



**MEETING OF THE
NORTH VANCOUVER RECREATION & CULTURE COMMISSION**

Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at 2:00 pm

Via 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 the Minutes of the Last Meeting Attachment

**IV. 2025 Arts & Culture Grants – Late Intake
Record of Commission Resolution** Attachment

V. Director's Update Attachment

VI. Other Business

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday October 21, 2025 at 2:00 pm.

VIII. Adjournment

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Meeting of the North Vancouver Recreation & Culture Commission

Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 11:00 am

Via Teams

MEETING MINUTES

Commissioners in attendance: Councillor Lisa Muri, DNV (Chair)
 Councillor Holly Back, CNV
 Mayor Mike Little, DNV
 Dr. Leanne McCarthy, CNV CAO
 David Stuart, DNV CAO
 Heather Turner, Director of Recreation & Culture

Regrets: Mayor Linda Buchanan, CNV (Vice-Chair)

Staff: Janet Rerecich, NVRC
 Jennifer Wilson, NVRC
 Rhonda Schell, DNV
 Adam Vasilevich, DNV
 Derek Priestley, CNV
 Kaitlin Hebron, DNV
 Jillian Holden, DNV

Guests: Glen D'Mello, Arts and Culture Grants Review Committee

I. Call to Order – Indigenous Acknowledgment

Commissioner Muri called the meeting to order at 11:00 am 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. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Commissioner Back; **seconded** by Commissioner Little

THAT the meeting agenda be approved as circulated.

Carried

III. Adoption of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Moved by Commissioner Back; **seconded** by Commissioner Little

THAT the minutes of the March 10, 2025 meeting be adopted.

Carried

IV. 2025 Arts and Culture Operating Assistance Grants

Jennifer Wilson introduced the report along with Glen D'Mello, a member of the Arts and Culture Grants Review Committee.

Moved by Commissioner Muri; **seconded** by Commissioner Little

THAT the Commission approve three-year Operating Assistance grants to North Shore Celtic Ensemble in the amount of \$30,000 in 2025 plus anticipated increases of 2% for inflation in each of 2026 and 2027; and

THAT the Commission approve three-year Operating Assistance grants to the Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival Society in the amount of \$37,000 in 2025, plus anticipated increases of 2% for inflation in each of 2026 and 2027.

Carried

V. Director's Update

Commissioner Turner spoke to items in the report and the following additional items:

- The employee survey results have been shared with all staff and focus groups set up to provide other opportunities for engagement. The themes and response plan will be shared with the Commission;
- Centennial theatre utilization increases and the planned review of the role and focus of the theatre in future;
- The opening of the new Lynn Creek Community Recreation Centre and the option for any Commissioner to see the centre if desired;
- The planned addition of more concerts in the summer of 2025; and,
- The Arts Forum held on April 1, 2025 which brought arts organizations together and included well received sessions.

Moved by Commissioner Muri; **seconded** by Commissioner Back

THAT the North Vancouver Recreation & Culture Commission (NVRC) receive the Director's update report dated April 15, 2025 for information.

Carried

VI. Outdoor Amenity Fees Framework, Allocation Policies Review and Sport Governance/Advisory System Review

Jennifer Wilson introduced the report and noted that both Councils received an update in November 2024 on this project. This project includes a number of elements which were outlined. Further reports will be presented to the Commission later in 2025.

Moved by Commissioner Little; **seconded** by Commissioner Back

THAT the North Vancouver Recreation & Culture Commission (NVRC) receive the report "Outdoor Amenity Fees Framework, Allocation Policies Review and Sport Governance/Advisory System Review" dated April 15, 2025 for information.

Carried

VII. Next Meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 27 2025 at 11:00 am.

VIII. Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Muri; **seconded** by Commissioner Little

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The regular meeting was adjourned at 11:37 am.

Approved:

Recorded by:

Lisa Muri
Chair

Kaitlin Hebron
Confidential Council Clerk

Date

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RECORD OF COMMISSION RESOLUTION

June 5, 2025

Subject: 2025 Arts & Culture Grants – Late Intake

An email was sent to Commissioners on May 29, 2025 with the following recommendation for their consideration:

THAT the Commission approve Arts & Culture grants in the amount of \$104,475 comprised of \$62,975 for Programming and Projects, \$31,500 for Celebrations and Events, and \$10,000 for a City Community Public Art Project as set out below:

• Presentation House Theatre (New Initiative)	\$5,000
• Kinesis Dance Society	\$1,975
• Musart Cultural Society	\$ 5,500
• Deep Cove Heritage Society	\$ 5,000
• Blackout Art Society	\$21,500
• Vancouver Iranian Choir	\$5,000
• Wild Bird Trust	\$19,000
• North Shore Veteran's Council (3 year funding plus approved inflationary increases in year two and year three)	\$5,000
• Coho Society of North Shore	\$10,000
• Belweder North Shore Polish Association	\$7,500
• Great Lakes Networking Society of BC	\$9,000
• Presentation House Theatre (Community Public Art)	\$10,000

The motion unanimously approved by e-mail vote by the June 5, 2025 deadline.

