

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NORTH VANCOUVER RECREATION & CULTURE COMMISSION

Meeting date: April 7, 2026
Meeting time: 1:00 p.m.
Meeting location: Via Microsoft Teams

MEETING AGENDA

I. Call to order – Indigenous acknowledgement

Chair calls the meeting to order:

“On behalf of the Commissioners and those present, I express my gratitude to the Squamish Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation, and we appreciate the opportunity to learn, live and share experiences on these traditional and unceded territories. North Vancouver Recreation & Culture is committed to building relationships with First Nation communities, and this acknowledgement is one small step in honoring their culture, history and stewardship of the land.”

II. Approval of the agenda

III. Adoption of minutes of the February 24, 2026 Regular Meeting Attachment

IV. Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre Update Attachment

V. Recreation Facility and Amenity Assessment Attachment

VI. 2025 Year End Financial Results Attachment

VII. Resumption of City Public Art and Community Public Art Grants Attachment

VIII. 2026 Arts & Culture Operating Assistance Grants Attachment

IX. Director’s update Attachment

X. Other business

XI. Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

XII. Adjournment

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MEETING OF THE NORTH VANCOUVER RECREATION & CULTURE COMMISSION

Meeting date: February 24, 2026
Meeting time: 2:33 p.m.
Meeting location: Via Microsoft Teams

MEETING MINUTES

Commissioners in attendance: Councillor Lisa Muri – DNV (Chair)
 Mayor Linda Buchanan – CNV (Vice Chair)
 Councillor Holly Back – CNV (2:55 p.m.)
 Herman Mah – DNV
 Dr. Leanne McCarthy – CNV Chief Administrative Officer
 Mike Fox – DNV Chief Administrative Officer
 Heather Turner – NVRC Director, Recreation & Culture

Staff: Mike Hunter – NVRC Deputy Director
 Jade Reed - Manager, Arts & Culture
 Christine Walker – Manager, Recreation Services
 Pilar Alba – NVRC Administrative Coordinator
 Rhonda Schell – DNV Deputy Corporate Officer
 Kaitlin Hebron – DNV Confidential Council Clerk

I. Call to order – Indigenous acknowledgement

Heather Turner, NVRC Director, Recreation & Culture, called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m. and provided the following Indigenous acknowledgement:

- “On behalf of the Commissioners and those present, I express my gratitude to the Squamish Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation, and we appreciate the opportunity to learn, live and share experiences on these traditional and unceded territories. North Vancouver Recreation & Culture is committed to building relationships with First Nation communities, and this acknowledgement is one small step in honoring their culture, history and stewardship of the land.”

II. Election of Officers for 2026

a) Chair

Director Turner asked for nominations. Commissioner Buchanan nominated Commissioner Muri. Commissioner Muri accepted the nomination. Director Turner asked if there were further nominations. Having received none, Chair Muri was acclaimed as Chair for 2026.

b) Vice-Chair

Chair Muri asked for nominations. Chair Muri nominated Commissioner Buchanan. The Chair asked for further nominations. Having received none, Commissioner Buchanan was acclaimed as Vice-Chair for 2026.

III. Approval of the agenda

Moved by Commissioner MAH; **seconded** by Commissioner BUCHANAN

THAT the agenda for the February 24, 2026 Regular North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission Meeting is approved as circulated.

Carried

IV. Adoption of the minutes of the November 20, 2025 Regular Meeting

Moved by Commissioner MAH; **seconded** by Commissioner BUCHANAN

THAT the minutes of the November 20, 2025 Regular Meeting be adopted.

Carried

V. Carry-over of 2025 Operating Funds to 2026 – Late Intake Record of Commission Resolution

Moved by Commissioner MURI; **seconded** by Commissioner BUCHANAN

THAT the Record of Resolution of Carry-over of 2025 Operating Funds to 2026 approved by email vote is received for information.

Carried

VI. Gender Diversity Review of NVRC Washrooms and Changerooms

The Commission discussed the assessment of all NVRC washrooms and changerroom facilities completed by TransFocus using a gender diversity lens. The discussion emphasized the need for consistent signage, clear communication about universal spaces, appropriate behaviour expectations, and proactive staff training and presence to support patrons and manage concerns.

The Commission acknowledged that standards and best practices are evolving, and while gendered spaces will remain, universal washrooms and changerooms will increasingly be incorporated, including a large universal changeroom at Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre. The transition will require clear public education, recommended time guidelines for high-demand family and universal spaces, consistent cleaning and service levels, and an implementation plan that prioritizes improvements alongside accessibility recommendations.

Moved by Commissioner BUCHANAN; **seconded** by Commissioner BACK

THAT Gender Diversity Review of NVRC Washrooms and Changerooms is received for information.

Carried

VII. Director's Update

Commissioner Turner spoke to items outlined in her report.

VIII. Other business

The Commission wished Commissioner Buchanan a happy birthday.

IX. Next meeting

Upcoming 2026 NVRC Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 22, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

X. Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner BACK; **seconded** by Commissioner MAH

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Carried

Approved by:

Recorded by:

Lisa Muri
Chair

Kaitlin Hebron
Confidential Council Clerk

Date

Unadopted and unsigned

REPORT TO NORTH VANCOUVER RECREATION & CULTURE COMMISSION

Meeting date: April 07, 2026
Report author: Heather Turner, Director
Subject: Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre Update



RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Commission receive this report for information.

SUMMARY:

The new Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre (HJCRC) is nearing completion, with building occupancy anticipated by the end of June 2026. Commission staff, supported by the City of North Vancouver, are well into planning for the opening of this new centre and closing of the existing Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre and Memorial Community Recreation Centre. The existing centre will close to the public on June 29th (with two exceptions), and the Grand Opening of the new centre is scheduled for late July.

BACKGROUND:

The existing Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre was the first indoor recreation facility in North Vancouver; opening in 1966. For 60 years, this centre has served north shore residents well and the operating costs have been shared by the City and District in accordance with the cost-sharing formula since opening day. The new HJCRC will support the physical, mental, and social well-being of North Vancouver citizens as the newest and largest community facility in the network.

DISCUSSION:

Construction of the new centre began on March 7, 2022, and is expected to be complete for occupancy as of June 30, 2026. Commission and City staff have worked very closely together through the design, construction, and operational readiness processes.

Some NVRC Maintenance and Engineering staff will relocate to the new HJCRC this spring to ensure that adequate preparation and training occur to be able to support the operation and service delivery of the centre after opening.

The facility will initially be issued an Interim Occupancy Permit; enabling controlled access to areas deemed safe for staff orientation, operational set-up and phased public use. Final Occupancy will be granted following completion of all required inspections and approvals from relevant regulatory authorities, including Vancouver Coastal Health, related to aquatics, preschool, commercial kitchen operations, and café services.

For NVRC to have systems, equipment, and spaces ready and staff fully trained, it is necessary to conclude service delivery at the existing centre at the end of June and to transition focus to the new centre. The exceptions are summer day camps to be held in Memorial Gym and lacrosse to be held in the existing arena; both requiring minimal staffing by NVRC.

During the transition period, services will be enhanced throughout the entire NVRC system to minimize the impact on customers. Aquatic programming and rental capacity are being expanded at Karen Magnussen, Ron Andrews, Delbrook Community Recreation Centres and Pinnacle Pool. Fitness services will continue to be available through John Braithwaite Community Centre and other NVRC locations, supplemented by enhanced outdoor fitness programming. Historically, summer is a lower utilization period for indoor recreation services.

Operational readiness prior to opening will focus on:

- Furniture, fixtures and equipment procurement, delivery, and installation
- Transition planning and program/service finalization for the month of August and for full operation as of September
- Training and orientation of staff
- Finalization of operating procedures
- Operational testing, dry runs, and go-live readiness

A public opening celebration is being planned for late July. After this opening, the centre will be open to the public to view, participate in try-it sessions, use the fitness centre, atrium, gymnasium, courtyard, informal spaces, and outdoor amenities while staff fine-tune systems and procedures. The ice in the arena will be made in August (as is the normal schedule) and the plan is to offer a full array of programs and services as of September.

In addition to planning NVRC recreation and culture programs and services, staff have been working closely with Silver Harbour Centre to find efficiencies in operations and explore opportunities for shared intergenerational programming and use of space between the two new facilities.

To recognize and celebrate the impact that the existing HJCRC has had on North Vancouver residents, staff are inviting community members to share their experiences through stories, holding a farewell open house for the community on the afternoon of Saturday, June 6 as well as hosting a dog swim on the last day of use of the aquatic centre. In addition, notices regarding the transition, service impact, and rationale, along with renderings of the new centre and building excitement of what is to come are currently being prepared.

NVRC and City staff are working together to ensure that a coordinated communications plan supports a smooth transition and opening.

City staff assumed responsibility for the outdoor spaces at the beginning of 2026 and will be ensuring that the grounds and courtyard spaces are ready for community use and enjoyment.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The facility construction, operational readiness and opening event costs are funded by the City of North Vancouver. The 2026 NVRC operating costs for transition, start up and partial year operation are included in the Commission approved provisional operating budget. The budget includes higher expenses due to the transition period and operation of a much larger centre and reduced revenues due to the transition period.

The net incremental costs included in the 2026 budget are \$1,463M.

POLICY/AUTHORITY:

The new Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre is a City facility that will be operated by NVRC as a Core Facility.



Heather Turner
Director, Recreation & Culture

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REPORT TO NORTH VANCOUVER RECREATION & CULTURE COMMISSION

Meeting date: April 7, 2026
Report author: Mike Hunter, Deputy Director
Subject: **Recreation Facility and Amenity Assessment**



RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the North Vancouver Recreation Facility and Amenity Assessment (Attachment 1) be endorsed and shared with City and District Councils for their information;

AND THAT the Assessment be shared with the community for their information.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. North Vancouver Recreation Facility and Amenity Assessment

SUMMARY:

The Recreation Facility and Amenity Assessment, undertaken jointly by the City of North Vancouver (CNV), the District of North Vancouver (DNV), and the North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission (NVRC), provides a North Vancouver-wide overview of indoor and outdoor recreation infrastructure in both communities. The findings confirm that North Vancouver is overall well-served, with high resident satisfaction, strong distribution of amenities, and service levels that meet or exceed those of comparable municipalities. The Assessment also identifies key challenges and opportunities related to population growth, evolving trends, aging facilities, and climate resilience. The results will inform long-term facility and amenity planning in both municipalities following upcoming Official Community Plan (OCP) updates.

This accompanying staff report summarizes the Assessment's key findings and seeks Commission's support to share it with the City and District of North Vancouver Councils, and the community.

BACKGROUND:

Recreation facilities and amenities play a critical role in supporting active, healthy lifestyles and community well-being for residents of all ages and abilities. The facilities and amenities support a wide variety of activities. CNV and DNV have made significant investments in indoor and outdoor recreation infrastructure, including community recreation centres, sports fields, courts, pools, arenas, trails, playgrounds, and public open spaces. These investments contribute to North Vancouver's high quality of life and its recognition as Canada's most livable community (Globe and Mail 2024, 2025).

The Recreation Facility and Amenity Assessment was undertaken to support informed future planning by:

- researching leading practices and emerging recreation trends;
- collecting North Vancouver data on community satisfaction, participation, facility inventory, usage, and geographic distribution; and
- identifying considerations to inform future priorities based on growth, demand, and available resources.

The scope of the Assessment included indoor facilities such as aquatic centres, arenas, gymnasiums, fitness and wellness spaces, and multipurpose rooms, as well as outdoor amenities including sports fields, courts, playgrounds, skateparks, and other recreation features. A key outcome was the creation of the first North Vancouver-wide geospatial inventory of public recreation amenities, including major civic projects currently under construction with completion anticipated in 2026.

Since project initiation, CNV and DNV have been responding to changes in the municipal planning framework in British Columbia, including new provincial legislation with housing targets. Both municipalities updated their OCPs and Zoning Bylaws in late 2025, with further amendments required by June 30, 2026. These changes will influence population, demographics, and land use, and have implications for future recreation needs.

Due to the OCP amendment requirements, the Commission previously decided that the information collected through the Assessment project's information gathering, benchmarking, and data analysis processes be shared without specific recommendations on infrastructure. The attached Recreation Facility and Amenity Assessment report presents the results of the work completed which can be utilized by the municipalities as they see appropriate.

DISCUSSION:

Current Supply and Service Levels

The Assessment confirms that North Vancouver has a comprehensive, diverse, and geographically well-distributed recreation system, with service levels that meet or exceed those of comparable municipalities.

The CNV/DNV recreation asset inventory includes:

- ten indoor recreation facilities, including four with indoor pools (plus access to Pinnacle Pool), two public arenas (plus access to three ice sheets at Canlan Arena), six fitness centres, six gymnasiums, nine indoor tennis courts and numerous multipurpose rooms/spaces; and
- extensive outdoor amenities, including 83 playgrounds, 48 sports fields, 53 tennis courts, 23 pickleball courts, six skateparks, and specialty amenities such as running tracks, pump tracks, and a disc golf course.

Maps with the indoor and outdoor recreation assets are provided in Appendix 1 of the Assessment. Spatial analysis demonstrates that most residents live within a five-minute walk of an outdoor amenity and a ten-minute drive to a community recreation centre (Appendix 2).

Community Engagement and Satisfaction

Engagement undertaken as part of the Assessment included a statistically representative household survey, an open public survey, surveys of organized user groups, and discussion sessions with equity-deserving communities. Staff also met with representatives from the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations to discuss barriers, collaboration opportunities, and future infrastructure planning.

The household survey results indicate that North Vancouver residents are highly active, with strong participation in outdoor physical activities, social recreation, and indoor fitness and wellness activities. Overall community satisfaction levels with existing recreation infrastructure are high while also highlighting areas where demand continues to grow.

Organized recreation and sport user groups reported growing memberships and challenges accessing the amenities that they need to deliver their programs. User group satisfaction with the quality of indoor and outdoor amenities was lower than the household survey.

Demand and Emerging Trends

Notable trends influencing future service demand include:

- growing interest in informal and spontaneous recreation;
- increasing popularity of pickleball, soccer, baseball, tennis, cricket, rugby, mountain biking, field hockey, basketball and disc golf;
- greater emphasis on equity, universal accessibility, and inclusive design; and
- climate impacts increasing need for shade, covered spaces, and indoor alternatives.

Booking data confirms that demand for many types of indoor and outdoor amenities is consistently high during peak times. Pools, arenas, gymnasiums, multipurpose spaces, indoor tennis courts, and sports fields experience particularly high demand; requiring careful allocation to balance casual public use, registered programs, and rentals by community groups.

