulnerable community members, to collaborate artistically, sharing their care of our community

At risk of isolation and in low income housing Neighbours Engaging in Activities Together (NEAT) program continued to provide outreach and introductory recreation opportunities in Saanich



Enhance Communication

Safety precautions and Welcome Back messages during **Covid-19**

NEW! Related Links resource added to website with Saanich partners and Older Adult service providers



CONNECTIONS Guide targeted for Older Adults was printed for Winter/Spring and Fall 2020 issues. Focused on:

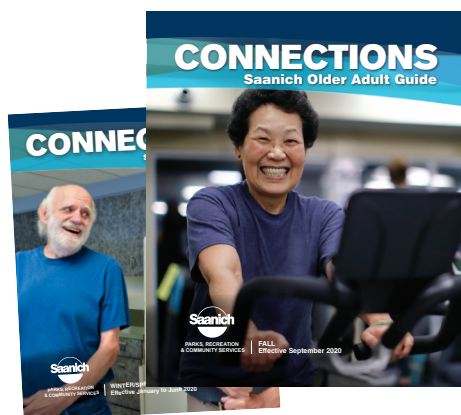
- Fitness and wellness program opportunities in recreation centres and with community partners including Try Before You Buy and Fee, Low Cost, Under \$30 activities
- Transportation options getting to activities
- Saanich Community facilities map
- Saanich Community Recreation Centre amenities, features and staff contacts
- Financial assistance LIFE and Older Adult Assistant Card information, passes and memberships information promoted
- Saanich Recreation Health Professionals information for physiotherapy, massage, aquatic and athletic therapy services

- Volunteer opportunities in Saanich
 - Table tennis
 - Welcome desk
- Class, program and site schedules and descriptions
- Parks and Trails washrooms and signage updates
- Special Interest Clubs listings
- Community resources listings
- NEW! Victoria Native Friendship Centre information
- Registration Information
- Special Events
- Information on how to give feedback and guide further development of CONNECTIONS Guide





By the numbers



12,000

Older Adult Resource guides printed and distributed to...

28 Agency partners,
4 Recreation Centres and 7 CRD,
20 BC Housing Centres &
6 Neighbourhood Housing Centres



41

Of Covid-19 safety measures taken to deliver 1 Older Adult low intensity exercise class



1

Welcome Greater Kiosk added to Cedar Hill

1437

Registrations for free guided walks

1

Intergenerational Cooking Night in February

100+



Check in calls staying connected with our Cedar Hill Social Club members



219

Cedar Hill Social Club member visits since August 21st



166

Seniors Social table tennis reserved drop-ins



7

Social Cooking Classes January to March



29

Of participants 60+ who used the added free weight room orientations

1

Strategy for signage in final stages \$40,000, implementation in 2021 & 2022



11

Months of newsletters with Brain Games, Updates and Healthy Recipes

20

People in Voices in Motion Choir January to March

1

HeArts Together Community Art Project

250 Older Adults contribute

5

public park sites



The Corporation of the District of Saanich

Report

To: Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee

From: Cristina Caravaca, Senior Manager of Community Services

Date: April 7, 2021

Subject: Community Services Division Update

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee receive this report as information.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an overview of Community Services division activities.

DISCUSSION

Inclusion and Accessibility: We are happy to report that overall, Spring Break 1-on-1 support services in a day camp setting were a success! After hiring two external candidates to join the team of returning Inclusion Leaders, the department was able to support 12 of 15 families that requested 1-on-1 assistance for their child to attend camp. In partnership with Recreation Programmers, our staff completed training and orientations to safely work at their specific locations, as COVID-19 safety protocols are of utmost importance to our clients and employees who work closely together.

Summer hiring was completed in the first week of March. The department continues to work on projecting the demand for 1-on-1 services for July and August. To uphold the integrity of the program, the hope would be to secure 10 to 12 full-time staff placements over the summer to meet the needs of the community in our Recreation day camps.

