



Capital Regional District

625 Fisgard St.,
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

Notice of Meeting and Meeting Agenda

Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission

Tuesday, May 05, 2026

6:30 PM

SEAPARC Board Room
2168 Phillips Road,
Sooke, BC V9Z 0Y3

A. Beddows (Chair), N. Dowhy (Vice Chair), R. Finlayson, L. Haug, M. Swinburnson, M. Tait, A. Wickheim

The Capital Regional District strives to be a place where inclusion is paramount and all people are treated with dignity. We pledge to make our meetings a place where all feel welcome and respected.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

2. Approval of Agenda

3. Adoption of Minutes

- 3.1. Minutes from the March 3, 2026 Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission.

Recommendation: That the minutes of the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission of March 3, 2026 be adopted as circulated.

Attachments: Minutes: March 3, 2026

4. Chair's Remarks

5. Youth Report

6. Presentations/Delegations

7. Commission Business

7.1. Ice Allocation Policy Review

Recommendation: That the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission approve the revision of Policy No. A-100.25 Ice Allocation.

Attachments: Staff Report: Ice Allocation Policy Review
Appendix A: Policy No. A-100.25 Ice Allocation 2026 Revisions Redlined
Appendix B: BCRPA – Leading Practices for Facility Allocation

7.2. 2026 First Quarter Financial Update

Recommendation: There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Attachments: Staff Report: Financial Statement of Operations – First Quarter of 2026
Appendix A: SEAPARC Statement of Operations – ending March 31, 2026

7.3. MFABC Equipment Financing Program

Recommendation: That the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the following borrowing resolution be approved:

1. That the Board of the Capital Regional District authorize borrowing of up to \$60,000 under section 403 of the *Local Government Act*, which applies section 175 of the *Community Charter* to regional districts, through the MFABC Equipment Financing Program for the purchase of a golf course turf aerator for the Sooke and Electoral Area Recreation and Facilities Service; and
2. That the loan be repaid within five (5) years, with no right of renewal.

Attachments: Staff Report: MFABC Equipment Financing Program Borrowing Resolution for Sooke and Electoral Area Recreation and Facilities Service.
Appendix A: Borrowing Resolution for Equipment Financing Program with the Municipal Finance Authority (MFA)

7.4. 2026-2027 Fees & Charges

Recommendation: That the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the proposed fees and charges be approved for inclusion in the 2026/2027 Fees and Charges Bylaw for SEAPARC services.

Attachments: Staff Report: 2026/2027 Fees & Charges – SEAPARC Recreation
Appendix A: Proposed 2026/2027 Fees & Charges

7.5. Low-Cost Community Programming Pilot

Recommendation: There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Attachments: Staff Report: Low-Cost Community Program Pilot

8. Correspondence

9. Notice(s) of Motion

10. New Business

11. Adjournment

12. Next Meeting: June 2, 2026



Capital Regional District

625 Fisgard St.,
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

Meeting Minutes

Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission

Tuesday, March 03, 2026

6:30 PM

SEAPARC Board Room
2168 Phillips Road,
Sooke, BC V9Z 0Y3

Present:

Commissioners: A. Beddows (Chair), N.Dowhy (Vice Chair), J.Bateman, M. Swinburnson, A. Wickheim,

Staff: M. Alsdorf, Senior Manager, SEAPARC Recreation; M. Curtis, Manager of Operations; C. Hoglund, Program Services Manager; M. MacKeigan, Administrative Secretary (Recorder)

Absent: R. Finlayson, L. Haug

M. Alsdorf called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

2. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission for 2025/2026. Commissioner Beddows was nominated and accepted his nomination. The Chair called two times for further nominations and, as there was none, Commissioner Beddows was declared Chair by acclamation.

3. ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIR

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission for 2026/2027. Commissioner Dowhy was nominated and accepted his nomination. The Chair called two times for further nominations and, as there was none, Commissioner Dowhy was declared Vice Chair by acclamation.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOVED by Commissioner Swinburnson, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Bateman,

That the agenda for the March 3, 2026 session of the SEAPARC Commission be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Commissioner Dowhy, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Wickheim,

That the minutes of the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of November 4, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

6. CHAIR'S REMARKS

It is great to be back after a long break. I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Commission members—we are glad to have you join us. This is a wonderful team to work with, and I look forward to the year ahead.

7. YOUTH REPORT

There was no youth report.

8. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

8.1. Presentations

- There were no presentations.

8.2. Delegations

- There were no delegations.