Demand for most casual-use amenities is more difficult to quantify. Users reported high use of outdoor tennis courts and pickleball courts in favourable weather.

Municipal Investments and Initiatives

CNV and DNV continue to invest significantly in new and renewed facilities and amenities, and the Assessment highlights major initiatives that directly respond to identified needs and trends:

City of North Vancouver:

- Opening of the Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre in 2026, adding more and new accessible indoor and outdoor amenities
- Development of the Harbour Swimming Deck at Waterfront Park (anticipated in 2027);
- New and renewed parks in Central Lonsdale and along the waterfront; and
- Parks and Public Space Plan, which will establish a 10-year vision, service levels, and enhancement priorities for parks and outdoor recreation.

District of North Vancouver:

- Construction of Delbrook (2017), Lions Gate (2022), and Lynn Creek Community Recreation Centres (2025);
- Expansion of artificial turf fields, including a new field at Argyle Secondary (2023), new fields under construction at Inter River Park and Handsworth Secondary (2026), and renewal of the fields at William Griffin Park (2024) and Windsor Secondary (2025);
- Outdoor Sports Courts Optimization Strategy, including enhancements to existing courts and new courts for pickleball; and
- New and renovated parks with amenities close to growing neighbourhoods.

Opportunities

The Assessment identifies opportunities to maximize community benefit through continued intermunicipal collaboration, exploring partnerships, enhanced utilization of existing assets, facility renewal planning, and improved data collection to support evidence-based decision-making.

With growing populations, limited land, and more people living in attached forms of housing with less access to private outdoor space, it will be increasingly important to maximize the utility of existing facilities and parks amenities, while also exploring opportunities to enhance access to open space and recreation amenities in growing neighbourhoods. For example, adding lighting to existing outdoor amenities and increasing hours of operation, where possible, can help to expand capacity to meet needs. The DNV added lighting to the Kirkstone Skatepark in 2024, CNV is considering adding lighting to the tennis courts at Ray Perrault Park and NVRC is piloting expanded hours at the North Vancouver Tennis Centre.

Conversion of gravel and grass sports fields to artificial turf also supports that objective. North Vancouver's wet climate significantly reduces the utility of grass, and one artificial turf field provides the equivalent playing time of approximately ten grass fields. As the inventory of artificial turf fields increases, there may be opportunities to re-purpose some other fields to support other park uses. Given the high cost of acquiring land and limited supply of flat terrain in North Vancouver, this approach could form part of a long-term strategy for meeting other parks and recreation needs.

North Vancouver is fortunate to have the most community recreation centres per capita in the region, and with the completion of Harry Jerome in mid-2026, four new centres have been opened in the last decade. Planning for the renewal of the next two oldest facilities, Karen Magnussen and Ron Andrews, will be part of the District's Strategic Facility Plan. The planning process will consider the implications of the OCP updates and the Assessment findings to identify long-term amenity priorities for those sites.

The John Braithwaite Community Centre (JBCC) celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2024. With construction of the new North Shore Neighbourhood House scheduled for completion in 2028, it is an opportune time to review and improve the functionality of JBCC's interior spaces to ensure they are effectively meeting community needs, including universal accessibility and inclusive design considerations.

There is also consideration of a City community recreation centre in the proposed redevelopment of the Capilano Mall site. A facility in that location could provide amenities to support the growing Marine Drive neighbourhood.

The City's Parks and Public Space Plan is currently underway and will consider the implications of the OCP amendments and build on data collected through the Assessment to establish a 10-

year vision and recommendations for enhancements to meet community needs. NVRC will continue to collaborate with CNV as the planning process advances.

The DNV OCP amendments will be followed by updates to the Town and Village Centre Implementation Plans, which will provide the opportunity to consider priorities for parks and recreation infrastructure needed to support anticipated community growth. NVRC will be collaborating with DNV on the renewal planning for Karen Magnussen and Ron Andrews Community Recreation Centres within the capital planning process.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

While there are no financial implications directly associated with this report; Council decisions regarding addressing current and anticipated infrastructure gaps require assessment of capital and operating cost impacts.

COMMUNICATION AND CONCURRENCE:

This report has been reviewed by the Project Steering Committee, which includes senior staff from CNV, DNV and NVRC. With Commission endorsement, staff will prepare information reports to share the Assessment with CNV and DNV Councils. In addition, a public communication will be prepared to share the Assessment.

POLICY/AUTHORITY:

The North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission Delegation Bylaws identify specific powers, duties, and functions of the Commission. This includes delegated responsibility to make recommendations to the District Council and the City Council with respect to:

- requirements for additional grounds, Facilities or services associated with the provision of the Recreation Services and Arts Services;
- requirements for capital expenditures in respect of existing recreation grounds, Facilities or services associated with the provision of the Recreation Services and Arts Services; and
- strategic direction and policy changes to meet recreation and arts needs of both District and City residents.

CNV and DNV Councils have the authority to determine where capital funds are invested within their municipalities.

CONCLUSION:

The City and District's investments in recreation facilities and amenities result in a strong North Vancouver system to improve community health, social connection, and quality of life. The Assessment demonstrates that North Vancouver has a well-balanced, highly valued and well-used network to support residents. The information gathered through the engagement process, data analysis and comparisons with other municipalities will be useful for the City and District in their future planning.



Mike Hunter
Deputy Director



NORTH VANCOUVER
**Recreation Facility &
Amenity Assessment**

MARCH 2026





We respectfully acknowledge the original peoples of these lands and waters, specifically the səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish) and x̣məθkʷəjəm (Musqueam), on whose unceded ancestral lands the District of North Vancouver is located. We value the opportunity to learn, share and serve our community on these unceded lands.

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SUMMARY

The North Vancouver Recreation Facility and Amenity Assessment project was initiated in 2023 by the North Vancouver Recreation & Culture Commission (NVRC), funded by and in collaboration with the City of North Vancouver (CNV) and the District of North Vancouver (DNV). Its purpose is to provide a North Vancouver-wide assessment to help inform future indoor and outdoor facility and amenity planning in both municipalities.

The work confirms that North Vancouver residents are well served by recreation and sport facilities and amenities, that most residents are satisfied with existing facilities and amenities, and that service levels meet or exceed those of comparable municipalities.

This report summarizes the project's key findings, including survey results, utilization data, amenity distribution analysis, municipal initiatives and long-term planning considerations. The report confirms high satisfaction among North Vancouver residents, identifies strong and growing demand for recreation amenities, and outlines strategic opportunities to maximize community benefit.

INTRODUCTION

CNV and DNV recognize the vital role that recreation plays in fostering active, healthy lifestyles for people of all ages and abilities. The municipalities have made significant investments in the provision of indoor and outdoor facilities and amenities. These efforts include the building of many community recreation centres, as well as an extensive network of multi-use trails, sports courts and fields, and public spaces designed for both active and passive recreation. These investments have contributed to North Vancouver being recognized as one of the most desirable places to live in Canada (Globe & Mail Most Livable Cities 2024 & 2025) and to the health and well-being of residents.

Demand for recreation spaces and experiences is high and is expected to continue to grow with anticipated population increases. Municipalities must supplement public opinion with utilization data and expertise to prioritize needs, and to consider these needs within the context of a municipal role, all policies, priorities and financial realities. With a wide range of existing recreation and sport amenities, it is essential to determine where and when to invest to realize the greatest community benefit. Several key factors inform these decisions, including community demand, supply, usage data and broader municipal priorities.

The project was initiated to:

- Research leading practices and emerging trends.
- Collect North Vancouver-specific data on community satisfaction, socio-demographics, and the inventory, usage and geographic distribution of recreation and sport facilities/amenities.
- Inform future priorities based on anticipated growth, identified needs and available resources.





The project scope included an inventory assessment of a range of indoor amenities, including aquatics (lane, leisure, therapy), gymnasiums, fitness/wellness spaces, multipurpose rooms and ice surfaces, and outdoor amenities such as sports fields, ball diamonds, playgrounds, pickleball and tennis courts and skateboard parks. In this context, a facility is the overall building or site that houses multiple amenities (e.g., a community recreation centre like Harry Jerome or a park like Inter River Park), whereas an amenity is a specific feature within that facility or site (e.g., an arena, a tennis court or a sports field).

A consulting firm, RC Strategies, was retained to support the project by conducting research, gathering data and preparing a geospatial database of recreation amenities in North Vancouver.

In 2023, after the start of this project, the Province of British Columbia introduced a new housing strategy mandating greater densification and housing targets that guide

local planning, infrastructure, facilities and amenities. CNV and DNV were required to update their Official Community Plans (OCPs) and Zoning Bylaws in late 2025 to align with these requirements. More recent amendments to the Local Government Act will require further updates to both municipalities' OCPs and Zoning Bylaws by June 30, 2026. These changes will impact population distribution and demographics, which will in turn influence future demand for facilities and amenities. Understanding the implications of these changes is a critical next step in determining long-term priorities for recreation infrastructure.

The following sections outline the project's primary conclusions. The findings show that North Vancouver meets or exceeds almost all service levels of similar communities, that residents view amenities positively in terms of quality and quantity, and that demand for outdoor and indoor spaces is strong and growing, particularly during peak times. The section also highlights major initiatives, both completed and underway, that demonstrate a sustained commitment to enhancing this vibrant recreation and sport system.



1

SERVICE LEVELS AND SUPPLY

North Vancouver residents have access to a vast inventory of public indoor and outdoor recreation facilities and amenities. Each municipality owns and operates the outdoor amenities within its network of parks and public spaces, such as sports fields, playgrounds, sport courts, washrooms and trails. CNV and DNV also own the indoor recreation facilities within their jurisdictions and are responsible for the capital costs of their maintenance and renewal. The operation of CNV's and DNV's indoor facilities and the delivery of recreation and cultural programs and services are provided by NVRC, a joint entity of the two municipalities. NVRC's operating costs are also funded by the municipalities through a shared partnership agreement, of which 45% is recovered through user fees.

INVENTORY

In 2025, the City and District invested more than \$79 million in parks and recreation, providing services, operating facilities, maintaining and replacing infrastructure, and adding new amenities to meet the needs of a growing community. As part of this project, the consultant created a geospatial database for CNV's and DNV's recreation amenities. This database will support North Vancouver-wide spatial analysis for park and recreation planning and provides a visual representation of the assets and their distribution. The resulting maps of indoor and outdoor amenities are provided in Appendix 1. The inventory is current to 2026 and includes capital projects that are currently under construction and scheduled for completion in 2026. It should be noted that the inventory does not include the network of paved multi-use trails (such as the Spirit Trail) or the more than 300 kilometres of municipal park and wilderness trails.

North Vancouver's recreation facilities and amenities are well distributed across both municipalities. As shown on Maps 3 and 4 (Appendix 2), most residents live within a five-minute walk of an outdoor amenity and a 10-minute drive of a community recreation centre.

North Vancouver's indoor recreation facilities and amenities include:

- 10** indoor recreation facilities
- 7** indoor pools at 4 locations, plus up to 6,500 hours/year at Pinnacle Pool for NVRC lane swim programming
- 2** public arenas with seasonal ice and dry floor space, plus 3 ice sheets at Canlan Arena, with up to 2,800 hours/year for NVRC programming
- 6** fitness centres
- 6** gymnasiums (basketball, pickleball, badminton, volleyball)
- 9** indoor tennis courts
- 6** seniors-oriented multi-purpose spaces
- 6** youth-oriented multi-purpose spaces
- 2** courts that convert to racquetball/squash
- 1** squash court



North Vancouver's outdoor recreation facilities and amenities include:

- 83** playgrounds
- 48** sports fields (9 artificial turf, 32 grass, 7 gravel)
- 53** tennis courts
- 39** basketball courts
- 23** pickleball courts (16 dedicated, 7 shared)
- 7** spray parks
- 6** skateboard parks
- 3** lacrosse/ball hockey courts
- 3** running tracks
- 3** pump tracks
- 1** BMX track
- 1** disc golf course
- 1** outdoor ice rink

Comparison to other jurisdictions

North Vancouver provides as many or more public amenities than comparable Canadian communities of similar size and demographics (Appendix 3).

Direct comparisons with other Lower Mainland communities are difficult given varying geography, land use and populations. However, North Vancouver’s per capita supply of public recreation amenities generally meets or exceeds the regional averages (Appendix 4).



Notable comparisons per capita – North Vancouver vs municipalities in the region

Community recreation centres		Highest in region
Indoor amenities (swimming pools, ice sheets, fitness areas)		Meets or exceeds average
Sports fields	Artificial turf fields	Above average with new fields under construction at Handsworth Secondary School and Inter River Park
	Grass and gravel fields	Below average (excludes the 25+ gravel fields available for community use on School District property.)
Tennis courts (indoor and outdoor)		Above average
Pickleball courts	Dedicated courts	Above average
	Total courts (dedicated and shared)	Above average
Skateparks		Above average (second highest in the region)



2 COMMUNITY SATISFACTION

ENGAGEMENT METHODS

Through community engagement, the project team learned about residents' recreation preferences, amenity use patterns, participation barriers, satisfaction with current facilities and amenities, and opportunities for enhancements. This process included:

- A survey of over 150 organized groups that use recreation and sport facilities, distributed to representatives of community organizations, resulting in 41 group responses. NVRC, CNV and DNV also received supplemental information from groups through formal correspondence and meetings. A list of the organizations that responded is provided in Appendix 5.
- Discussion sessions and interviews were held with a variety of individuals and groups, including service partners, and representatives of equity-deserving communities, with 58 participants engaged.
- A random survey of North Vancouver residents, inviting 30,000 households to take part. A total of 963 responses from households were received, providing a representative community-wide perspective with a margin of error of $\pm 3.14\%$, 19 times out of 20.
- An open survey, identical to the random survey and available to anyone wishing to complete it. It received 1,478 responses.

NVRC also met with staff from the Sḵw̱x̱wú7mesh (Squamish) and səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations to discuss barriers to participation, opportunities for additional collaboration, and plans for more infrastructure within their communities.

