



**DRAFT Minutes of a Meeting of the Peninsula Recreation Commission
Held Thursday, October 23, 2025, in the Panorama Boardroom
1885 Forest Park Drive, North Saanich BC**

PRESENT

COMMISSIONERS: N. Paltiel (Chair), P. DiBattista (Vice-Chair), K. Frost, S. Garnett, P. Murray, R. Windsor, V. Kreiser (EP), C. Rintoul (EP) (for C. McNeil-Smith)

STAFF: S. Meikle, Senior Manager; K. Beck, Manager, Program Services; M. Medland, Senior Financial Advisor; L. Gregg, Manager of Facilities and Operations; S. Davis, Manager of Administrative Services; A. Bowker, Administrative Secretary (Recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

Regrets: Commissioner Jones, Commissioner McNeil-Smith

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Commissioner Windsor provided a territorial acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Commissioner Frost, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Murray,
That the agenda be approved with an additional item pertaining to the Recreation Commission,
as brought forward by Commissioner Garnett, to be included under New Business.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes of October 2, 2025

MOVED by Commissioner DiBattista, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Garnett,
That the minutes of the October 2, 2025 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Chair's Remarks

A casual update for the owners of the Peninsula Panthers is scheduled for tomorrow afternoon to inform them of progress on the arena concept development and next steps. Information on how this goes will be provided at the next meeting.

5. Presentations/Delegations: There were none.

6. Commission Business

6.1 2026-2030 Financial Plan Amendments

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S. Meikle spoke to Item 6.1.

Discussion ensued:

- Presuming \$1 million is the maximum for the design and pre-construction work. If the partnership does go forward, sharing the same building could reduce costs.

MOVED by Commissioner Windsor, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Murray,
That the Peninsula Recreation Commission recommends the Committee of the Whole
recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That Appendix A, the Operating & Capital Budget 2026-2030 – Panorama Recreation as amended be approved; and
2. That Projects 28-02 and 26-14 as per Table 1 in this report be included in the 2026-2030 Budget Early Approvals List

Further discussion ensued:

- DCS Recreation facility agreement should include comments about shared spaces, e.g., mechanical spaces, etc. and shared services.
- Have not yet applied for grants for the potential upcoming projects.
- A second option for the delivery recreation services in Central Saanich was not presented for comparison purposes; however, other options have been considered in the past.
- The Central Saanich survey had good participation; however, a stronger show of support from Central Saanich residents is preferred for an expenditure of \$1 million for the design.
- Design and pre-construction work costs in 2026 are not considered likely to be as high as \$1 million to get to approval question. Understanding with staff that cost is going to be kept to a minimum. Money needs to be spent to do some work in order to put the information out there as accurately as possible and capital reserve is an appropriate place for it to be funded from.
- Agreement negotiations and the next phase of design are happening concurrently. Staff are seeking clarity and a better class of estimate prior to going to discuss electoral approval processes and will be back in front of Commission with a better understanding of cost estimates.
- It is within the purview of the Commission to request a change to the amount allocated to 2026 spending for the design and pre-construction work, if desired.

Voting was held on the motion already on the table.

Opposed: Commissioner Garnett

CARRIED

6.3 New Business

Item pertaining to the Commission brought forward by Commissioner Garnett.

Concern raised by article in Times Colonist (TC) newspaper where the Chair was quoted as saying the electoral approval for the recreation component of the redevelopment site would likely go to municipal consent, rather than referendum. There has been no formal discussion on this, and the comments could be perceived by public that we have discussed and are leaning a certain way. Question raised - was the article accurate, and if so, what was the rationale for the statement?

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Chair replied that he had a 30-minute discussion with TC, and they asked him to indicate what he thought was the most likely outcome. His reply was based on historical borrowing by the Commission through the CRD, which has been through municipal consent. It was not a mandate to the Board. Public perception does not limit the Commission's or Board's ability to recommend a consent, AAP or referendum.

7. Adjournment

MOVED by Commissioner Windsor, **SECONDED** by Commissioner DiBattista,
That the meeting be adjourned at 6:50 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER

DRAFT