9. COMMISSION BUSINESS

9.1. 2026 SEAPARC Commission Meeting Schedule

- M. Alsdorf provided an overview of the report. The Commission discussed the following:
- Virtual participation

MOVED by Commissioner Wickheim, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Dowhy,

That the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission approves the 2026 meeting schedule as presented.

CARRIED

9.2. Strategic Plan 2025-2035 Update

- M. Alsdorf provided an overview of the report. The Commission discussed the following:
- Fee structure for facility rentals at the JDF Building and District of Sooke Parks
 - Affordability of programs

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

9.3. Annual Programs & Services Update

- C. Hoglund provided an overview of the report. A revised appendix was provided. The commission discussed the following:
- Statistics year over year
 - Sport Box rentals
 - Sport Box wayfinding signage

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

9.4. Capital Project & Facility Update

M. Curtis provided an overview of the report. The commission discussed the following:

- Projected heat recovery
- Heating sources
- Graffiti versus non-graffiti skate parks
- Canadian products and suppliers
- Recognition of staff response to the rain leader replacement in the pool natatorium

There is no recommendation. This report was received for information.

9.5. LIFE Program Update

M. Alsdorf provided an overview of the report. The commission discussed the following:

- Program access for seniors

There is no recommendation. This report was received for information.

9.6. Year End Financials

M. Alsdorf provided an overview of the report. There was no discussion.

There is no recommendation. This report was received for information.

9.7. Equipment Replacement Fund Carryforward

M. Alsdorf provided an overview of the report. The commission discussed the following:

- Zamboni disposition

There is no recommendation. This report was received for information.

9.8. Infrastructure Growth Plan

M. Alsdorf provided an update on the project:

- The Request for Proposals was posted in November and closed January 16
- The evaluation committee selected three firms to present their proposal
- One firm was selected and received the notice of award
- Contract development is underway
- Project kick-off is anticipated for mid-March with a site tour and review of reports

1. The project still qualifies for the grant which will be awarded in August 2026

The commission discussed the following:

- Community consultation

There is no recommendation. This report was received for information.

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence.

11. NOTICE(S) of MOTION:

There were no notices of motion.

12. NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

13. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by Commissioner Dowhy, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Wickheim,

That the March 3, 2026 meeting of the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission be adjourned at 7:45 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER



Making a difference...together

REPORT TO THE SOOKE & ELECTORAL AREA PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 05, 2026

SUBJECT Ice Allocation Policy Review

ISSUE SUMMARY

To seek approval to amend Policy No. A-100.25 Ice Allocation.

BACKGROUND

The ice allocation policy was last reviewed and amended at the Commission meeting on April 13, 2023. This policy provides staff and user groups guidance and direction on the allocation of ice time for the SEAPARC arena.

The BC Recreation and Parks Association recently released a guide “Leading Practices for Facility Allocation” highlighting five areas for consideration, prompting a review. The leading practices to consider for facility allocation are:

1. Prioritize Community Benefit
2. Transparent Allocation Policy
3. Annual or Biennial Booking Review
4. Event vs. Seasonal Play Balance
5. Governance Process

Further details can be found in Appendix B.

After reviewing these leading practices and consulting with youth minor hockey user groups, the recommended policy revisions include:

- Adjustments to ice schedule timelines to allow staff more time to create the seasonal ice schedule
- Clarification regarding the procedure for seasonal ice not required by a user group

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission approve the revision of Policy No. A-100.25 Ice Allocation.

Alternative 2

That this report be referred back to staff for additional information.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

It is anticipated that the policy will have minimal financial implications, however demand for youth ice as registration increases may impact the operating budget if some adult prime ice slots are allocated to youth.

Service Delivery Implications

The proposed changes support the leading practices by improving transparency and clarity regarding ice allocation processes.

CONCLUSION

The proposed updates to the Ice Allocation Policy strengthen transparency, improve scheduling clarity, and align SEAPARC’s practices with current provincial leading standards. Incorporating feedback from youth user groups and reflecting community priorities ensures the policy continues to support fair and effective allocation of arena resources. Approval of the revised policy will enhance service delivery and better position SEAPARC to meet evolving community needs.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission approve the revision of Policy No. A-100.25 Ice Allocation.

