

SPORTS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

A Regular Meeting of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee convened on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 7:03 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

** Indicates virtual attendance*

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Craig Hodge, Vice Chair
Erin Davidson, Citizen Representative
Sara Maglio, Coquitlam Field Sport Association
Andrea Mattinson, Coquitlam Indoor Athletics Association
Cameron McBryer, Citizen Representative*
Chuck Peries, Coquitlam Tennis Club
Isabel Silvestre, Citizen Representative
Cydney Smythies, Citizen Representative
Carl Trepanier, Citizen Representative

ABSENT: Councillor Trish Mandewo, Chair (regrets)
Dan Cooper, Citizen Representative (regrets)
Emily Moughtin, Citizen Representative (regrets)
Karen Schofield, Citizen Representative

GUESTS: Jenn McCulloch, President Coquitlam Moody Softball Association (re: Item 4)
Chris Chadwick, Vice President Coquitlam Moody Softball Association (re: Item 4)

STAFF: Jenny Lush, Director Partnerships and Planning
Brian Forrester, Manager Sport Services
Sara Yastremski, Manager Park Services
Mohammad Asadian, Parks Partner Program Supervisor
Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgement.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**1. Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 12, 2025**

The Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 12, 2025 were approved.

OLD BUSINESS**NEW BUSINESS****2. Committee Orientation Review**

The Committee Clerk gave a presentation entitled “2026 Advisory Committee Orientation” and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Suggestion that Advisory Committees adopt staggered terms to provide for continuity and institutional knowledge.
- Suggestion to reconsider which entrance(s) to City Hall are available during Committee meetings, with ground floor entrances preferred.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted that the annual Volunteer Appreciation Event will be held in April, having been moved from the late fall due to how busy that time of year is, and will be have a reimagined format.

3. 2026 Work Plan

The Director Partnerships and Planning gave introductory comments and referred to document found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Interest in conducting site visits.
- Suggestion to set and distribute the Committee meeting schedule further in advance to allow members to plan for attendance.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted that Riverview Park is undergoing upgrades to its baseball/softball field with completion and public use expected in late spring and allocations in 2027; this is part of the Park Asset Management Program and intended to ensure the availability of back up ball diamonds.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED

AND SECONDED

The Committee recommends to Council to approve the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee 2026 Work Plan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The representatives of the Coquitlam Moody Softball Association entered the meeting at this time (7:28 p.m.).

4. Community Sport User Group – Coquitlam Moody Softball Association

The representatives of the Coquitlam Moody Softball Association gave a presentation entitled “Coquitlam Moody Softball” and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Challenges with multisport demand on participants, for example between softball, field hockey, and soccer.
- Request for nominations by the Association for the Coquitlam Hall of Fame, including the Wall of Fame for achievements in one year and the Hall of Fame for lifetime achievements, with nominations due February 10, 2026.
- Understanding of the governing bodies for the sport including Softball Canada, and Softball BC, and association with Via Sport.
- Challenges with delineations and coordination between softball associations throughout the Tri-Cities area.
- Understanding of the number of players in the lower mainland with differences year-to-year, between municipalities, and between league types; larger numbers in lower age groups provide growth opportunities and challenges.
- Challenges and suggestions for increasing participation including the impact of the Olympics eliminating softball, submitting information to school newsletters, and coordinating with local universities and colleges regarding collegiate opportunities.

- Concern that attempts to revive male participation in the sport may displace resources for a traditionally female-dominated sport in a sporting culture that has often deprioritized female sports.
- Challenges with costs and access to facilities for batting practice as there is no indoor batting range, the Poirier Forum has limited time and temperature control, school gym rental is expensive, and the covered batting cages in the City provide no allocation for the Association.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- The City does not allocate facility access to competing groups within the same sport.
- The Mackin Park and Blue Mountain Park batting cages were built by Coquitlam Little League, but agreements are in development to provide broader public access.

The Chair thanked the representatives for their presentation and for the time and effort they give to sporting opportunities in the City.

The representatives of the Coquitlam Moody Softball Association left the meeting at this time and did not return (8:02 p.m.).

The Manager Parks Services and Parks Partner Program Supervisor entered the meeting at this time (8:02 p.m.).