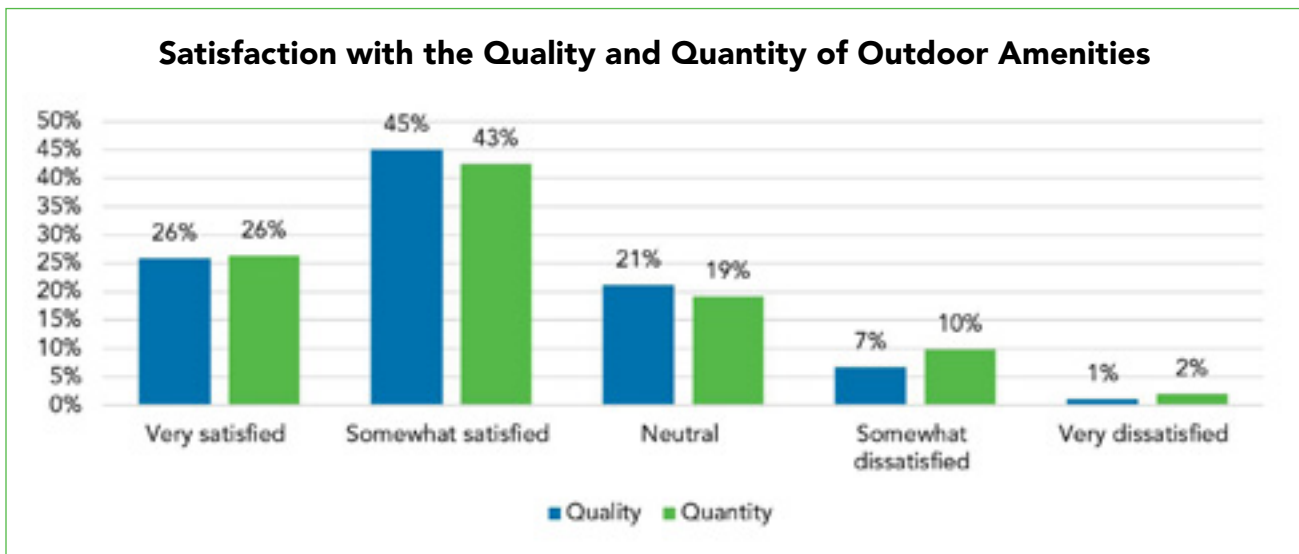
SURVEY RESULTS

The random survey results show that North Vancouverites are highly active: 80% of households participate in activities using indoor recreation facilities and amenities and 82% participate in activities using outdoor amenities in the community (Source: 2023 Project data – Representative Community Survey)

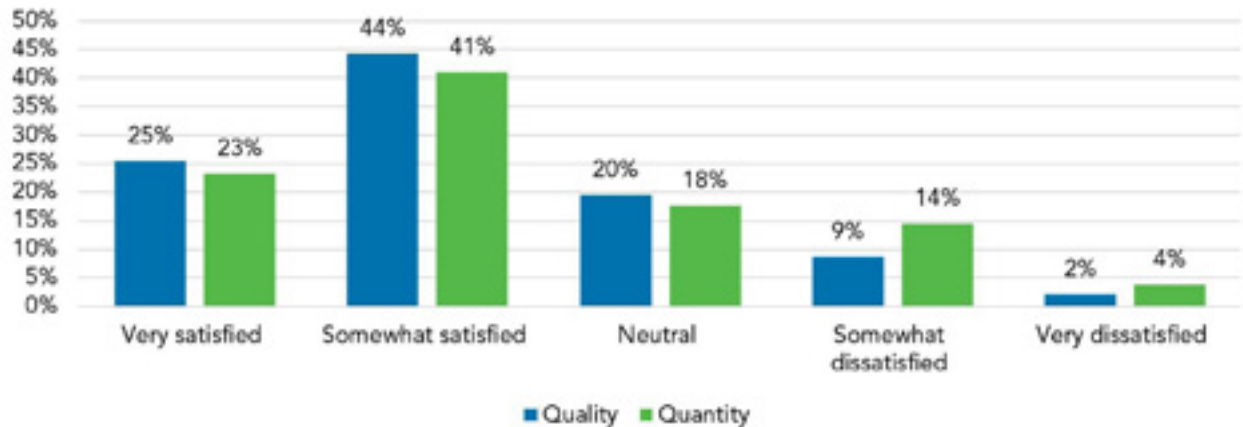
Surveyed households take part in a wide range of activities (Appendix 6), with the top four being:

1. **Outdoor physical activities (91%)** – walking, hiking, cycling, gardening or skateboarding
2. **At-home leisure activities (83%)** – reading and games
3. **Social activities (82%)** – getting together with friends and family
4. **Indoor physical activity (72%)** – working out in a gym or doing yoga

Households that used outdoor facilities most often visited paved multi-use trails, passive park spaces, beaches, and unpaved hiking trails. The survey responses indicated that residents were satisfied with the availability and quality of public facilities and amenities in North Vancouver. 69% were very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the availability of outdoor amenities and 71% were highly satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the quality of those amenities. For indoor facilities and amenities, 64% were very or somewhat satisfied with the availability, and 69% were very or somewhat satisfied with the quality.

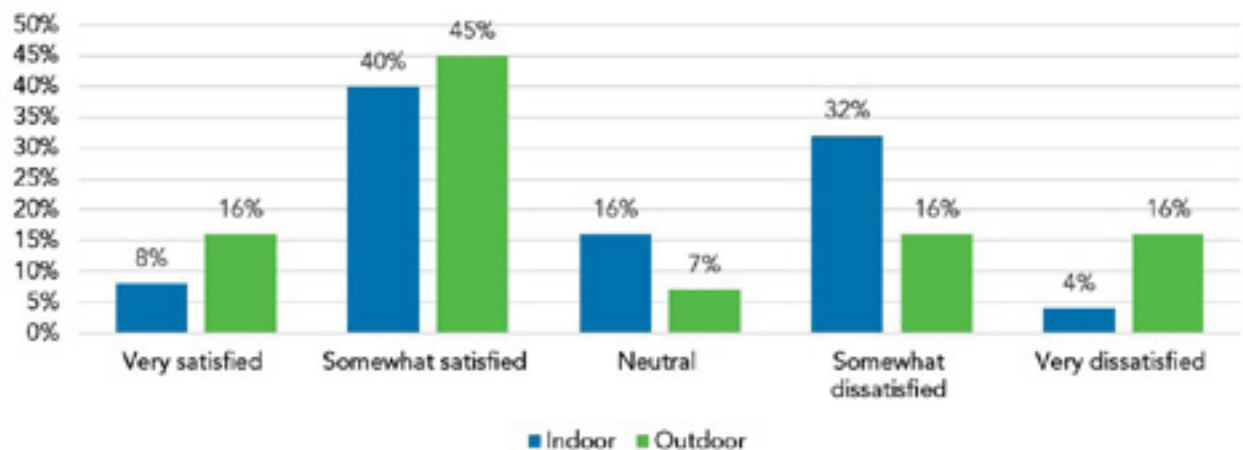


Satisfaction with the Quality and Quantity of Indoor Amenities



Organized recreation and sport groups deliver services that primarily rely on municipal facilities, such as fields, gymnasiums, pools, and arenas. The 2023 survey of organized groups indicates that demand for bookable space continues to rise, with 67% reporting increased membership and 76% offering year-round programming, beyond traditional seasons. With that growth, 80% of groups reported that they face challenges accessing enough amenity space for their regular activities, 54% noted difficulty securing spaces for special events, and 44% felt that current facility types do not fully meet their program needs. Despite access challenges, 61% are satisfied with the quality of outdoor facilities and 48% with indoor facilities. (Source: 2023 Project data – Organised Recreation and Sport Group Survey)

Organised Group Satisfaction with the Quality of Indoor and Outdoor Amenities





3 DEMAND

RECREATION TRENDS

The research identified several broad recreation and sport trends that influence demand for community recreation amenities in North Vancouver. These include:

Unstructured casual use: Residents increasingly look for informal, spontaneous activities in parks and open spaces, which require supporting amenities like shade, seating and signage that welcome casual use.

Popular outdoor amenities: The most desired outdoor amenities include outdoor pools, outdoor fitness equipment, beaches, trails, picnic areas and open spaces.

Sport participation trends: Interest is rising in pickleball, soccer, baseball, tennis, cricket, rugby, mountain biking, field hockey, basketball and disc golf.

Amenity rental demand: Increased demand for indoor and outdoor amenities, particularly fields, gymnasiums, pools and arenas, as organized group programs expand and activities extend beyond traditional seasons.

Equity-focused: With growing and more diverse populations, a greater focus is needed on equitable access to amenities and services in underserved neighbourhoods and by equity-deserving segments of the population.

Climate impacts: Environmental conditions, including more extreme weather and decreased air quality due to seasonal wildfires, are affecting the use of outdoor amenities. With longer term climate trends for hotter/dryer summers and increasingly rainy winters, there will likely be an increasing demand for indoor and covered outdoor amenities.

Technology in parks: Increasing use of smart park features (solar charging benches, EV stations, QR codes for education) and operational tech for maintenance efficiency.

Multi-use community hubs: Recreation facilities are evolving into integrated spaces combining aquatics, fitness, arenas, arts, social areas, libraries, early years/preschool spaces and low sensory spaces to maximize operational efficiency and provide formal and informal participation for families and individuals of all ages and abilities. Community recreation centres promote belonging and social connection; they serve as inclusive, accessible places to gather, connect and engage in activities that promote well-being.

Accessibility and inclusion: Universal change rooms, barrier-free design and spaces that accommodate all genders, abilities and cultural backgrounds have become standard in modern facilities.

Participation shifts: Increased demand for flexible, drop-in activities and spontaneous recreation spaces alongside traditional structured programs. For example, community living room spaces have been incorporated into recent facility designs, providing informal spaces for people to feel a part of the community without having to register for a program.

Operational pressures: Staffing shortages for lifeguards and swim instructors and volunteer fatigue are straining operations. With younger, less experienced staff and more public incidents, enhanced training in conflict resolution and decision making is needed.



FACILITY AND AMENITY USE

Operational and utilization information derived from NVRC’s amenity bookings and indoor participation data confirms that demand for outdoor and indoor spaces during peak times is consistently high and continues to grow. The challenge is that most individuals and community groups share similar windows of availability: early mornings, late afternoons and evenings on weekdays, and then all day on weekends. This creates significant competition for indoor and outdoor amenities during peak times.



Indoor amenities: Most indoor amenities support a combination of uses, including casual public use, participation in NVRC programs and services, as well as exclusive use or rentals by community organizations, sports groups and individuals. As a result, pools, arenas, gymnasiums and multipurpose spaces are consistently in high demand. Balancing these different types of usage is complex and supported by policy-based allocation processes. For example, NVRC’s swimming programs, that serve the entire local population, have a higher priority for pool use than third-party sport organization rentals. There is data on participation of these indoor spaces which helps inform programs and facility planning.

Outdoor amenities: Most outdoor amenities are available for casual public use and can either support multiple users at one time (playgrounds) or are available on a casual drop-in basis, such as sport courts. Public amenities that are available for exclusive use, such as sports fields, are managed through a fee-based permit process administered by NVRC, with a prioritization and allocations process based on approved policy and procedures. As a result, verifiable outdoor amenity usage data is limited to bookable amenities such as sports fields.



Sports fields: Artificial turf, grass fields and ball diamonds are used by many types of community and school sports, including soccer, field hockey, football, rugby, baseball, softball and ultimate. With increasing popularity and overlapping seasons, artificial turf and grass sports fields are consistently in high demand. Demand for gravel fields has been lower; however, with limited availability of artificial turf and grass field time, bookings for gravel fields have been increasing during peak times. Following the pre-season field allocation process, remaining available time on artificial turf fields is typically limited to 9am to 4pm on weekdays at non-school based sites, such as Fen Burdett, William Griffin or Kirkstone.



Sports courts: The North Vancouver Tennis Centre provides programs and access to nine bookable indoor tennis courts. These are the only public indoor courts on the North Shore. There is high demand for programs and court bookings throughout the year, but particularly during the winter months. To help meet the increasing demand, NVRC has expanded the Tennis Centre's hours of operation and implemented a priority registration system for North Vancouver residents.

Indoor pickleball programs are offered in several community recreation centres, and demand is consistently high. Like badminton, the smaller court size makes it possible to play pickleball in a gymnasium.

As outdoor sports courts are primarily used on a casual basis, usage data is limited to the hours booked by community sports organizations, primarily for tennis and pickleball. Public outdoor courts cannot be reserved for individual use and are on a first-come, first-served basis. The North Shore Tennis Society and North Shore Pickleball Club report that courts are in high demand from spring to fall, with usage shifting to more indoor play during the winter months. The reallocation of land in the City of North Vancouver that had previously provided access to eight public tennis courts has resulted in concerns from the tennis community.





4

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES AND MAJOR INITIATIVES

CNV and DNV continue to make substantial investments in the planning and delivery of outdoor and indoor facilities and amenities to support community well-being and provide enhanced opportunities for participation in recreation and sport.

NORTH VANCOUVER-WIDE INITIATIVES

Outdoor fees and charges review: NVRC, CNV and DNV are working through a review of policies and practices regarding fees for booking of outdoor amenities. An updated approach to fees and charges that is fair, efficient and effective will help maximize use of existing assets and ensure appropriate cost recovery to support maintenance and replacement of high-demand bookable outdoor amenities, such as sports fields and sports courts. The plan is to provide recommendations in early 2027.

Indoor and outdoor allocation policy

review: The policy review will establish a principle-based framework for allocating indoor and outdoor spaces that ensures access is fair, transparent and aligned with community values. The framework will communicate clear priorities and seek to balance new and emerging groups and sports, while respecting the value of established user groups. The plan is to provide recommendations to the Commission in 2027.

NVRC facility accessibility assessments:

Supporting access and inclusion is a fundamental part of NVRC's mission to build healthy individuals, families and communities. NVRC is conducting an accessibility review of the facilities it operates to identify barriers and recommend priority improvements to the built environment. A future phase will include a review of programs and services. The plan is to provide recommendations for future capital budget submissions.

Adapted aquatics service plan: This plan builds on NVRC's solid foundation of aquatics services to foster participation, enhanced confidence, improved health and wellness outcomes and a stronger sense of belonging for all. It focuses on direct program delivery, leisure counselling, specialized staff training, investment in adaptive equipment, facility design and equipment enhancements and strategic partnerships. The plan is to begin implementation in 2027.



CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER INITIATIVES

Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre: Currently in the final stages of construction, this centre will open in mid-2026. It will provide new and enhanced accessible indoor and outdoor amenities to support community needs for activity, creativity, wellness, celebration and connection. Program elements include: 500-spectator NHL-sized arena, an expanded aquatics centre with a large leisure pool, 10-lane 25-meter lap pool, arts spaces and youth, early years and pre-school spaces. Key additions include a full-size gymnasium, extensive indoor/outdoor fitness spaces, a new skate park, outdoor playground, half-court basketball and a community kitchen. The Silver Harbour Seniors Activity Centre is located adjacent to the CRC.



Harbour Swimming Deck: This project will deliver an innovative new outdoor public swimming amenity space at Waterfront Park. The first of its kind in Burrard Inlet, the swimming deck will provide safe, accessible and free public access to Burrard Inlet, as well as 50-metre swimming lanes, a shallow pool and recreational jumping platforms. The project is expected to be complete in 2027.

Parks and Public Space Plan: A CNV Parks and Public Space Plan is in development that will establish a 10-year vision and recommendations for enhancements to meet community needs. The planning process will build on data collected through this project to determine appropriate service levels for parks and outdoor recreation amenities, develop an equity framework, develop a vision for a connected network of parks and public spaces, and identify priorities for enhancing community health and well-being.

Tennis Feasibility Study - Quick Starts: CNV will be assessing service levels, identifying opportunities to increase capacity and optimize existing courts, and exploring options for new tennis amenities. For 2026 CNV will be assessing the condition of existing courts and the feasibility of adding lights to the four courts at Ray Perrault Park.

New parks: New parks are being created to enhance access to public open space and outdoor amenities in Central Lonsdale. Topo Park was completed in 2025 and features a large lawn area, playground and climbing wall. A new park at 1600 Eastern Avenue is currently under construction and will provide a central green surrounded by a variety of playful features and a fenced off-leash area. It is scheduled to be completed in mid-2026.



Mahon Park skateboard plaza: Constructed in 2022, the skateboard plaza added a new public amenity to the site of the decommissioned outdoor pool. Four pickleball courts and a basketball court had previously been built on other portions of the site, creating a new community sport hub.

Disc golf: The course at Eastview Park is planned to be enhanced in 2026, providing more separation between golfers and casual park users. This will include the development of a new perimeter trail and forest and habitat improvements. Disc golf has seen significant growth in recent years, and the project aims to address increased community demand while reducing impacts on the neighbourhood and other park users.

Kings Mill Walk Park: This park is getting a major upgrade as part of the revitalization of the Harbourside neighbourhood and climate-resilient shoreline improvements. The park will feature an all ages play zone, outdoor fitness stations, beach volleyball court and off-leash dog area. The shoreline improvements and park renewal will take several years and are expected to begin early 2026.

DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER INITIATIVES

New community recreation centres: Over the last nine years, DNV has opened three new centres, providing a significant expansion in service levels and adding amenities to growing town centres.

- Delbrook Community Recreation Centre opened in 2017, replacing the old William Griffin and Delbrook Community Recreation Centres. With a lap pool and leisure pool, gymnasium, large fitness area and a variety of multi-purpose rooms, Delbrook has been the busiest indoor recreation facility in North Vancouver.
- Lions Gate Community Recreation Centre opened in 2022 in Lions Gate Town Centre. The new building provides a gymnasium, community living room, multi-purpose spaces, express library and home for NVRC's service partner, Capilano Community Services Society. In response to community feedback, NVRC is exploring the opportunity of adding a fitness centre in the future.
- Lynn Creek Community Recreation Centre opened in early 2025, replacing the former Seylynn Hall. The centre provides a gymnasium, community living room, multi-purpose spaces, childcare centre and access to library resources. The facility is in the new Lynn Creek Town Centre, next to the North Shore Spirit Trail, providing easy bike and pedestrian access to the surrounding neighbourhoods.



Artificial turf fields: DNV has made significant investments in artificial turf fields in the last five years, constructing the new field at Argyle Secondary School (2023), and installing new turf at William Griffin (2024) and Windsor Secondary School (2025). New fields are currently under construction at Inter River Park and Handsworth Secondary School, with completion in 2026. In the longer term, DNV is also planning to convert an existing gravel field to artificial turf.

Outdoor Sports Courts Optimization Strategy: This strategy focuses on identifying ways to maximize use of DNV’s sport courts. In addition to enhancements to the existing inventory of tennis courts, the strategy recommends increasing the number of pickleball courts in appropriate locations where concerns about noise, parking and support amenities can be addressed. Given the low demand for lacrosse boxes, DNV is exploring the feasibility of constructing new pickleball courts on the underutilized former lacrosse court site in William Griffin Park.

Kirkstone skatepark: This skatepark was recently enhanced with lighting and improvements to skateable features to maximize use.

Disc golf: DNV is engaging with the North Shore Disc Golf Association to explore potential options for a new course.

New parks: The District is adding new parks and completing upgrades to existing park spaces in town centres, recognizing the importance of providing park space amenities near new housing and density. Belle Isle Park was opened in 2025, providing additional public open space and amenities in Lions Gate Town Centre. The park complements the plaza and spray park adjacent to the community recreation centre, and features a playground, outdoor exercise equipment and fenced off-leash area.

Construction of a new park on the former Delbrook Lands was also completed in late 2025. The site now includes a playground, spray park, pump track, basketball court with some skateboard features, walking circuit and washroom building. The existing lit tennis courts were also refurbished.





OPPORTUNITIES

Future recreation and sport capital project priorities will be determined after both municipalities finalize and adopt their Official Community Plans (OCPs), as these plans shape expectations for future growth and population density in accordance with new, provincially-mandated requirements for increased housing.

Until then, innovative planning and asset management offer opportunities to maximize facility use and community benefit.

COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO PLANNING

This project has been advanced through a coordinated effort by CNV and DNV and has included the development of the first North Vancouver-wide geospatial inventory of public indoor and outdoor recreation assets. The results show that the history of collaboration between the municipalities has generated an extensive network of amenities and a high level of service. This approach leverages the unique and complementary characteristics of both jurisdictions to provide North Vancouver residents with a diverse range of recreation opportunities that function as one integrated system. The information gathered through this project provides the foundation for future analysis to identify long-term infrastructure priorities and is currently being used to support parks and recreation planning by both municipalities.



LEVERAGE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS

Explore opportunities to collaborate with Skwxwú7mesh and səlilwətał Nations on shared amenities. The Skwxwú7mesh recently completed a new covered outdoor sports court (the first on the North Shore) and the səlilwətał is constructing a new artificial turf field.

School grounds and gymnasiums form an important part of the community's system of amenities, and the municipalities have partnered with the North Vancouver School District on a variety of projects from joint-use artificial turf fields to playground enhancements. There may be opportunities to establish new amenities on school sites (such as tennis courts) and to ensure gymnasium use is maximized.

MAXIMIZE USE

With growing populations, limited land and more people living in attached forms of housing with limited private outdoor space, it will be increasingly important to identify strategies to maximize the utility of existing facilities and parks amenities, while also exploring opportunities to enhance access to open space and recreation amenities near town centres. Adding lighting to existing outdoor amenities, such as sport courts, and increasing hours of operation, where possible, can be a cost-effective way of expanding capacity to meet growing needs.

Continuing the gradual conversion of gravel and grass sports fields to artificial turf is another way to expand capacity. North Vancouver's wet climate significantly reduces the utility of grass, and one artificial turf field provides the equivalent playing time of approximately 10 grass fields. As a result, North Vancouver has prioritized artificial turf fields over grass and gravel fields.

As the inventory of artificial turf fields increases, there may be opportunities to re-purpose some other fields to support other park uses. Given the high cost of acquiring land, and limited supply of flat terrain in North Vancouver, this approach could be part of a long-term strategy for meeting future community needs.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Some community sport organizations and clubs have expressed interest in exploring potential partnerships with the municipalities to fund the construction and operation of new indoor facilities or sport-specific outdoor amenities through capital contributions or loans, and user fee-based cost recovery. This approach was used for the initial construction and operation of what is now the North Vancouver Tennis Centre. There may also be opportunities for more public-private partnerships, such as the District-owned, privately operated Canlan Sports Arena. There may be opportunities to explore these types of partnerships in the future. The challenge, however, is that this approach requires access to public land, which is in short supply.

PLANNING FOR FACILITY RENEWAL

Ron Andrews and Karen Magnussen Community Recreation Centres require renewal or replacement in the next decade. Both facilities are near town centres and have been identified as priorities in DNV's Strategic Facilities Plan. Planning for these facilities will incorporate findings from this project.

ENHANCING FACILITY USE DATA COLLECTION

As technology continues to evolve, there are opportunities to implement new methods for collecting data on amenity usage. Outdoor recreation data collected by NVRC is currently limited to hours of use and number of permitted bookings for a few amenities. The current outdoor user fee and allocation process also makes it challenging to track actual usage versus scheduled usage, which is critical to effectively manage system capacity.

Community recreation centres track registration, admissions and amenity rentals. However, they lack data on which specific amenities are used by day pass holders or monthly pass holders, since these passes provide access to multiple amenities and activities. There is also no data on passive use of spaces such as community living rooms. Enhanced data collection on usage of public amenities can support evidence-based decisions on priorities for maintenance and renewal, align bookings with actual demand and ensure equitable access.





NEXT STEPS

The next steps will involve assessing the implications of the revised OCPs and anticipated population growth on recreation facility and amenity planning, defining appropriate service levels, identifying gaps and recommending infrastructure enhancements. While there is always a demand for more, both the technical analysis and engagement with users conducted through this project combined with anecdotal, daily feedback at facilities demonstrates that residents are well-served and satisfied with the diverse and extensive network of parks and recreation facilities and amenities in North Vancouver. Continuing a collaborative, North Vancouver-wide perspective to parks and recreation planning will help ensure that the supply of facilities and amenities is right-sized for the community.

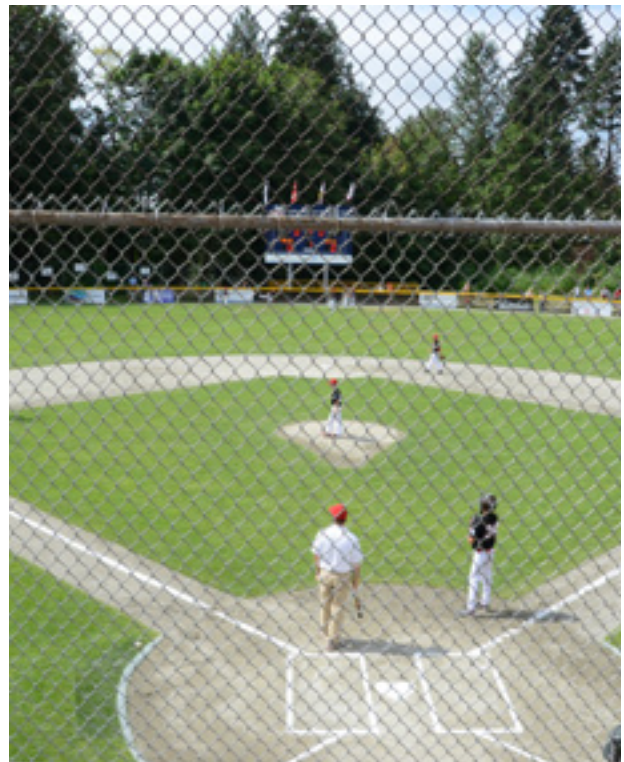
Recreation facilities and amenities are highly used and valued by residents and provide many benefits to the entire community. As indoor and outdoor amenities age, and operation and construction costs escalate, there will be more pressure to focus and prioritize limited resources on maintenance and enhancement of existing assets. Another important consideration will be to provide outdoor and indoor amenities together, where possible.

Following CNV's OCP updates, the Parks and Public Space Plan will build from the information collected through this project to establish a new 10-year vision, with service levels and recommended outdoor recreation priorities for the community. The new Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre will provide a world-class facility to meet community needs, and the potential addition of a smaller centre as part of the redevelopment of Capilano Mall provides an opportunity to add other supporting amenities to serve the growing Marine Drive neighbourhood.

DNV's OCP updates and Zoning Bylaw updates will be completed by June 30, 2026. As of March 2026, the District has asked the Province for an extension related to BC's Small Scale Multi Unit Housing requirements. Further updates are anticipated in 2027 as part of the Town and Village Centre Implementation Plans, which provide the opportunity to consider the integration of public amenities, such as parks.

With the long-term community and neighbourhood plans updated, DNV will be well-positioned to consider the scope and timing of enhancements to Ron Andrews and Karen Magnussen Community Recreation Centres.

Priority actions to expand and enhance the District's outdoor amenities include constructing new fields at Inter River Park and Handsworth Secondary School and implementing the Sport Court Optimization Strategy.





FINDINGS

North Vancouver's recreation and sport system depends on four factors: community demand, amenity supply and distribution, operational realities, and the broader municipal planning context. Together, these factors define right-sized recreation and show that North Vancouver's facility network is diverse, equitable and well-positioned to serve both current and future needs.

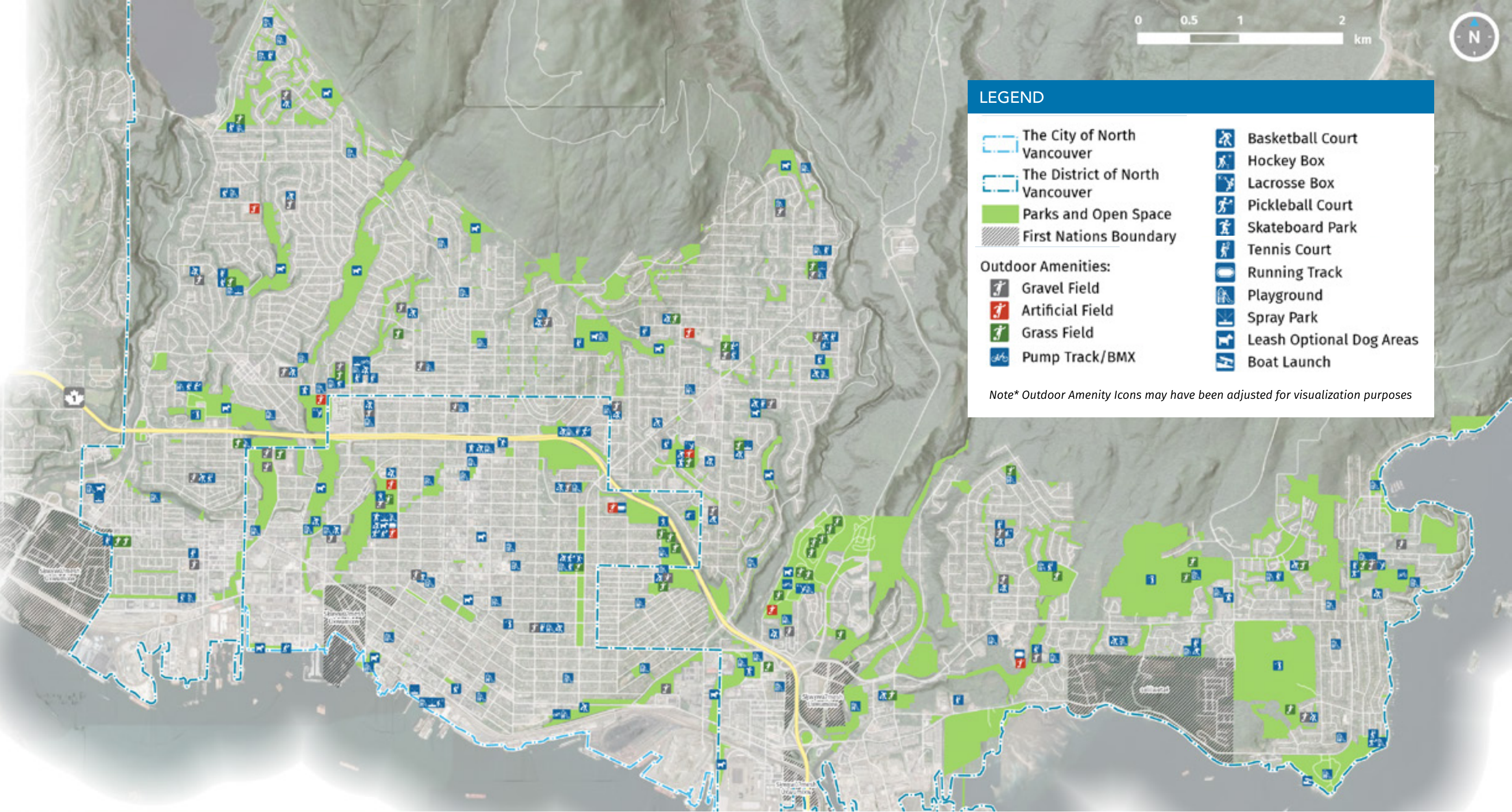
- 1. Community demand remains consistently high,** with residents participating in a wide range of indoor and outdoor recreation. Household survey data shows strong participation, reaffirming recreation as a core contributor to community health and wellbeing.
- 2. The supply, type and geographic distribution of amenities in North Vancouver is strong.** Across both municipalities, residents benefit from an extensive network of community recreation centres, parks, trails, courts, fields, pools and specialized amenities that function as one integrated system. Inventories demonstrate that most service levels meet or exceed those in comparable municipalities, and that the system is well distributed across neighbourhoods, ensuring relatively easy access for all. The diversity of amenities supports a wide range of interests, abilities and cultural activities.
- 3. Operational data shows how residents use the system,** underscoring both strengths and pressures. Peak time hours are busy and that is unlikely to change. However, the system functions within these challenges because of coordinated allocation practices, strong program delivery, and collaboration between CNV, DNV and NVRC.
- 4. The larger planning and policy environment is reshaping future needs.** Provincial housing legislation, updated OCPs, demographic changes, shifting trends and interests and aging facilities all influence long-term recreation planning. Both municipalities continue to invest strategically in infrastructure renewal such as new community recreation centres, sport courts, artificial turf fields and park improvements while incorporating equity, climate resilience, accessibility and intergovernmental partnerships into decision-making. These four commitments maximize the potential to be responsive to community evolution.

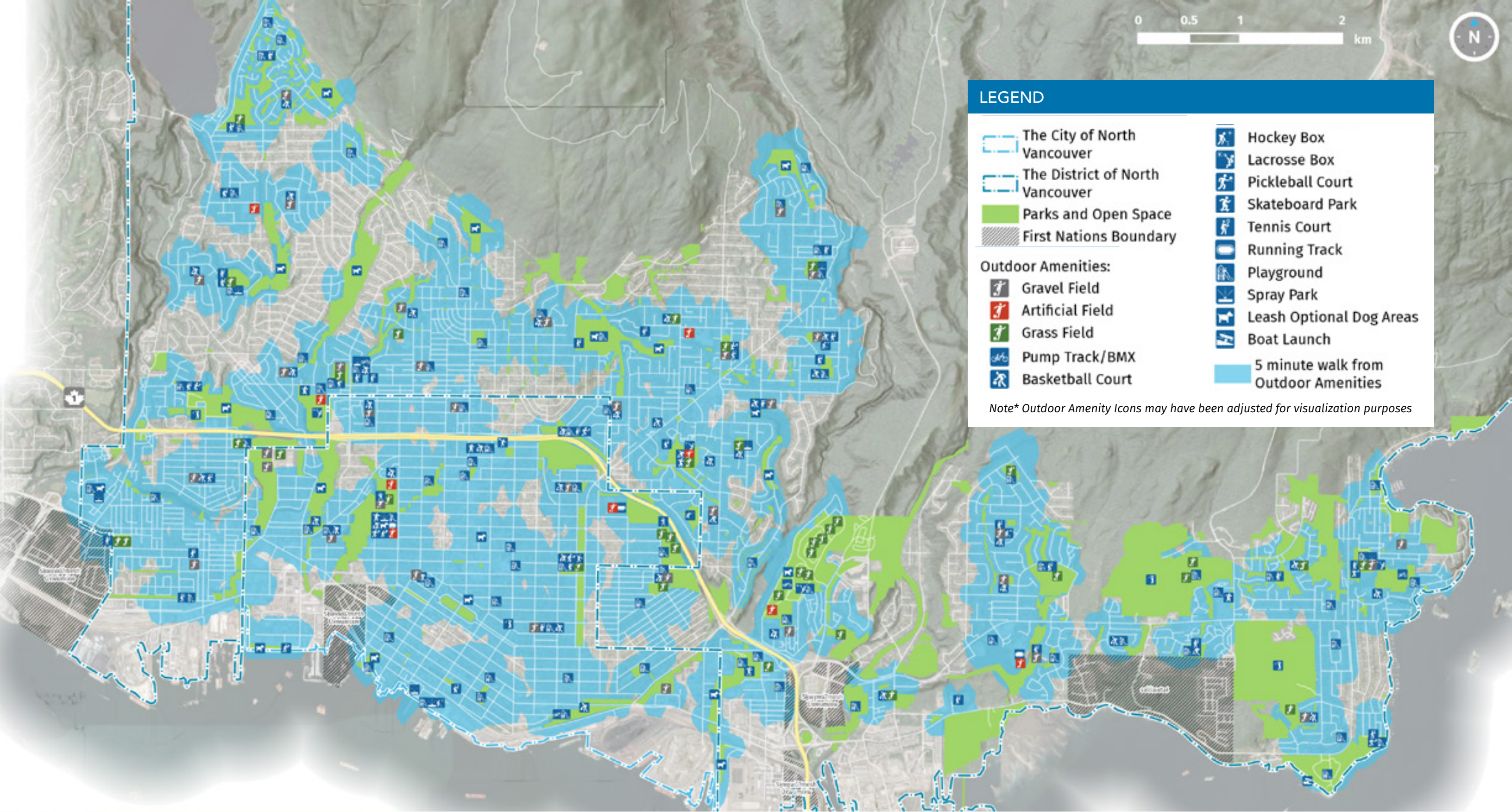


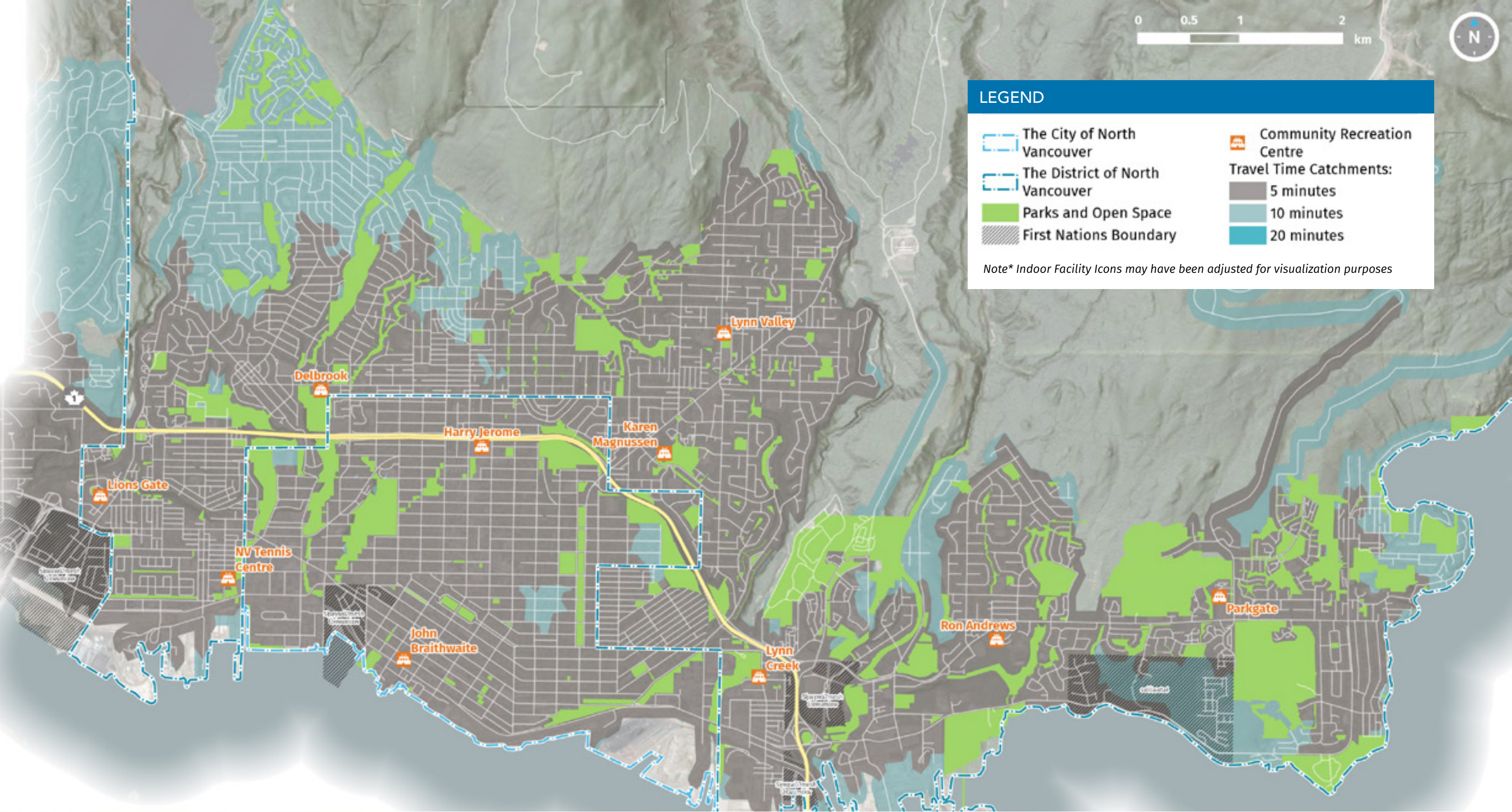
CONCLUSION

North Vancouver has a robust, right-sized system by national and regional standards; one that is comprehensive, diverse, geographically balanced and highly valued by residents. At the same time, the insights from this project illuminate opportunities to refine, enhance and future-proof the system through data-informed planning, partnerships and targeted upgrades. With a strong foundation and a coordinated municipal approach, North Vancouver is well-positioned to continue delivering an inclusive, resilient and adaptable recreation system that supports the health and vitality of its growing communities for decades to come.









APPENDIX 3: Municipal Comparisons

Prepared by: Project Research Consultant, RC Strategies.

This appendix summarizes municipal benchmarking comparing North Vancouver's recreation infrastructure to comparable Canadian communities.

For the purposes of this Assessment, municipalities studied were the City of Kelowna and the Regional District of Central Okanagan, the City of Victoria and the Capital Region District, and the City of Burlington and the Regional Municipality of Halton. These communities were selected due to population, context within a broader metropolitan area, and other community demographic characteristics.

Results are grouped into greater, similar, and lower supply categories.

Greater Supply

North Vancouver provides above-average supply in: Artificial turf fields, fitness/wellness facilities, multipurpose program rooms, basketball courts, indoor/outdoor tennis courts, pickleball courts, ball diamonds, parks, off-leash dog areas, cricket pitches, and lacrosse boxes.

Similar Supply

Supply levels are consistent for: Pools, gymnasiums, bike skills/pump/BMX tracks, disc golf, grass fields, spray parks, and skate parks.

Lower Supply

North Vancouver has fewer full-sized ice sheets compared to comparator municipalities but has the ice rink at The Shipyards for casual public use.

Benchmarking Considerations and Limitations

Benchmarking should be interpreted alongside demographic, geographic, and historical context. Facility counts do not reflect quality or usability. Municipalities track amenities differently; private/third-party facilities are excluded, and inventories may change over time.