Submitted by:	Melanie Alsdorf, Senior Manager, SEAPARC Recreation
Concurrence:	Luisa Jones, MBA, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services

ATTACHMENTS

- Appendix A: Policy No. A-100.25 Ice Allocation 2026 Revisions Redlined
- Appendix B: BCRPA – Leading Practices for Facility Allocation



Making a difference...together

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

CORPORATE POLICY

Policy Type	Commission		
Section	Administration		
Title	ICE ALLOCATION		
Adopted Date	July 8, 2004	Policy Number	A-100.25
Last Amended	May 5, 2026		
Policy Owner	SEAPARC Recreation		

1. POLICY:

It is necessary that an objective and consistent procedure for the allocation of ice be established. This will assist all parties in understanding the process and the priority of allocation for ice time.

2. PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Ice Allocation Policy is as follows:

1. To provide a fair and consistent approach to allocating time at ~~SEAPARC Leisure Complex~~ SEAPARC Recreation Centre.
2. To ensure all interested community organizations and residents have balanced access to ice allocations.
3. To ensure the Commission's resources are used effectively and efficiently in the achievement of its goals and objectives.

3. SCOPE:

The policy also incorporates the Commission's objective to maintain a balance between all ice user group reservations and public access, recognizing the degree of subsidy to various programs, and maintaining sufficient revenue levels to the arena.

The policy clarifies staff's responsibility for ice allocation and its commitment to:

- Fiscally responsible ice facility operations
- Fair and equitable ice allocations
- Ensuring that all people have access to quality recreation programs, events and activities

4. DEFINITIONS:

Resident Minor Non-profit User Group – Offers supervised, structured activity involving skill development for ages 5 – 18 years. Membership must be solicited through an open public registration. ¹

- Any local organized minor associations providing sport activities for youth primarily residing in Sooke and the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area

¹ This policy entitles any group comprised of resident and non-residents to count up to 30% of their total membership as non-residents with the same priority for ice allocation as residents.

- Capital Region Female Minor Hockey Association is recognized as a resident user group due to the boundaries established under the female hockey model of BC Hockey and Vancouver Island Amateur Hockey Association

Resident Adult Non-profit User Groups – Offers structured activity and whose vast majority of members are over 18 years of age.

- Any local organized adult groups that is comprised of primarily adults residing in Sooke and the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area ¹

Non-Resident Non-profit User Group – Any organized association providing sport activities whose members do not reside in Sooke and the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area. ¹

Private Community Group – A non-profit ice user group that offers supervised, structured activity, without an open public registration process, for members of an affiliated organization.

Casual User – An organization or individual that uses space on an occasional basis only.

Commercial Group – Rental Groups which operate on a for-profit basis.

5. PROCEDURE:

1. All requests for reservation of ice allocations shall be in writing. Requests for ice for the fall/winter season shall be submitted no later than April 30 for the upcoming season.
2. Staff will endeavour to follow the policy, in consideration of the optimal use of all available ice, and consistent with the order priority of use. Staff will finalize the schedule by ~~May 15~~ June 1.
3. If any user wishes to appeal allocation of ice time, such appeals shall be received in writing no later than ~~June 2~~ June 15. All appeals will be arbitrated by the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission.
4. Other than for special events, groups requesting multiple hours per week will be expected to accept an hour of non-prime ice for every four hours of prime ice booked.
5. SEAPARC may allocate up to 25% of prime time to adult users.
6. Contracted times are not guaranteed beyond the dates of the contract. No ice will be allocated to any user who has outstanding fees.
7. No renter shall be allowed to sub-lease or rent the ice contracted to them to any other individual or group; any request to change the contracted ice schedule must be processed through the SEAPARC administration office.
8. Ice time shall be reserved in blocks of time to ensure maximum utilization of ice time.
9. If an organization does not require its entire allocation, ~~ice time will be returned to SEAPARC. It will be rescheduled using the program priorities-Ice will then be reallocated according to the order of priority~~ listed in this policy.
10. Accommodating new user groups by reducing the number of hours available to existing groups, will only be considered in cases where a service is being introduced to a previously non-served segment of the population, or where a new program is being introduced that is not available through an existing organization. Any regular prioritized user group with two or more year's history will be booked before new users, provided the user is in good standing with SEAPARC.

To minimize user frustration, dissatisfaction, and other negative impacts, SEAPARC will not cancel ~~scheduled~~ recreation programs and public skate times, except for the following:

- Significant and high-profile events as directed by the Commission
- Low registration in programs

- Emergency shut down situations or ice maintenance

Where such cancellations are necessary, SEAPARC staff will make reasonable efforts to notify users of said programs.

SEAPARC may request registration statistics as part of the ice allocation process. Additional registration will not necessarily increase ice allocations, unless other groups decrease their requests.