Lisa Muri
Chair

Cheryl Archer
Confidential Council Clerk

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REPORT TO NORTH VANCOUVER RECREATION & CULTURE COMMISSION

Meeting date: September 16, 2025
Report author: Heather Turner – Director, Recreation & Culture
Subject: Director's Update

This report provides information on some of the staff actions on the strategic plan goals since the last meeting.

Goal: Provide accessible programs and services to enhance the health and wellbeing of individuals and families

Accessibility and inclusion in facilities:

- To address barriers to using washrooms and change rooms by some members of the community, NVRC has engaged the services of TransFocus Consulting to provide communication, resources and education training sessions for staff to ensure all people feel safe and welcome in facilities operated by NVRC. This project will include a review of washrooms and change rooms to identify potential operational modifications. The consultants will also conduct listening sessions at Delbrook, John Braithwaite and Parkgate to give customers the opportunity to provide feedback and share concerns about their washroom and changeroom experiences.
- Staff hosted a meeting with community members and aquatic staff to explore strategies for strengthening the approach to inclusive aquatic services. Concepts raised included improved facility and program descriptions for individuals with special needs, pre-lesson conversations, program adaptations and approaches to support individuals requiring a different level of service.

Inclusion support in summer camps:

- Three Inclusion Leaders provided one-on-one support in a wide range of camp programs this summer. Providing dedicated Inclusion Leaders at our summer camps ensured that children were supported to fully participate, build friendships and thrive, regardless of ability or need. This support helped reduce barriers for 18 families, enabling their children to realize the benefits of summer camp experiences.

Canada Summer Jobs grants:

- Through the Canada Summer Jobs program, NVRC received partial funding for four summer camp leader positions to provide extra support in response to an increase in challenging behaviours in camps and programs over the past several years. These staff provided extra support to the entire camp where a one-on-one worker was not required. They also assisted in creating tools and training for camp leaders focused on inclusive strategies and organized a large event for all the campers from various facilities to connect and play together.

Goal: Provide and facilitate a range of recreation and arts experiences that enrich the livability and vibrancy of the North Vancouver communities

Harry Jerome Community Recreation Centre planning:

- NVRC is working with MAKE Projects (an external project management organization) on an operational readiness plan for the opening and operation of the new facility. The plan includes procurement and purchasing of fixtures, furniture and equipment; staff training; systems training; moving equipment from the existing facility to the new; and deficiency management.
- Two information meetings were hosted in the spring for aquatics and arena user groups. These meetings provided updates on construction and clarified design elements specific to the aquatic and arena areas. The user groups were given an opportunity to ask questions pertaining to their future use of the facilities and the amenities.

Outdoor fitness programs:

- NVRC connected more fitness participants with the outdoors this spring and summer with almost 40 opportunities. Offerings included Stroller Strength and Sweat, Zumba, Yoga, Bootcamp, and strength programs. In addition, Trail Trekkers, a program that runs all year long, continued with their hikes each week. Participants reported that they loved the opportunity to exercise outdoors in their neighbourhoods and repeatedly registered, resulting in making lasting connections with friends and neighbours. Some programs will continue outdoors into the fall season due to community feedback.

Art display program:

- Seventeen artists applied for the summer/autumn intake of the art display program (compared to seven for the previous season). Eleven artists were selected to participate. These exhibitions were installed in August and will be on display until February at Centennial Theatre, Delbrook, Parkgate, Lions Gate, Ron Andrews and North Vancouver Tennis Centre.

Centennial Theatre stage floor replacement:

- In late August, installation of a new stage floor was completed at the Centennial Theatre. The existing stage was 59 years old and could no longer be sanded and refinished.

New ticketing software at Centennial Theatre:

- Due to the closure of the previous ticketing software provider, on August 20, 2025, the theatre launched the Canadian owned and operated Showpass. The new software is more user friendly for customers and easier for staff to operate.

New outdoor summer dance series:

- A new series of free dance workshops was offered on three consecutive Monday evenings for participants to learn Persian dance, Bollywood dance, and Capoeira & Creative Movement. The workshops were held at Ray Perrault Park and over sixty people from all ages participated each week.

Coast Salish weaving workshops:

- This summer, youth and outdoor camps had the opportunity to weave with two local Indigenous artists from Red Cedar Women Weavers studio. Over 130 campers met outdoors at Bridgeman Park and outside of Karen Magnesson to learn the traditional ways of working with cedar and how to weave a red cedar mat. The campers took home the mats they created.