As discussions of vaccines and reduced Provincial Health Order restrictions increase in the community, more inquiries about the Leisure Assistant Pass (LAP) begin to filter in, as more people start to think about returning to our programs. Inclusion Services has seen an increase in demand for the need of flexibility with LAP registration in each municipality (ex. cross-border exceptions or more user friendly applications). Many third-party, health service organizations are experiencing barriers to assisting their clients with LAP applications. These barriers can happen for various reasons inter-municipally. Proudly, the feedback of Saanich's customer service is very positive but there is still a longing for a centralized approach.

Older Adult Services: Communicating with and predicting Saanich's Older Adult program needs is a top priority. As the COVID-19 immunization plan reaches more Older Adults and PHO Orders shift, we have begun pre-production work on our Older Adult targeted CONNECTIONS Guide, which will communicate the opportunities available in June, July and August and also share channels of communication letting us know what current and emerging needs are.

We have been working with centres to assist making their spaces Welcoming and Older Adult and all visitors friendly. We are in discussion of a third Welcome Desk planned for purchase this year and Volunteers are at Cedar Hill Recreation Centre adding to the staffed desk at Saanich Commonwealth Place. We have also been working with Dementia Friendly Victoria to enhance our understanding of what our centres and programs are like from a dementia friendly perspective.

Community Arts: Family Arts Festival, Community Services and Cedar Hill's Arts Centre's signature Family Day event wrapped up its month-long activities with families and individuals contributing "hands-on" and "at-home" to several community art projects. Families created clay hearts for the **HeArts Together Community Art Project** that will be assembled into a mosaic this month at Cedar Hill. Hand-made flags were stitched or painted to contribute to a **"Festive Flags" Community Bunting Project** that will grow through the coming months and celebrate our community connectedness even while large-scale events are still not possible. Poetry, art, and words of gratitude were



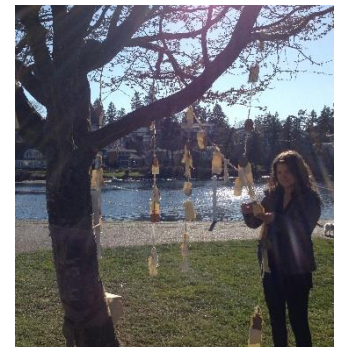
added by community to a collaborative art piece included in **"Sense of Belonging: A Creative Mindfulness Walk in Nature"** at the Gorge Waterway. Feedback received on this outdoor site-specific interactive community art piece has been overwhelmingly positive, with requests for more similar projects! One woman posted online: *"I was quite surprised and touched. What a great idea and the kids loved it. I really did feel a connection to community... What a great initiative and gift in the community."*



The HeArts Together Community Art Project nears wrapping up, with bright new installations in parks, including at Onyx Park, including hearts made by nearby residents of Luther Court and a neighbourhood Beavers group. <https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/parks-recreation-community/arts/hearts-together-community-art-project.html>



Two art interventions from *Sense of Belonging: A Creative Mindfulness Walk in Nature*, Gorge Waterway, with art therapist Kaitlin McManus.



Exhibitions: New Saanich Municipal Hall Exhibits begin in April and will be included in next month's report. Cedar Hill Arts Centre Exhibitions continue to be on hold with current health order limitations.

Diversity and Equity: The first Community Connections Zoom Lunch was held March 3rd with 13 Elders from Victoria Native Friendship Centre and 10 seniors for Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria. Elder Frank George from Songhees Nation joined us and opened the lunch with a welcome. There was a food offering and prayer then everyone enjoyed soup, salad, bannock and a dessert that was delivered the day before. Each person introduced themselves and there were cultural sharings provided by both groups. Everyone really enjoyed the lunch together and plans are underway for the next two lunches.

Financial Assistance: The initial uptake of LIFE registrations for 2021 is promising and shows that Saanich residents are still in need of financial support in order to access recreation. Saanich LIFE registrations are the greatest in comparison to our neighboring six Greater Victoria Recreation

Departments. With increasing confidence, positive changes and safety measures in place, LIFE participation is anticipated to continue to increase throughout 2021. There have been challenges posed with the elimination of the annual pass the LIFE participants could purchase at 50% off the cost. Some LIFE participants are recreating 4-6 times per week and therefore exhausting their 52 free passes quickly. Saanich Recreation Managers are reviewing the financial impact of the LIFE program and considering ways to enhance support to clients.