5. Park Spark Volunteer Engagement

The Manager Park Services gave a presentation entitled “Bringing Coquitlam Parks Alive!” and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Suggestion to have volunteers at Lights at Lafarge to help mitigate damage to light displays and gardens, by encouraging people to stay on the path or expanding the use of designated selfie spots for example.
- Offer to collaborate with the Burke Mountain Neighbourhood Association to engage volunteers.
- Offer to collaborate with Coquitlam Metro Ford Soccer Club for team building opportunities.
- Suggestion to expand involvement in Indigenous medicinal gardens.
- Suggestion to encourage more businesses to establish edible planters.
- Suggestion to host tours or provide signage at Burke Mountain Community Centre and Park regarding identification of plant species and Indigenous uses.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- Park Spark will commemorate Earth Day this year with an event at Como Lake Park.
- The Inspiration Garden at Town Centre Park will experience no disruption to programming throughout 2027 because of coming water main construction in the area.
- The Urban Wildlife Program leads efforts on public education regarding feeding wildlife, but partners with Park Spark on events.

The Manager Park Services and the Parks Partner Program Supervisor left the meeting at this time and did not return (8:28 p.m.).

6. Parks and Capital Projects / Community Services Updates (Standing Agenda Item)

The Director Partnerships and Planning gave a presentation entitled “Parks & Capital Projects / Community Services Updates” and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Understanding the department reorganization of *Parks, Recreation, Facilities and Culture* to two departments named *Parks and Capital Projects* and *Community Services*; and a request for an organizational chart to further facilitate understanding and communication.
- Report and appreciation that the Disc Golf Club collaboration with the City will upgrade facilities over the spring with new baskets and an equipment rental box.
- Understanding of the partnership with EquipSport to install free equipment rental boxes in parks across the city in terms of user accounts, loss and maintenance management, and potential for types of equipment provided.
- Report that park users bring pop-up baskets to play disc golf at night in Blue Mountain Park.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted that work is ongoing with the provider to make defibrillators at Town Centre Park and Mundy Park operational.

7. Committee Members’ Roundtable / Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)

The Chair invited Committee members to share emerging issues and information regarding events occurring in their communities.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Interest in the schedule for upgrades to the Mundy Park Lacrosse Box.
- Suggestion to increase drop-in pickleball advance booking window from 48 to 49 hours to avoid the need to book future sessions during a current session.
- Interest in whether resident prioritization in facilities and programming might be adopted more broadly.
- Report that the Coquitlam Sports Hall of Fame will hold its annual awards event on June 10 at Centennial Activity Centre, and nominations must be submitted by February 10; more nominations to the Wall of Fame, for achievements in one year, are sought in particular to represent the grassroots of Coquitlam sport.
- Report that a new provincial aquatic sports alliance is forming led by Swim BC and including BC Diving, BC Artistic Swimming, Water Polo West, and the BC Summer Swimming Association with the goal to inventory facilities across province and advocate to municipalities where there are gaps; the group may request to present to this Committee.
- Report that recreation fees in Burnaby are doubling for most facilities, which may shift demand onto Coquitlam facilities.
- Understanding the impact of provincial legislation, development contributions, and funding from higher orders of government on the timelines of facilities development.
- Interest in the date of the groundbreaking ceremony for the Burke Mountain Community Centre.
- Appreciation for the repair of the clock at Planet Ice, which mitigates negative behaviour towards volunteers operating the clock.
- Appreciation of Council recognition of the Coquitlam Adanacs Minto Cup win.
- Desire for consideration of installing HVAC at the Poirier Forum, and suggestion to collaborate with the Pickleball Club on the issue.
- Desire for a portable toilet facility at Mariner Park as at least an interim solution.
- Report that the Tennis Centre-Coquitlam contacted the Tennis Club to discuss confirmation of residency for reservations, and time allocations for the Club to host events in the winter.
- Appreciation of the collaboration between the City and the Disc Golf Club on facility improvements at Mundy Park
- Suggestion that pitch and put golf courses be used for disc golf at night and in the winter to optimize usage, as is done in Burnaby.

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – Thursday, March 12, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Councillor Craig Hodge, Vice Chair

Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk