

CITYPAGE

MAY 26 – JUNE 1

Building a Community Without Barriers

Recognized across the country from **May 29 to June 4**, **National AccessAbility Week** celebrates the contributions of Canadians with disabilities and recognizes individuals, communities and workplaces working to remove barriers to accessibility and inclusion.

Coquitlam is committed to building an inclusive community and continually working towards removing barriers so that everyone can participate fully.

Planning Accessibility from the Ground Up

New City policies, programs, design plans and other civic matters are reviewed by the City's Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee, with the aim of reducing all types of barriers to participation and access by those with disabilities, physical, social and attitudinal. The committee plays a key role in keeping accessibility at the forefront of the City's services as it delivers facilities, infrastructure, neighbourhood plans and recreation programs such as:

- Building road, pedestrian and transit infrastructure with all users in mind, such as sidewalk ramps and touchless pedestrian crossing buttons in high-pedestrian areas
- Providing feedback on accessible design features at Parks, Recreation and Culture facilities



CALENDAR

Saturday, May 28

Place Maillardville Community Centre In-Person Workshop
1 – 3 p.m.
Dogwood Pavilion
letstalkcoquitlam.ca/pmcc

Monday, May 30

Council-in-Committee
2 p.m.
Public Hearing
7 p.m.
Regular Council
7 p.m.
coquitlam.ca/council

Tuesday, May 31

Go by Bike Week Celebration Station
4 – 6 p.m.
Blue Mountain Park on King Albert Avenue at Nelson
bikehub.ca

Wednesday, June 1

Go by Bike Week Celebration Station
4 – 6 p.m.
Lafarge-Lake Douglas SkyTrain Station at Pinetree
bikehub.ca

COUNCIL MEETING DETAILS
See page 18

PUBLIC HEARING DETAILS
See pages 22, 23 and 24

coquitlam.ca/calendar

You are Welcome Here!

Coquitlam is a welcoming and inclusive community where we respect individual differences and recognize that people of all ages, abilities and cultures provide value to our community. As a City, we strive to continue to improve accessibility and safety in our communities and currently offer programs designed to reduce barriers such as:

- Inclusive drop-in sports programs
- Adapted fitness equipment in all City fitness centres
- A sensory-friendly swim without music or water features
- Recreation support plans that provide extra assistance to program registrants
- Online, illustrated 'social stories' that prepare children for a camp, program or the pool – suitable for children on the autism spectrum, or who experience anxiety
- Skating programs in partnership with Canucks Autism Network (CAN) for children/youth with a CAN membership

Visit coquitlam.ca/recaccess for details.

Volunteer with Us!

We have volunteer opportunities for people of all abilities – contact a Community Services Coordinator at communityservices@coquitlam.ca to discuss how we can support your volunteer experience.

Financial Assistance for Recreation (FAR) Access

Coquitlam strives to make recreation affordable and accessible – available programs to reduce financial barriers include the City's FAR program and affiliation with Canadian Tire Jumpstart and KidSport Tri-Cities.
coquitlam.ca/financialassistancerec



Accessible Drop-in Sports (All Ages)

An accessible and inclusive, individual drop-in sports time at Poirier Sport and Leisure Complex (633 Poirier St.) in Arena 2. Pass, shoot, score – come join us Tuesday's from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

All ages and abilities are welcome. Sports include basketball, soccer, floor hockey and more. Pre-registration is required and available 48-hours.

Click **Register for Programs** and in the **Drop In** section, click **All Ages** to view available dates and times, or call **604-927-4386**.

Accessibility Resources

Visit coquitlam.ca/accessibility for information about City regulations and policies that promote access for everyone:

- Zoning bylaw and City facility parking requirements
- The Snow Angels program that supports those who need assistance shovelling snow
- Emergency preparedness information for people with disabilities
- Park and trail accessibility information on the City's online QTheMap
- Accessibility checklists for hosting events in Coquitlam

Removing Barriers Online

Enhancements to the City's digital services including public hearings and programs by video conference have improved access to participation for those with mobility challenges. The City's website meets the globally-recognized Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.0) and is built to be accurately interpreted by assistive technology for visitors with hearing or visual impairments. coquitlam.ca