Additional financial support for underserved schools continues in 2021 as well. The Tillicum after school program completed their first 10 week program running 2:45-4:45pm Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays of 2021 supporting 60 children living in low income homes to access recreation. An additional 10 week program will commence following spring break.

Saanich Earth Day Festival returns in 2022: We are not able to offer the Saanich Earth Day Festival this year due to the on-going global pandemic and provincial restrictions on social gatherings. We look forward to the day when restrictions are lifted, but in the meantime we are excited to offer a new virtual event.



The Saanich GeoQuest is a virtual outdoor scavenger hunt. Participants will explore Saanich to find a series of 20 locations in parks, on trails, and at community facilities. On their quest using active transportation, they can explore the community and discover unique natural and cultural heritage sites. Two new locations will be posted each day on the Saanich Parks, Recreation and Community Services Facebook page starting on Earth Day, Thursday April 22.

Child & Youth Services: Spring Break successfully ran low cost Art Workshops for Needle Felting and Bob Ross Style Painting; creating happy little accidents on canvas, jean jackets and recyclable bags! Although classes were small to ensure COVID safety protocols, they were full of laughing and smiling teens; a wonderful sound filling our teen centre!



Volunteers: The volunteer program is getting ready to relaunch now that some provincial restrictions are being lifted and recreation program offerings continue to expand. Currently volunteers in existing programs have been able to continue their roles, such as Parks Pulling Together Ambassadors, but we are looking to expand and offer new opportunities to students and residents looking to offer their skills.

REPORT TO: Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee

DATE: April 7, 2021

FROM: Eva Riccius, Senior Manager, Parks

SUBJECT: **Parks Division Update – April 7, 2021**

The following update is provided for the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee:

Community Development and Business Systems Section:

Park user groups

Staff are busy meeting with all sport user groups and clubs that are planning for their 2021 adapted spring season (COVID 19 approved). This involves meeting with 15 ball clubs, 3 lawnbowling clubs, 3 community garden clubs, 1 football club and 1 lacrosse club.

In terms of allowable activities with current Provincial Health orders in effect, youth are still permitted to have skills and drills. Very little adult activities are allowed at the moment, except rowing, singles pickleball and tennis, or doubles if they live in the same household. While sport groups are hopeful for games and tournaments, this will be determined by Provincial Health orders in the coming weeks and months. Staff make changes to allowable activities and provide information to park user groups as information is provided by the Province.

Park Partner Applications

Several clubs are following the process to apply to carry out projects in parks. Currently, there is an application to expand the dock at the Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club. The VCKC is not asking for funding from Saanich but needs to get authorization as the dock sits in a water licence that the municipality has with the Province. The application provides a letter of support from the Gorge Waterway Initiative, and the Tillicum Gorge Community Association. While Saanich Parks has approved the concept in principal, there are several concerns that need to be addressed (engineering, environmental and archaeological). Also the Province recently provided feedback that this proposed expansion involves submitting a new water licence application from the Ministry of Environment. We understand this may take several years to obtain.

Staff have received an application for a small project by the Mavericks (a baseball club) involving moving and improving the “bullpen” at Lambrick Park so it is further situated away from the playground.

The Victoria Tennis Club has begun the process to apply for a grant to rebuild the tennis courts on Viewmont (near Brydon Park). The tennis courts are over 30 years old and have been patched in recent years several times. This court is a shared public court with club exclusive hours. This will be a fairly significant capital project that will depend on funding and will likely take at least one and up to two years to implement. Saanich Parks leases the land from BC Hydro and staff are working through process.

Park Stewardship Update

The 2020 Volunteer Hours are in

Despite Covid-19 restrictions 2020 has still been a very busy year for volunteers in Saanich Parks: **11,645 total volunteer hours logged or 5.6 FTE!** Volunteers have been following COVID 19 restrictions.