Indoor Amenity Comparison

Amenity	Avg Qty	North Van Qty	Avg Ratio	NV Ratio
Pools	3	7*	37,696	36,572
Fitness / Wellness	3	6	37,696	24,381
Gymnasiums	9	6	12,565	16,254
Ice Sheets	6	5	18,848	29,258
Indoor Tennis Courts	3	9	37,696	16,254
Multipurpose Rooms	22	52	5,140	2,813

Outdoor Amenity Comparison

Amenity	Avg Qty	North Van Qty	Avg Ratio	NV Ratio
Ball Diamonds	33	48	3,427	2,760
Basketball Courts	11	43	10,281	3,751
Bike Pump/BMX Tracks	1	4	113,089	36,572
Cricket Pitches	1	2	113,089	73,144
Community Parks	88	141	1,285	1,038
Disc Golf Courses	1	1	113,089	146,288
Dog Off-Leash Areas	7	18	16,156	8,127
Lacrosse Boxes	1	3	113,089	48,762
Pickleball Courts	10	23	11,309	6,360
Skate Parks	5	6	22,618	24,381
Grass Fields	23	32	4,917	4,571
Artificial Turf Fields	3	9	37,696	16,254
Spray Parks	6	7	18,848	20,898
Tennis Courts	18	53	6,283	2,475

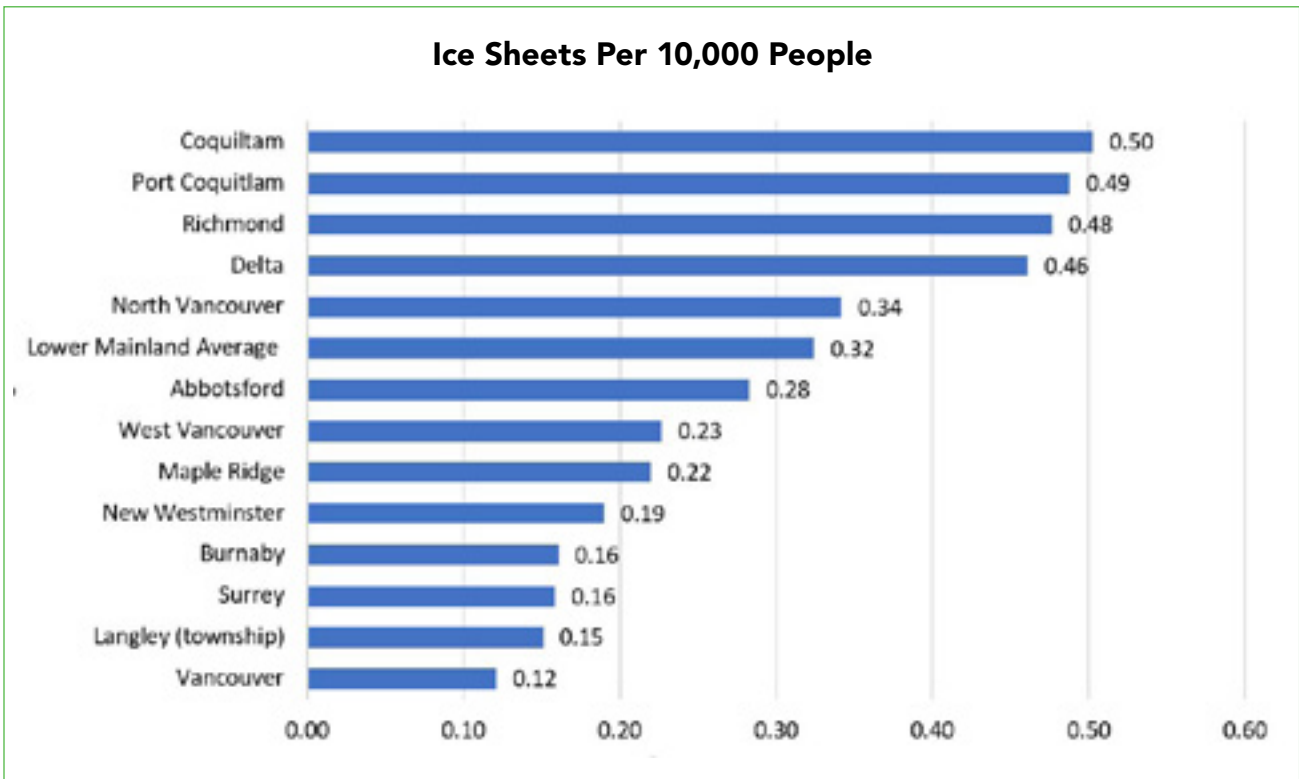
Municipal Comparators

	North Vancouver	Kelowna / RDCO	Victoria / CRD	Burlington / Halton
Population (2021)	58,120 / 88,168	144,576	91,867	186,948

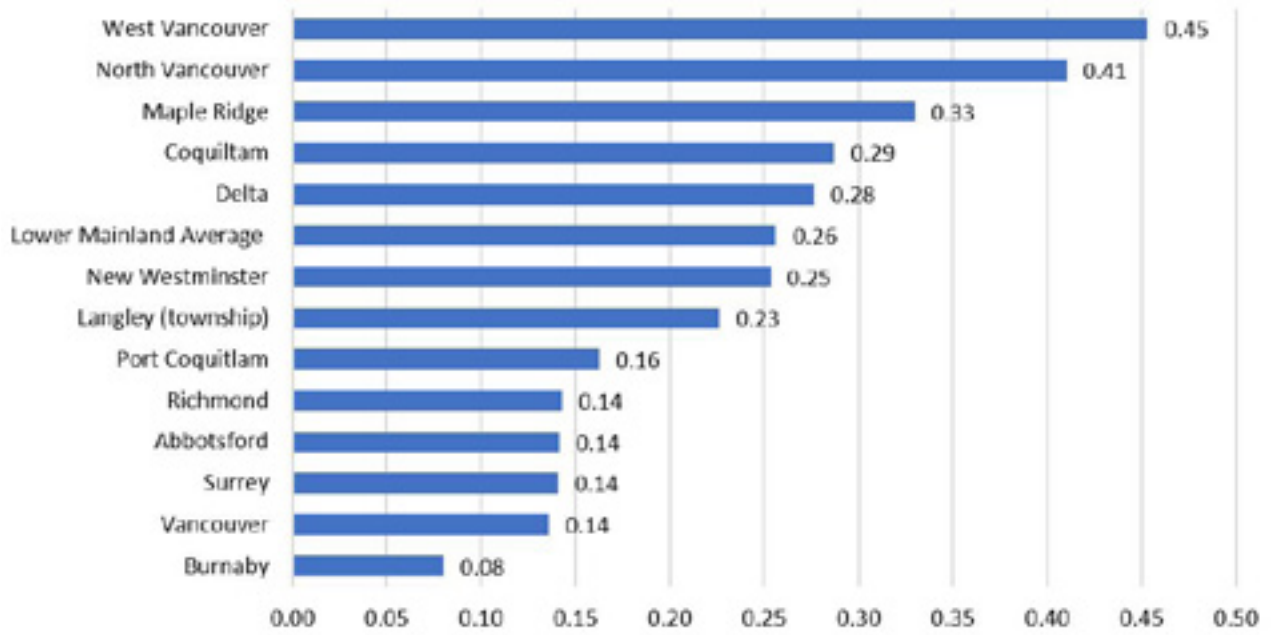
*Includes new Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre

APPENDIX 4: Regional Comparisons

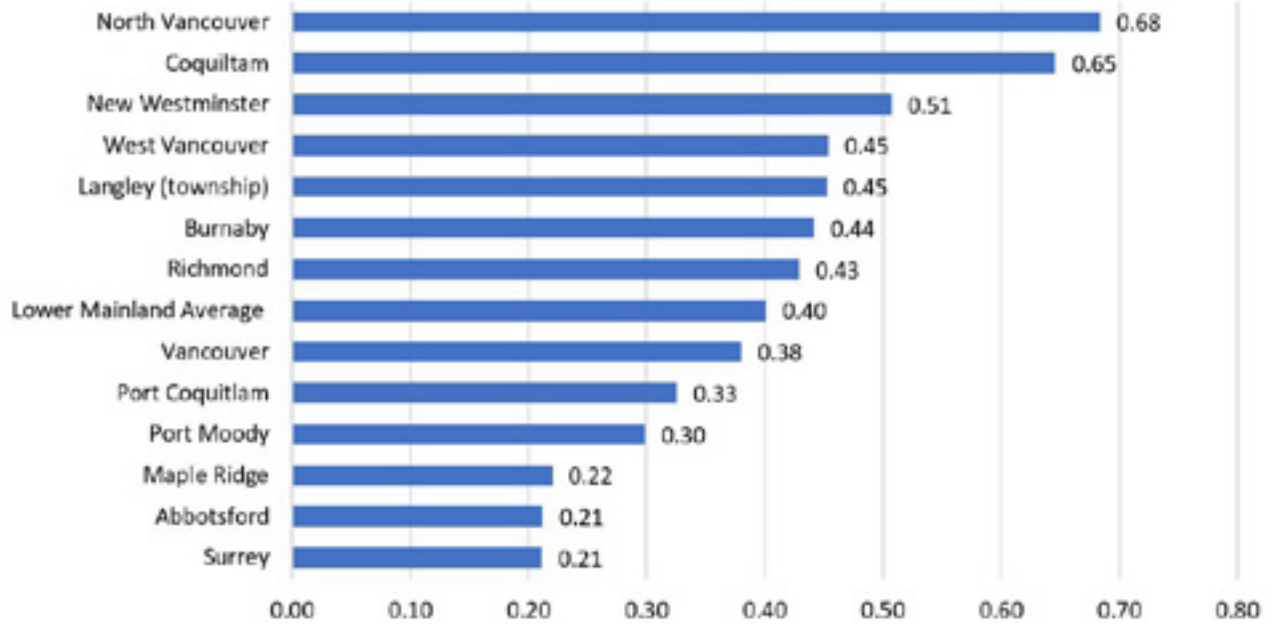
The following graphics compare the amount of recreation facilities and amenities in North Vancouver to other major communities in the Lower Mainland. The results utilise Canadian Census population data (2021), and online municipal recreation data to provide the number of amenities per 10,000 people.



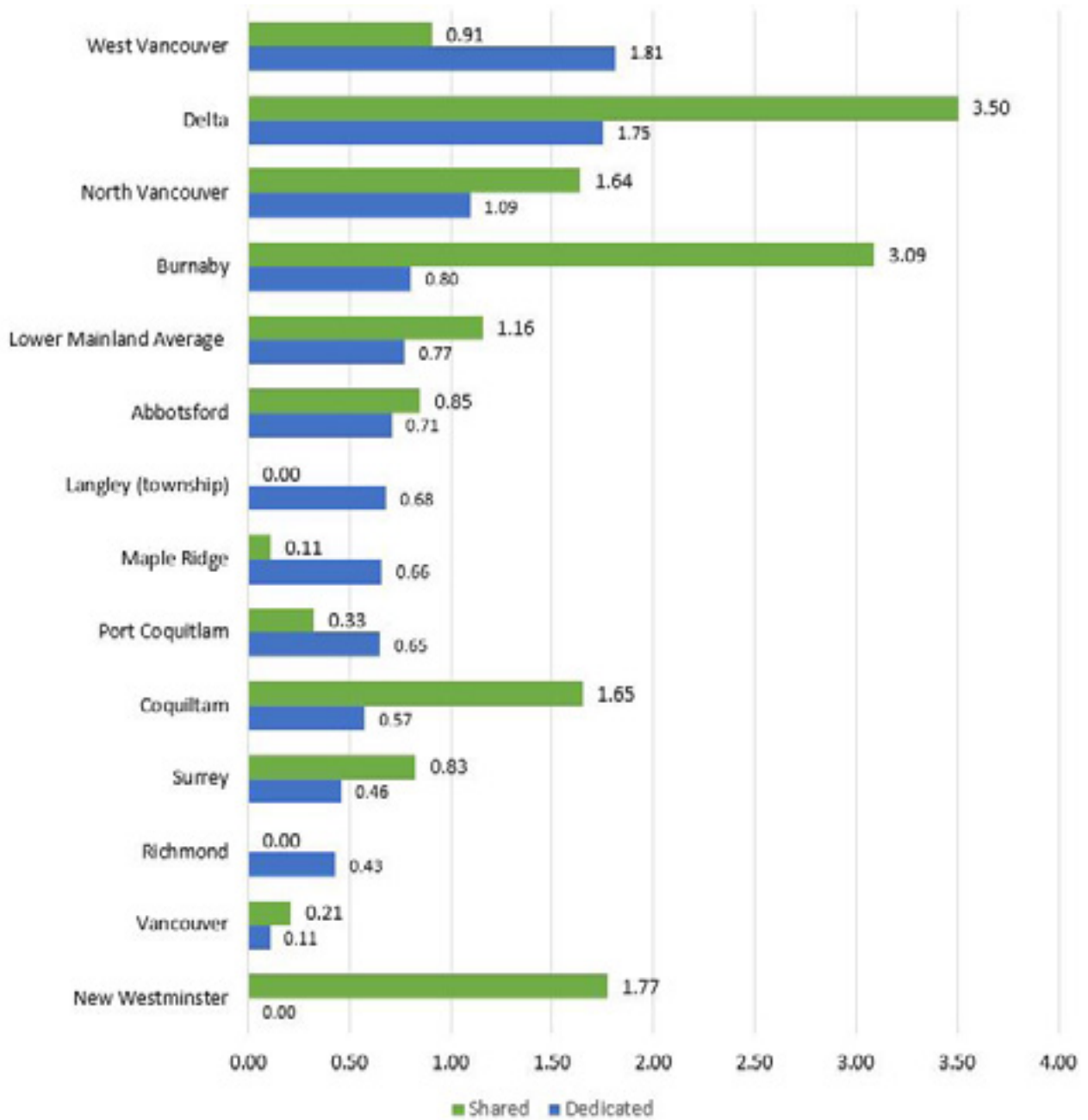
Skateparks Per 10,000 People



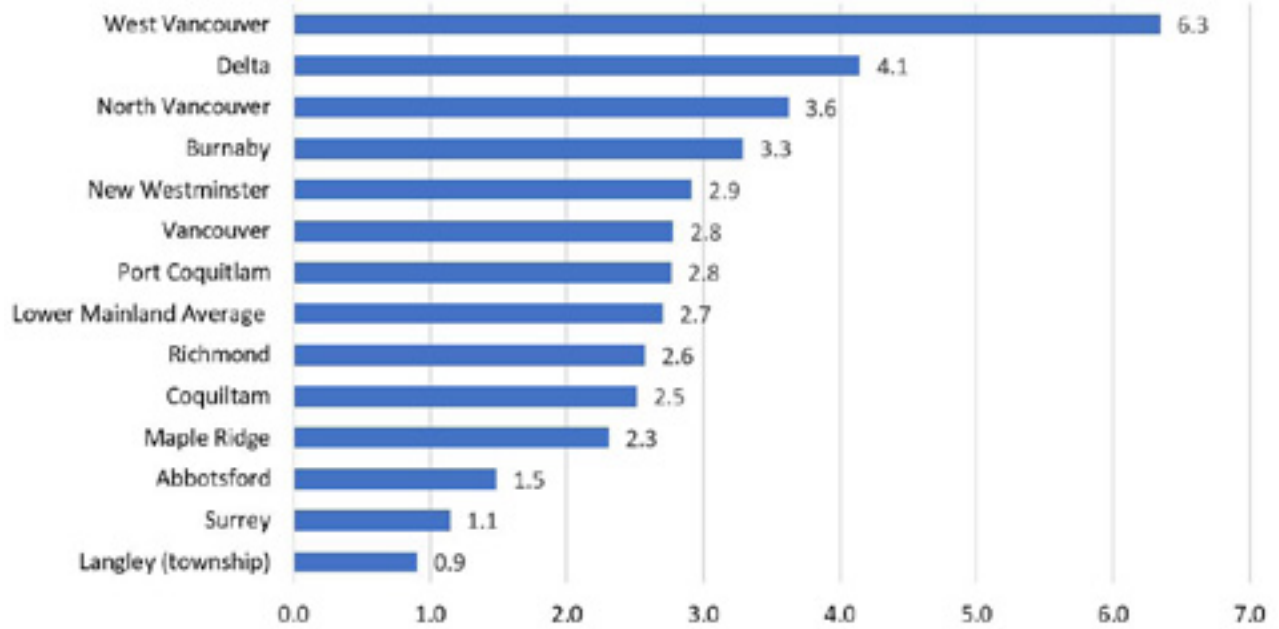
Community Recreation Centres Per 10,000 People