Goal: Promote community connections and a strong sense of belonging**Pride 2025:**

- All centres decorated the front desk areas for North Shore Pride Week (July 28 to August 2, 2025) and handed out Pride flag stickers with the message “Everyone is welcome at NVRC”.
- A new 2SLGBTQIA+ page was created on NVRC’s website in May 2025, so community members can easily find activities and events geared towards 2SLGBTQIA+ people and allies: nvr.ca/2SLGBTQIA.

Ron Andrews Community Recreation Centre 50th anniversary:

- On Wednesday, July 9, 2025, Ron Andrews Community Recreation Centre celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a 70s-themed event including retro-priced public swims, line dancing, face painting, Zumba, crafts, cupcakes, and music from the 70s. Over 90 members of the community participated in the festivities.

Live & Local concert series:

- Live & Local was successful this summer with 22 concerts and over 8000 attendees. This is a substantial increase when compared to 12 concerts and over 2500 audience members in 2024. New venues such as Seylynn Park, Lions Gate Plaza and Ray Perrault Park were added to established concert locations at Panorama Park, Edgemont Village and Lynn Valley Village. Of particular note, a concert at Panorama Park featured the band “Queer as Funk” and attracted over 900 people; a concert at Lions Gate Plaza featuring the “Bakara Band” attracted over 650 people and the wrap-up concert at Ray Perrault Park featuring “Robin Layne & the Rhythm Makers” attracted over 420 people and proved to be a promising and popular new location. A survey is currently underway to seek feedback on the Live and Local series to inform planning for 2026.

Seasonal passes for pottery studio access:

- The seasonal pass system started on July 9, 2025. Pass holders represented a mix of new studio users and previous participants. The second lottery held August 5, 2025, saw an increased demand for passes for fall. Ninety-five passes have been assigned for the fall season with approximately 35 on the waitlist. The new process, aimed to increasing fairness and accessibility, has resulted in many new participants.

Capilano University practicum student in our fitness centres:

- This spring, Wyatt, a CapU Education & Employment Access Certificate (EEAC) Program student, completed a six-week work experience practicum in our fitness centres. The EEAC Program helps students living with a learning difference or a social, physical or mental health challenge to transition from high school to post-secondary education or meaningful employment. The practicum ended up being enriching for Wyatt, for NVRC staff and for the community members who benefitted from Wyatt's contributions. You can read more about Wyatt's impact in our website story: [CapU practicum student lifts spirits in our fitness centres](#)

Goal: Encourage all residents to recognize and appreciate the value of community recreation and arts**NVRC in the news:**

- Proactive media outreach resulted in the following *North Shore News* articles:
 - June 5: [Here's how to experience National Indigenous History Month across the North Shore](#)
 - June 18: [Public art pieces add whimsy to new North Vancouver community centre](#)
 - July 20: [Free summer concert series brings good vibes to locations across North Vancouver](#)
 - September 7: [North Vancouver holding contest to name two new Zambonis](#)
 - September 8: [Skate or swim for 50 cents to celebrate anniversary of Karen Magnussen rec centre](#)
- The *North Shore Daily Post* also highlighted Centennial Theatre's new ticketing system on August 16: [Centennial Theatre to launch new Showpass ticketing system](#).

NVRC stories:

- Since the last meeting (April), 24 stories have been published on NVRC's website and cross-promoted on social media channels. The stories are available on the [News & Stories](#) section of the website. The most-read stories were about outdoor fitness, Youth Week, National Indigenous History month, and free outdoor dance workshops.

North Shore News' 'Kids Design Your Ad':

- NVRC took part in the *North Shore News*' annual '[Kids Design Your Ad](#)' program again this year. Grade 6 students from Capilano Elementary created five designs that truly captured the essence of NVRC.

Goal: Maximize the potential of a successful partnership between the City of North Vancouver and the District of North Vancouver

Collaboration:

- NVRC staff has been consulted on the CNV parks and open space comprehensive plan scope of work, and the complete communities and housing discussions. Staff have also participated in DNV's Official Community Plan update and land use scenarios.

E-cargo bike program:

- Lions Gate and Lynn Creek were chosen as two of many locations to host the innovative CNV/DNV e-cargo bike lending pilot program which provides North Vancouver residents with convenient, low-barrier access to electric cargo bikes. By enabling residents to try these versatile, low-emission vehicles at no charge from March to October 2025 for everyday trips such as school drop-offs, grocery runs and recreational outings, the program aims to encourage a shift towards more sustainable, active modes of transportation.



Heather Turner
Director, Recreation & Culture

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