- 11,137 total Pulling Together volunteer hours over 44 sites
 - 62 Lead stewards leading groups on 44 sites (10,767 volunteer hours)
 - 4 school groups (total 240 volunteer hours)
 - 1 community event Tree Appreciation Day (46 volunteer hours)
 - 1 volunteer training event (32 volunteer hours)
 - 4 Covid-19 training sessions, plus individual phone calls (52 volunteer hours)
 - Pulling Together activities included invasive species removal, and over 25 planting/restoration projects
- 518 total Park Ambassador volunteer hours at Mount Douglas Park
 - 11 Park Ambassadors
 - 1 Covid-19 training session (11 volunteer hours)
 - active 7 days a week

Pulling Together 2021

Parks' Stewardship Coordinator continues to support the good work of our community-based stewardship programs. Pulling Together Lead Stewards are busy with their volunteer groups, and planning for 2021. Lead Stewards are meeting with Saanich staff, and developing agreed upon "2021 restoration action plans". So far, 25 site visits have been booked to discuss plans, while practicing physical distancing and ensuring all staff and volunteers remain safe.

Park Ambassadors

Eleven active Park Ambassadors continue to educate visitors in Mount Douglas Park (from a safe distance). On February 23, staff met with the Park Ambassadors virtually. The meeting provided some great feedback to further engage park visitors, including using the iNaturalist app. One of our keen young Park Ambassadors offered to help the others become more comfortable using this tool.

School stewardship activities have also resumed, with one school group per week, with COVID 19 protocols. As much as possible, Saanich Parks is aiming to support school groups who have not yet had an opportunity for hands-on stewardship activities, and for groups that want repeat visits. They are paired up with Lead Stewards.

Considerable interest from the greater community wishing to volunteer continues. There have been over 200 requests from the community to volunteer since March of 2020. Unfortunately, bringing on new volunteers is on hold until Public Health orders are revised. Saanich Parks is working on a plan to allow for the resumption of new volunteer recruitment so that we will be ready when changes are made.

Field Guide (Plants & Animals in Saanich Parks)



The [Field Guide](#) that Saanich Parks introduced was provided to all Pulling Together Lead Stewards and Park Ambassadors. Here are a few comments we've received:

"Thank you for the field guide! Very special to have this. And to receive something in the mail is special too. Spring is in the air!" JG (Arbutus Park)

"Thank you for the lovely little field guide, it will be great to show visitors in the park. Love the art work and that it is waterproof! WP (Whitehead Park)

"Thank you very much for the brochure. Not only is it lovely to look at, as all Kristi Bridgeman's drawings are, but also it will be a great help in showing people, even in the rain, what is growing in the park. Thank you." MHB (Whitehead Park)

The main channel of distribution for this field guide is digital, so feel free to share the link with anyone. The field guide was recently shared with local environmental educators so they are aware and they can share their ideas. We plan to take those ideas and develop some

educational resources to encourage educators to bring youth (and the young at heart) to our amazing parks. Also we are working towards having the guide translated into SENĆOTEN and ɫəkˈwəŋən.

Park Planning and Development

Planning and Design

- **Washroom Plan** – Staff are working through a procurement process to obtain prefabricated standardized washrooms.
- **George Tripp Youth Park** – The consultant, Bike Track has begun preliminary design concepts which will be shared with the community for feedback before a final design is chosen. Construction is anticipated this summer. A grant application for a youth art mural project and bike share program was submitted to the federal government.
- **Cuthbert Holmes Park Trail Relocation and River Improvement Project** – Approximately 200 m of the asphalt trail adjacent to Silver City Theatre will be relocated to allow a 30m wide river buffer to be restored. Removal of invasive English Hawthorn trees will be carried out. In-stream improvements to the

Colquitz River are also planned this year. This is a multi-year project that will further actions identified in the Cuthbert Holmes / Tillicum Parks Management Plan (2015). The river buffer restoration component will begin with invasive English hawthorn removals beginning soon.