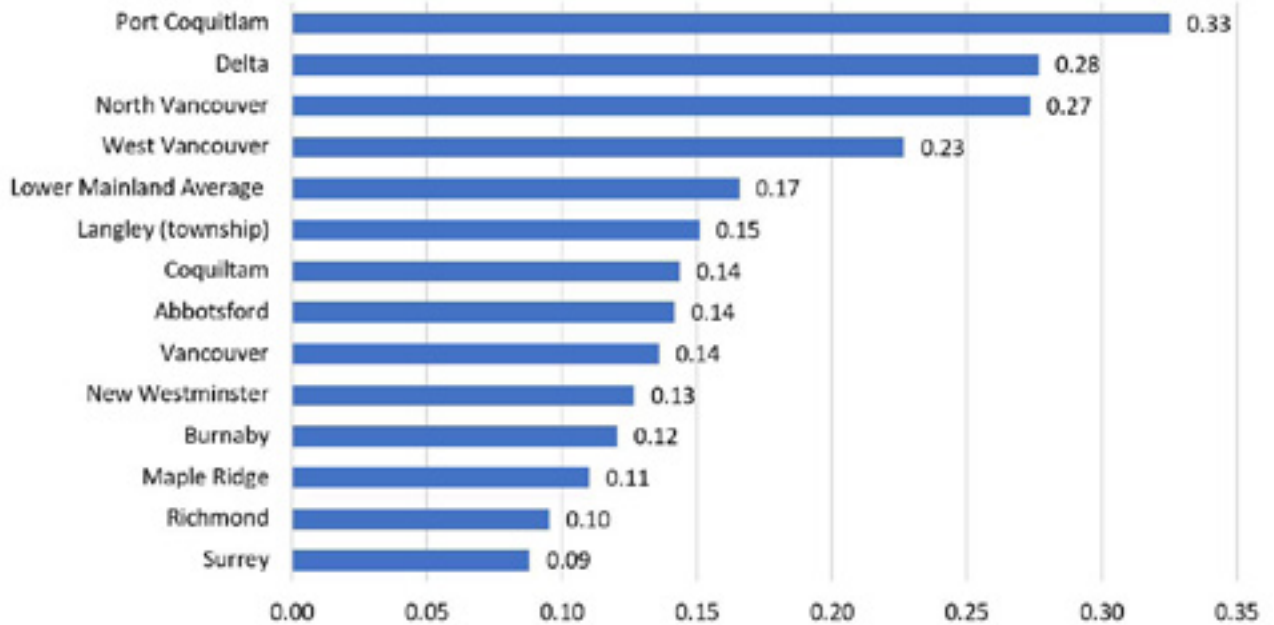
Pickleball Courts Per 10,000 People



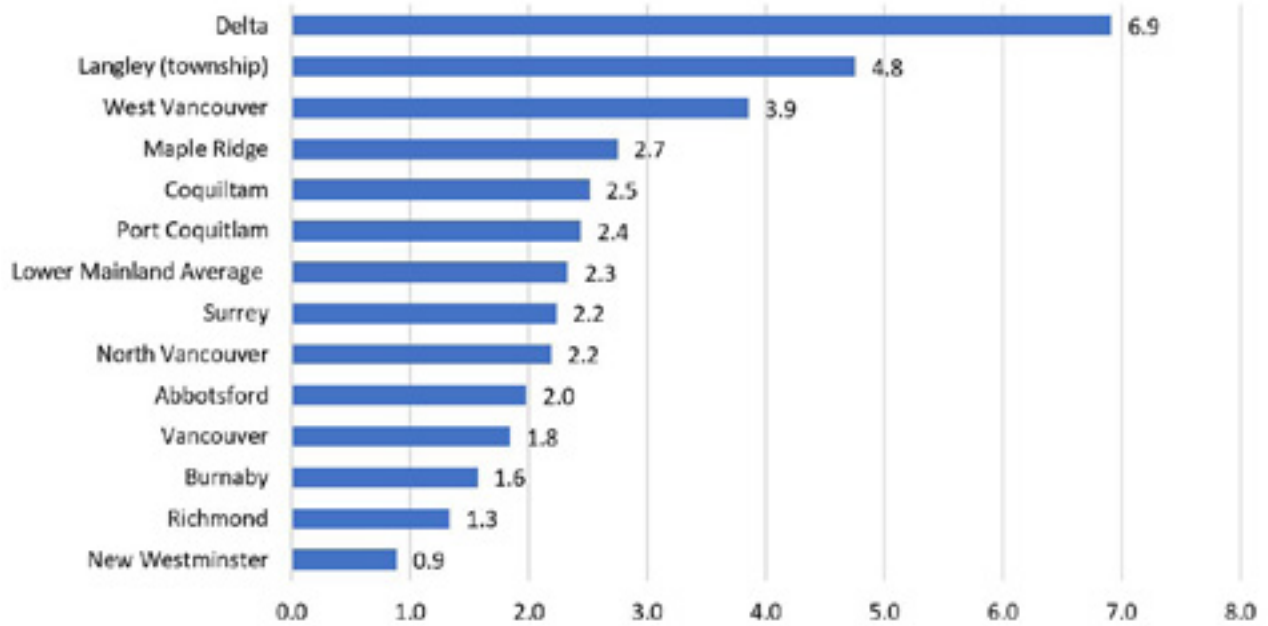
Outdoor Tennis Courts Per 10,000 People



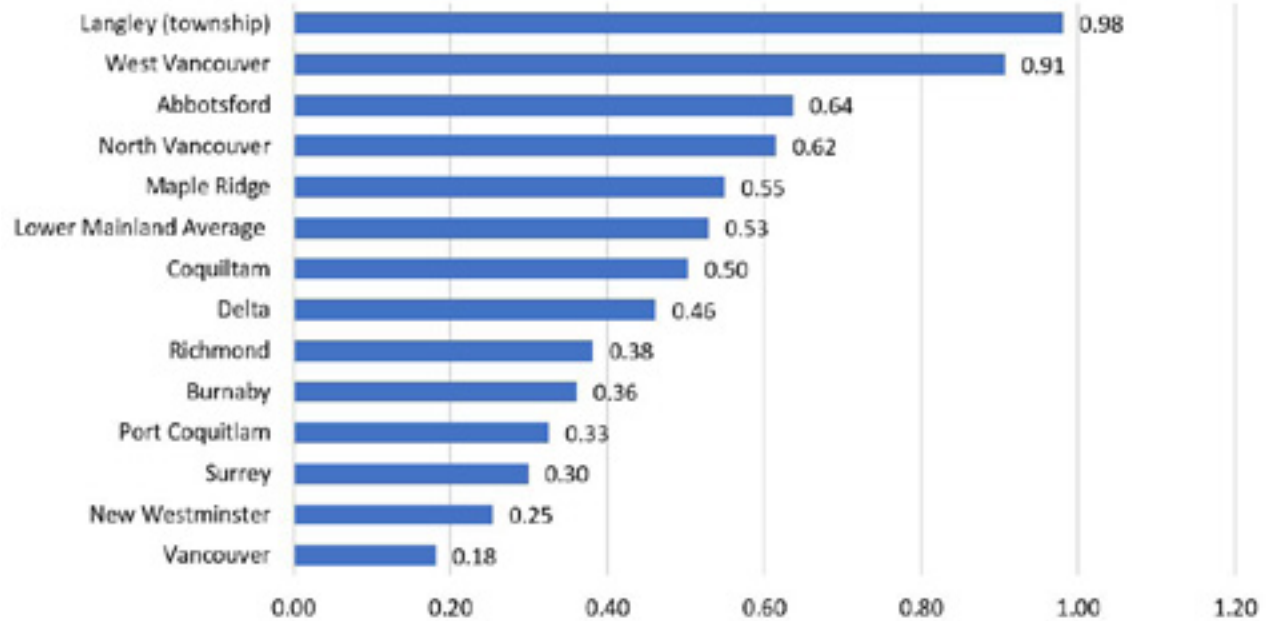
Indoor Pools Per 10,000 People



Grass Sports Fields Per 10,000 People



Artificial Turf Fields Per 10,000 People

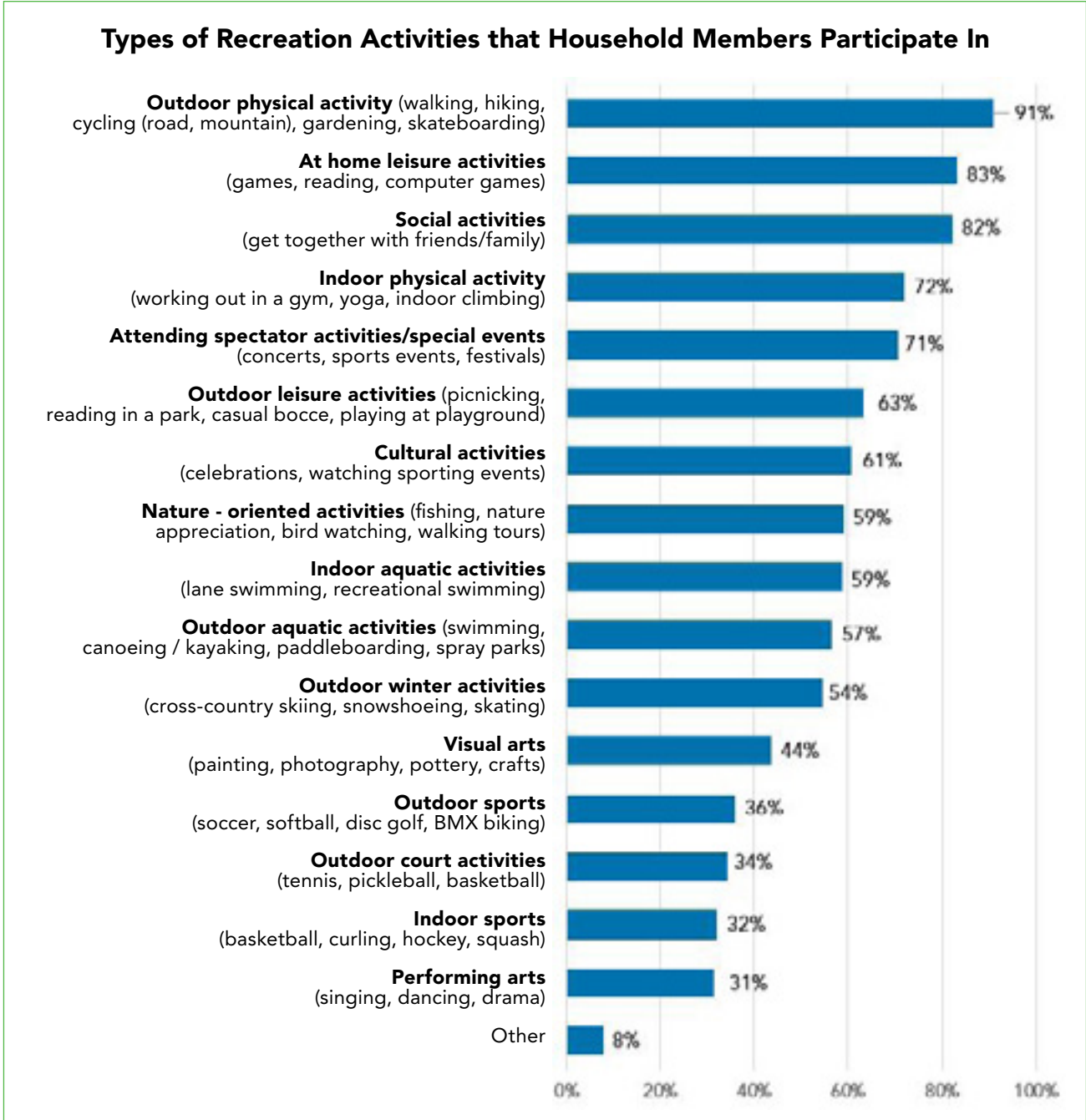


APPENDIX 5: Group Survey Participants

1. 604 Volleyball
2. Altus Arts Tennis Club
3. BCO Volleyball
4. British Columbia Rugby Union
5. Chena swim club
6. Colour the Trails Advocacy Inc
7. DEVO (Developmental Escape Velocity Organization)
8. Greater Vancouver Orienteering Club
9. Grouse mountain flying team
10. Grouse Mountain Tyee Ski Club
11. Inter River Community Association
12. Little Kickers North Shore
13. Norgate Park Community Association
14. North Shore Baseball Association
15. North Shore Basketball Academt
16. North Shore BMX (Inter-River BMX Association)
17. North Shore Curling Association
18. North Shore Disc Golf
19. North Shore Dolphins Dive Club
20. North Shore Equestrian Centre
21. North shore girls Fastpitch
22. North Shore Inline Hockey League
23. North Shore Mountain Bike Association
24. North Shore Pickleball Club
25. North Shore Seniors Slo-pitch Association
26. North Shore Tennis Society
27. North Shore Thirty Something Women's Soccer League
28. North Shore Titans Water Polo Club
29. North Shore Twins
30. North Vancouver FC
31. North Vancouver Minor Hockey Association
32. NorWesters Track and Field Club
33. NS Seniors Slo-Pitch League
34. Pemberton Heights Community Assoc.
35. Powerwest Volleyball Society
36. Roll Jiu Jitsu Academy
37. Spectrum Skateboard Society
38. STANS (Seniors Tennis Association of the North Shore)
39. SwimFaster Club
40. The Yoga Root
41. Vancouver North West Hawks AAA Hockey program

APPENDIX 6: Household Survey Recreation Activities

Source: 2023 Project Data: Representative Community Survey



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REPORT TO NORTH VANCOUVER RECREATION & CULTURE COMMISSION

Meeting date: April 07, 2026
Report author: Pamela Rooke
Subject: 2025 Year End Financial Results

 Director	 Deputy Director
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RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the North Vancouver Recreation & Culture Commission receives this report for information.

BACKGROUND:

The Commission approves the annual operating budget submission before it is submitted formally to the City and District. This report provides a review of the 2025 actual results to the 2025 budget.