- **Normandy Park Playground Replacement Project** – Public input has concluded with more than 50 formal surveys received. Proposed play equipment has been posted to the web site for final review. This information will help to inform the final design of the play area. Equipment will be ordered soon and construction should begin once the equipment has arrived.
- **Cedar Hill Park Management Plan** – Goals and Actions for 2021 and beyond have been established which include:
 - Natural Areas Plan – providing a tool for the systematic removal and restoration of identified Natural Areas (Zones 1-15) in the park,
 - Hydrological and Environmental Assessment and Restoration Plan for Kings and Jenkins Pond,
 - Design review and upgrades to the Derby Road Connector focusing on the area between the parking lot to the ProShop as this multi-use section is heavily utilized by pedestrians, cyclists and golfers.
- **Allenby Park Playground and Sport Court Replacement Project** – The playground and sport court at Allenby Park have been identified as requiring upgrades. The online public survey closed February 21st, 2021 with further public engagement expected to wrap up later this spring which will lead to a final concept plan. Construction is anticipated to start in summer with completion later in the fall.

Construction

The Construction Section has been working on the following major projects:

- **Horner Park** – All major components of the Horner Park renovation project have been completed and the park has been fully open to the public since early December. Some of the general landscaping work as well as installation of the drinking fountain, the central plaza and decals for the playground remain to be completed. Overall community response to the new upgrades has been very positive.
- **Quadrant 1 Trail Resurfacing Program** – Work is being completed on gravel trails within Quadrant 1 (South Saanich). Most recently work has been completed at Cedar Hill Park with a new section of trail allowing a safe access to the day-care in the back of the building installed at the request of Recreation Centre staff.
- **Parks ID Signage** – The crew has been installing new park ID signs across the Parks system. We are planning on completing a total of 25 new park ID signs in 2021 with two parks completed so far. With addition to installing new park ID signage we have also worked on updating many parks and beach accesses regulatory signage as well as directional and wayfinding signs at many locations throughout Saanich.
- **Hampton Park** – Work recently began on the renovation to the main parking lot off Hampton Rd. The project will include enlarging the existing parking area as well as an additional exit/entrance to improve traffic flow. Other public amenities will also be added. The work in the park was timed to coincide with

major sidewalk and boulevard improvements on Hampton Road completed in late 2020 by Engineering and Public Works.

- **Trail washout repairs** – Several parks and trails were affected by intense rain events over the winter. Parks including Panama Flats, Colquitz River, Copley East, Annie, Playfair, Mt. Tolmie, Vantreight, McBriar, Knockan Hill and a few others all saw significant water damage and flooding on gravel trails. Most of the repairs have now been completed. Staff were alive to the fact that park visitor numbers have been very high as a result of COVID 19.

Park Operations

Maintenance Section

Maintenance is continuing to support core services:

- Washrooms are being cleaned daily and have been receiving a lot of graffiti. Our washroom strategy will go into effect this spring and we will be opening more washrooms to the public thanks to support from Council.
- Refuse is still quite heavy with quite a lot of dumping in parks. Parks is continuing to deal with camping in parks and cleaning up debris and garbage abandoned.
- Parks shop is busy repairing equipment and getting ready for the spring surge.
- The maintenance crews are out doing baseball preseason work in preparation for the April 1 opening date for a modified season.
- Irrigation section is starting to do installation work and charging of all systems has begun.

Horticulture Section

The focus of Horticulture in Jan/Feb was on neighbourhood traffic circle maintenance. Weeding, pruning and mulching of 163 sites was completed. This puts us well on our way to the goal of visiting half of the 450+ islands each year. Staff continue to maintain landscapes in parks and at facilities and are now starting to clean turf areas of winter branches and debris in preparation for turf mowing which will begin in late March. Spring bulbs are appearing in displays throughout the municipality for residents to enjoy. Daffodils and hyacinths are blooming and tulips won't be far behind.

Urban Forestry Section

Urban Forestry (UF) staff continued to make good headway working through the backlog of tree related calls from the blustery winter. UF staff is planning on doing some proactive pruning in the Quadra/Cedar Hill area, once the outstanding calls are dealt with. Supervisory staff continue to review Engineering drawings for tree impacts, and provide onsite arborist supervision for Public Works projects. The boulevard tree planting program wrapped up planting in the Gordon Head, Shelbourne, and Quadra areas, with 74 trees planted. We sent letters out to all Community Associations reminding them to promote the Partnership Tree Planting Program in order to green their neighborhoods.

Natural Areas Section

Natural Areas crews have planted over 250 native Western Red Cedar and Douglas fir trees in Cuthbert Holmes Park to compensate for the removal of about 75 dead Grand fir trees. The new pathway at Cuthbert Holmes Park is being cleared of invasive Hawthorn trees. Public feedback is very positive about the new location of the pathway

and the restoration work that will take place over the next three years. Part of this creekside restoration project is the establishment of three Trembling Aspen groves that is being funded by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to compensate for the Highway 1 project. This Aspen replacement project will take place over a ten year period.

Working with the Park Stewardship Coordinator, dozens of site visits, with Lead Stewards, have been taking place to set up the work plans for 2021. These meetings are highlighting many short-term requests and a broader picture of how their work parties will progress over the year. Crews support the PT program with work party support, mulch drop-off, and invasive pile pick up.

Three Great-horned Owl nesting platforms were built and installed in Cuthbert Holmes Park in early February in an area known to be inhabited by a male Great-horned owl. Just days before the nests were installed by the Urban Forestry crew, a new female owl took up residence and the courtship began immediately. Two nests have been visited by the pair of owls and hopefully one has been chosen as a permanent residence to raise their owlets. Nine Swallow/Wren boxes will be installed close to the Cuthbert Pond in the next week. A wood Duck nesting box was placed in the Pond last month.

Staff continues to manage invasive English Holly and Hawthorn trees in many parks. The program is effective and is paying off with many forests, that were once dominated with Holly or Hawthorn trees, now re-establishing an understory of native plant species in a more open canopy. The provincially funded Shiny geranium removal project has begun with a contractor using steam treatments against the highly invasive plant.

Projects coming up include:

- Mount Douglas summit split-rail fencing to delineate some natural areas for restoration,
- Continue restoration work in Cuthbert Holmes Park along Colquitz Creek,
- Bare earth trail repairs,
- Continue with Holly/Hawthorne treatments,
- Winter Lesser celandine surveys and treatments,
- Continue with Shiny geranium treatments,
- Supporting Pulling Together volunteers and Park Stewardship Coordinator to outline restoration plans for 2021,
- Working with Public Works Storm & Wastewater crew to plan for creek work during the 2021 fisheries window (August),
- Removing Blackberry and mulching along the stream at McMinn Park to prepare for the Tree Appreciation Day planting event in November,
- Doumac Park restoration tree and shrub planting,
- Curtis Point cedar split-rail fencing project to delineate areas for people and areas for conservation,
- Salvage native Sword fern and Dull Oregon grape from the new Douglas Creek bridge site where new trails will be established,



The Corporation of the District of Saanich

REPORT

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

From: Tiana Solares, Senior Manager - Recreation

Date: 4/7/2021

Subject: March 2021 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 Division activities.

DISCUSSION

Cedar Hill Campus

Pottery reserved drop in remains in high demand. All reserved drop in times are full with many on waitlists. New block bookings system implemented in January seems to be financially sound and will be maintained post-COVID to ensure efficient use of the space. The reserved drop in Art Studio registration is picking up. The format was also revamped in January so now the studio has artists in it at all times although not always full. Yoga is still going strong with increased requests for more classes and more options.

The Family Arts Festival was held over a few days this year and renamed "Family Bubble" Festival. Families had a variety of options to be creative and celebrate the arts. Hands on activities included kits that families could pick up and create either a Fingerwoven Metis Sash Rainbow Bracelet, clay heart kit which they could paint and decorate and bring back to be fired and included in the HeArts Together mosaic, or make a festive flag which would be included in a larger Saanich Community Bunting project. All kits could be picked up from Cedar Hill Rec Centre between Feb 12-15.

For the month of February there were approximately 500 indoor Tennis court bookings and a 100% fill rate for junior tennis classes.