DISCUSSION:

As illustrated in the table below, NVRC finished the year with revenue of \$17,429,434, expenses of \$38,070,239 and a net municipal contribution of \$20,640,805, resulting in a surplus to budget of \$901,139.

NVRC - December 31	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2025 vs 2024 Actual Variance	2025 Budget	2025 vs 2024 Budget Variance	Budget Variance %
Revenues						
Admissions	3,193,430	3,825,368	631,938	3,759,353	66,015	1.8%
Other	1,154,479	1,096,618	(57,861)	983,047	113,571	11.6%
Programs and lessons	9,305,230	10,083,238	778,008	9,772,986	310,252	3.2%
Rentals	2,326,485	2,424,210	97,725	2,205,348	218,862	9.9%
Revenue Total	15,979,624	17,429,434	1,449,810	16,720,734	708,700	4.2%
Expenses						
Administrative & service costs	3,281,880	3,636,141	354,261	3,636,608	(467)	0.0%
Building & grounds	2,809,858	2,904,547	94,689	2,890,242	14,305	0.5%
Equipment, goods & materials	1,694,840	1,810,394	115,554	1,967,818	(157,424)	-8.0%
Other contract services	1,394,349	1,358,532	(35,817)	1,386,421	(27,889)	-2.0%
Salaries & benefits	26,168,583	28,360,625	2,192,042	28,381,589	(20,964)	-0.1%
Expense Total	35,349,510	38,070,239	2,720,729	38,262,678	(192,439)	-0.5%
Net Municipal Contribution	19,369,886	20,640,805	1,270,919	21,541,944	(901,139)	-4.2%

Revenues

Overall, revenues were \$708,700 (4.2%) higher than budgeted. Admissions finished the year slightly favourable; the budget included a 15% fee increase for most passes and admissions effective January 2025. The Other Income category includes a number of sources, the largest of which is investment income, theatre concession sales and grants. The favourable variances in both programs & lessons and rentals were due to higher participation, particularly in fitness, sport and general programs and arena rentals and arts rentals.

Expenses

Overall, expenses were very close to what was budgeted at only \$192,439 (0.5%) below the budget. Equipment, goods & materials were favourable in program supplies and software maintenance. Salaries & benefits savings in regular full-time labour (due to vacancies) were mostly offset by increased spending in auxilliary and casual labour to support the higher participation and demand for programs & lessons.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The year-end surplus is returned to the District and the City in proportion to the funding contribution of each: \$637,011 to the District and \$264,128 to the City.

COMMUNICATION AND CONCURRENCE:

The year-end results and variance analysis are shared with the City and District finance departments.

POLICY/AUTHORITY:

District and City Councils have the ultimate authority for budget approval. Surpluses are returned to the District and the City in proportion to the funding contribution of each.

CONCLUSION:

NVRC finished the year in a strong financial position with a surplus of \$901,139 due to higher than budgeted revenues.



Pamela Rooke
Manager, Finance

REPORT TO NORTH VANCOUVER RECREATION & CULTURE COMMISSION

Meeting date: April 7, 2026
Report author: Jade Reed
Subject: **Resumption of City Public Art and Community Public Art Grants**



RECOMMENDATION:

WHEREAS the North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission was directed by the Commission to temporarily pause City of North Vancouver public art processes and community public art grants until a short-term work plan was established;

AND WHEREAS Numerous conversations have occurred between NVRC and CNV staff and CAO regarding these matters, resulting in several process changes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City public art process and community public art grants resume.

BACKGROUND:

At the November 20th, 2025, meeting of the Commission, during discussion of an Arts and Culture Grants report, the following motion was approved by the Commission.

WHEREAS the North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission has recently appointed a new Arts Manager;

AND WHEREAS effective coordination between the Commission and the City of North Vancouver is essential for successful community public art initiatives;

AND WHEREAS a short-term workplan is needed to establish collaborative processes with the City of North Vancouver, clarify roles and responsibilities, and ensure alignment regarding community public art;

AND WHEREAS proceeding with public art processes and grants without this foundational planning may result in inefficiencies or misalignment;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission temporarily pause public art processes and community public art grants within

the City of North Vancouver until a short-term workplan is completed in partnership with the City of North Vancouver;

AND FURTHER THAT the Arts Manager be directed to work collaboratively with City of North Vancouver staff to develop this short-term workplan and report back to the Commission with a proposed timeline for resumption of public art activities.

Since that date, NVRC staff have been working with CNV staff to clarify and improve processes. This report provides an update on those actions in support of resuming the work on public art and consideration of future community public art grants in the City of North Vancouver.

DISCUSSION:

The Manager of Arts & Culture was directed by the Commission to work collaboratively with City of North Vancouver (CNV) staff to develop a short-term work plan on public art processes and report back to the Commission.

The following actions have taken place:

- The process for approval of public art as a community amenity through development applications has been reviewed and revised. To ensure alignment with City priorities and initiatives, final approval of art that is provided as a community amenity is now the responsibility of the CNV General Manager of Planning, Development and Real Estate.
- Discussion of further process refinement is underway in collaboration with NVRC, CNV Director of Planning, CNV Director of Development, and CNV Infrastructure, Transportation, and Parks (ITP). The office of the Chief Administrative Officer is now assigning senior representation to each new Public Artist Selection Panel for projects in the City.
- The NVRC public art workplan in the City for 2026 is focused on projects that are underway, such as for the new Harry Jerome Community Centre and Topo Park and assisting with the Public Art Asset Assessment project (funded in 2025 through the NVRC capital budget) being led by the City's Director of Facilities. This project will involve assessment of public art pieces in the City and recommendations for restoration, conservation, or decommissioning.
- Any projects that are brought forward by City staff as potential new sites for public art will be shared with the senior City staff for consideration before entering the public art process which includes consideration by the arms-length Public Art Advisory Committee. No new projects for 2026 in the City are currently on the NVRC work plan.

- Creation of the NVRC Art Strategy will commence in 2026 for delivery in 2027. In consultation with the Commission, the City, and the District, as well as community partners and the public, the strategy will provide transparency and clear goals and objectives to meet the future vision of arts & culture in North Vancouver in alignment with the Visions and Strategic Plans of both the City and the District.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The operating budget of North Vancouver Recreation and Culture includes funding for annual public art and grants.

POLICY/AUTHORITY:

Responsibility for public art delivery is delegated to the North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission in the municipal Establishing Bylaws; Appendix B, Art Services, which states: [NVRC is] to create and recommend policy; and to manage, administrate the City's and District's individual Public Art Programs.

The Bylaws also mandate NVRC to manage and administer community art grants. Recommendations are made by the Grants Committee, and approval is delegated to the Commission.

CONCLUSION:

NVRC staff are committed to working with City and District staff to determine and implement public art process improvements. The Arts Strategy process will also help to identify what needs further improvement beyond the steps taken in the past few months.



Jade Reed
Manager, Arts & Culture

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REPORT TO NORTH VANCOUVER RECREATION & CULTURE COMMISSION

Meeting date: April 07, 2026
Report author: Jade Reed, Manager of Arts & Culture
Subject: **2026 Arts & Culture Operating Assistance Grants**



RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Commission approve a three-year Operating Assistance grant in the amount of \$170,000 for year one, \$180,000 for year two, and \$185,000 for year three to support the operations and programming activities of the Presentation House Theater.

AND THAT the Commission approve a one-year Operating Assistance grant in the amount of \$50,000 to support the operations and programming activities of the Seymour Art Gallery.

BACKGROUND:

This report outlines funding recommendations from the Arts & Culture Grants Review Committee (ACGRC) in response to two requests submitted for Operating Assistance funding. In accordance with policy, the Committee is appointed by the Commission to provide an independent assessment of funding requests submitted to the Arts & Culture Grants program; it consists of volunteers who are residents with experience and expertise in various areas of arts and cultural programming and the non-profit sector.

The Arts and Culture Grants program includes four different grant streams:

- Operating Assistance Grants (awarded Q1);
- Programming and Project Assistance Grants (awarded Q2 and Q4);
- Celebrations and Events Grants (awarded Q2 and Q4); and,
- Community Public Art Grants (awarded Q2 and Q4).

The Commission has previously approved three-year operating grants for North Vancouver Community Arts Council (NV Arts), Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival, North Shore Celtic Ensemble, and BC Photography and Media Arts Society (The Polygon Gallery).

This report outlines funding recommendations from the ACGRC in response to requests for Operating Assistance Grants from Presentation House Theater and Seymour Art Gallery.

The purpose of the Operating Assistance grant is to:

- a. Identify and support the work of groups and organizations that play a leadership role in the arts in North Vancouver; and,
- b. Provide a reliable baseline of support at the local level that enables groups to leverage funding from other levels of government.

DISCUSSION:

The ACGRC's recommendations are based on funding and evaluation criteria as per the Arts and Culture Grants Policy and reflect the assessed merits, impacts and benefits of the proposed activities; the financial need; and capacity of the applicants.

The two Operating Assistance grant applications in 2026 are:

Presentation House Theater

The committee is recommending an increase to funding based on the organization's robust application, demonstrated commitment to diversity, strong partnership with Tsleil-Waututh Nation, expansion of projects and programs, funding diversification, high level of volunteers and strong organizational capacity, and focused and successful offerings to children, youth, and seniors.

Presentation House Theater was previously awarded a three-year grant: \$153,000 in 2023, \$160,650 in 2024, and \$163,863 in 2025. They requested the following: \$190,000 for 2026, \$193,800 for 2027, and \$197,676 for 2028.

The committee is recommending the Commission approve \$170,000 for 2026, \$180,000 for 2027, and \$185,000 for 2028.

Seymour Art Gallery

The committee is recommending \$50,000 in funding for one year to support continued operations and programming. They would like staff to work with Seymour Art Gallery prior to them reapplying in 2027, focusing on increasing revenue diversity, community engagement, governance, and organizational capacity. Seymour Art Gallery requested \$65,000 for each year of a three-year cycle. They were previously awarded funding in the amounts of \$57,000 in 2023, \$59,859 in 2024, and \$61,047 in 2025.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The 2026 provisional Arts and Culture Grants budget is \$982,212, a 2% increase over 2025.

With the recommended \$220,000 for 2026 Operating Assistance Grants combined with previously approved multi-year grants and early intake grants, there would be \$82,292 remaining in the budget for the Programming and Project Assistance Grants, and Celebrations and Event Grants to be awarded later this spring.

COMMUNICATION AND CONCURRENCE:

The Arts and Culture Grants Program and funding requirements are communicated through the North Vancouver Recreation & Culture Commission website. Application details are shared on the NVRC website, arts newsletter and social media channels as well as at the bi-monthly North Shore Arts and Culture roundtable. Staff meet with prospective applicants and provide information and guidance on the Grant streams, eligibility and the application process. The ACGRC adjudicates applications and makes recommendations to the Commission.

Upon Commission approval, applicants are notified within three business days and required to submit a signed Grant Acceptance Form prior to the issue of the award.

Applicants have the option of appealing the decision. All grant recipients must comply with the terms and conditions of the grant program and use the awarded funds as outlined in their application.

City and District Councils are informed annually of the organizations, services, and initiatives funded through the Arts and Culture Grants Program in the previous year.

POLICY/AUTHORITY:

The authority to allocate funding in accordance with the Arts and Culture Grants Policy is delegated to NVRC by the City of North Vancouver and District of North Vancouver.

CONCLUSION:

The recommended grants in this report are consistent with NVRC's mandate and goals and align with the goals and objectives of the Official Community Plans for both the CNV and DNV. They support the Arts sector by investing in artistic leadership and encouraging the advancement of Arts and Culture. They also nurture a creative, engaged, and inclusive community that fosters diversity, inclusion and reconciliation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jade Reed".

Jade Reed
Manager of Arts & Culture

REPORT TO NORTH VANCOUVER RECREATION & CULTURE COMMISSION

Meeting date: April 07, 2026
Report author: Heather Turner – Director, Recreation & Culture
Subject: **Director’s update**

This report provides information on notable staff actions and initiatives since the last Commission meeting.

Links to the latest Rec News and Arts News communiques are below:

[Rec News](#)

[Arts News](#) 🎨

Summer camps

Planning is near completion for the summer camp offerings and registration will be on May 21st. The camps are offered in many locations (indoor and outdoor), have a range of focuses and are accessible, reasonably priced, unique and fun.

Outdoor amenity fees and charges project

NVRC, along with CNV and DNV staff are working through a review of outdoor venue and amenity fees and charges. This project was initiated in 2025 and has included the following:

- Assessment of sport field levy and block booking system for certain field use that has been in place since 2004 and consideration of options
- Clear rationale for why and when fees are appropriate for booking of outdoor amenities
- Regional comparisons of fees
- Understanding the realities of community sport organizations
- Financial data from both municipalities that include lifecycle costs and current cost recovery of outdoor amenities
- A consolidated booking database that captures all field and court booking details
- A fee scenario impact tool that models various 10-year approaches and their implications for organizations, participants and cost recovery.

More progress will be made in the next six months to support the Commission to provide recommendations for both Councils in early 2027. Plans will also be developed to consult with user groups and implement any approved changes in 2028.

Flex Pass launched March 1

The Flex Pass gives customers 10 day passes for the price of nine. It is a good option for customers who visit facilities five or less times per month and mainly use drop-in services like swimming, skating and fitness centres. This pass option was available in the past and has been requested by customers to be offered again.

From March 1 through mid-day March 25, 2026; 175 flex passes were sold (124 Adult, 24 Senior, 18 Youth, 5 Child and 4 Student).

Artist in Residence program

Following an open application process, staff have reviewed and selected eight Artist Residencies for 2026. The program supports a diverse range of artists and provides community access and participation in immersive experiences across artistic disciplines that includes virtual reality, textiles, sound, movement and photography. The artist residency program has a strong focus on artists developing workshops for the public on behalf of NVRC.

North Shore Purple Chair Campaign

NVRC is participating in this campaign which is a North Shore wide initiative honouring individuals lost to the toxic drug crisis. Chairs are displayed in a variety of public facilities and community spaces and each chair represents someone who has passed away due to drugs. The NVRC chair was first displayed at Harry Jerome in August 2025 and is rotating through every centre over the course of the year (it is currently at Ron Andrews).

Recognition of existing Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre

Staff are planning a few ways for residents to share their stories and appreciation for the impact of the existing Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre over the past 60 years. An open house social will be held in early June, and a dog swim will be hosted on the last operating day of the aquatic centre (June 28, 2026) prior to the pool being drained. In addition, stories from the community are being collected and will be shared through a few vehicles.



Heather Turner
Director, Recreation & Culture