Golf operations is currently exploring the option to adopt a new tee sheet software to support customer retention and improve efficiency in golf operations.

Gordon Head Community Recreation Centre

Gordon Head hosted the filming of episode eight of 10 for the MAID series for Netflix (Warner Brothers) on February 23, 2021 (facility closed for one day). The preparation, filming and take down lasted 8-10 days in the recreation centre and at Gordon Head Lawn Bowling Centre (GHLBC). The filming was possible due to our current Provincial Health Order restrictions on programs and a welcome opportunity to say 'yes', have some excitement in the building, bring in some needed revenue to Saanich and the GHLBC. The film company had strong COVID protocols, and was professional and otherwise excellent to work with.

Two small construction projects are underway at GHRC – an Administration Office expansion at the south (front) side and a new Chemical Room Addition at the north side of the building, with Kingsview Construction. Administration staff have moved to a temporary trailer (west) and have perfect views for the Lambrick Skate Park which is constantly used from 8am onwards. This park and surrounding area attracts hundreds of families, youth and adults from dawn to dusk, with apparent increased use during the pandemic.

Staff are gearing up for Spring Break Camps (March 15-26) and are running these camps similarly to Summer COVID-19 programming, as well as starting to hire staff and plan for Summer 2021.

GH Supervisors held this year's first aquatic staff inservice on Saturday, Mar 13. Participants followed COVID-19 safety protocols during the inservice, including separating staff into small groups for inservice topics. Inservice training is a critical part of effective team work for responding to first aid and emergency scenarios.

G.R. Pearkes Community Recreation Centre

GR Pearkes is ramping up for construction to begin. Staff have continued to work on this project during the pandemic and it remains the team's highest priority. The team is excited to be in the final stages of confirming a contractor and breaking ground.

Dates of highlight:

- Jan 26 Tender posted online
- Feb 23 Tender Closed
- Feb 24 Bids posted. Two bids were received, \$1.6m and \$1.8m (within Project budget)
- Mar 1 Council Meeting. Council delegated award of the contract to Staff



Currently: Staff are working on finalizing the contract award. This will be posted on the website once complete. After the contract is finalized, staff anticipate to break ground within several weeks.

Staff recognize the impact of the Gold being unavailable to the community over the past year. Engagement with valued facility users, and local community groups is a priority. Several updates have been sent to these groups during the process. Additionally, a notification letter has gone out to several of the nearby houses, most likely to be affected by the increased noise volumes. More broad communication will be distributed through a formal Project Notification template once we have more concrete details on the project schedule.

There has been continued interest by the media on the project, whose stories have assisted us in sharing the information with the public. Once underway, the team plans on releasing more regular updates on social media, news releases.

The project remains on track with the original plan to have the ice return for the Fall 2021 season.

Saanich Commonwealth Place

A variety of Spring Break Camp programs are being offered at SCP this year with 183 individual registrations. Nine different camps will be offered at the facility and an additional six on location at Falcon Gymnastics. The Royal Oak Middle School Programmer has 10 camps running at that location, offering fun and activity for 141 children!

Staff are also excited for the return of Advanced Aquatic Courses at Saanich Commonwealth Place. Spring Break will see the first offerings of Lifesaving and Lifeguard training programs in over a year. To maintain physical distancing, courses are now designed so that each participant brings a household member to act as their “victim” when they are practicing rescues. In total, six different courses are being offered with a 93% fill rate overall. It is important that PRCS is able to offer these courses to certify and train the next generation of Lifeguards and Swim Instructors.

Design work is in the final stages for the proposed Mezzanine Fitness Studio and Aquatic Office Expansion Projects at Saanich Commonwealth Place. Fitness Programmers recently had the opportunity to meet with designers from Ratio Architecture recently to provide input on the design of the new fitness space. Unique features in this space like load bearing ceiling mounts will allow for specialized programs including TRX and aerial yoga.

Prepared by: _____

Approved by: _____

Tiana Solares Senior Manager, Recreation

Suzanne Samborski, Director, Parks & Recreation