ICE ALLOCATION: ORDER OF PRIORITY

1. SEAPARC programs, special events and public sessions
2. Sooke School District 62 use during school hours of operation
3. Resident Minor Non-Profit User Groups
4. Resident Adult Non-Profit User Groups
5. Non-resident Non-Profit User Groups
6. Private Community Groups
7. Commercial Groups and Casual Users

Resident and non-resident community groups – Proof of residency may be requested. Number of participants are to be submitted with the request form.

Prime Time Hours and Rates – Prime time is defined as those hours that have the greatest demand from local community groups. Please see SEAPARC Fees and Charges Bylaw for prime time hours and rates.

6. AMENDMENT(S):

Adoption Date	Description:
July 8, 2004	<i>SEAPARC Commission</i>

7. REVIEW(S):

Review Date	Description:
June 9, 2005	
February 15, 2012	
April 13, 2023	
April 13, 2026	<i>Updated facility name, revised allocation due dates, clarified returned ice and program cancellations.</i>

8. RELATED POLICY, PROCEDURE OR GUIDELINE:

Capital Regional District Recreation Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw

A photograph of two swimmers at an indoor pool deck. In the foreground, a swimmer in a black and orange swimsuit is leaning forward on a blue starting block, preparing for a race. In the background, another swimmer in a dark swimsuit is adjusting their black swim cap. The pool deck is light-colored, and a red life preserver is mounted on the wall. Large windows in the background let in natural light.

Leading Practices for Facility Allocation



viaSPORT
British Columbia

Background

In November 2024, a working group was formed with leaders from BCRPA, viaSport BC, Provincial Sport Organizations in BC and municipal facility managers in BC. The group's purpose was to develop principles and practices to improve facility access and equity and encourage collaboration between recreation providers and user groups. The group reviewed 24 municipal facility allocation policies across BC with representation from rural/urban, and smaller/larger communities. Recognizing that each city, town, and region have unique circumstances, the group sought to find commonalities that could inform leading practices and serve as a reference tool for facility allocation decisions.

Fun Facts from the Review

1. The 24 allocation policies that were reviewed affect more than 2,810,000 residents in the province.
2. A wide range of allocation policies were collected, from the village of Cumberland to the city of Vancouver and northern locations of Prince George and Kitimat.
3. 14 were urban communities, 10 were rural communities.

5 Leading Practices for Facility Allocation

1. Prioritize Community Benefit

Consider the following:

- Provide booking priority to non-profit, youth, and resident/district groups over commercial or non-resident users.
- Allow commercial groups to book only after community demand is met—and consider if premium rates are appropriate.
- Allocate space to new sports, underrepresented groups and equity deserving groups including disabilities and adaptive sport organizations, to create a more equitable use of space.
- Review how space is historically allocated and establish parameters on how long groups are given priority booking.
- Understand alignment of a community sport organization to a governing body such as a provincial or national sport organization (PSO, NSO) that oversees standards related to safety, governance, and programming. Reflect on how the Provincial Sport Organization is working with, and supporting, local sport development and sport hosting opportunities.

2. Transparent Allocation Policy

- Develop a clear priority ranking. Consider where semi-pro and private schools fit in.
- (e.g. municipal programs → minor sports → schools → community organizations → commercial)
- Make booking rules and practices transparent. For example, where municipalities distinguish between local and out-of-area users and offer preferred time slots or pricing for locals ensure this is well-communicated in order to manage expectations.
- Engage with community members in a meaningful way to ensure that equitable representation is thoroughly considered.
- Ensure bookings reflect a mix of demographics to promote inclusion.
- Take into account prime and non-prime time and in-season or out of season programming when reviewing allocation requests. When there is limited availability, prioritize sports that are in active competition season.
- Consider proactively connecting with PSOs to understand how allocation can support recommended Long-Term Athlete Development (Sport for Life LTD) and training ratios that are appropriate to ages and states of development.

3. Annual or Biennial Booking Review

- Conduct a yearly, or biennial review of allocation to ensure fair access and adjust based on use.
- Request user groups to provide annual reporting for tracking statistics.
- Consider opportunities to accommodate hosting of larger sport events that fall outside of the current allocation window (e.g. – an event that is more than 1 year out).

4. Event vs. Seasonal Play/Rec Balance

- Set caps, or scheduling limits, to avoid events or tournaments dominating peak times.
- Review peak times and consider opportunities to shift timing of programming in order to balance recreation and sport or event access.
- Allow buffer time in facility scheduling for adaptive sport programs due to specialized equipment (e.g. sport chairs, sledge hockey gear) or support personnel.

5. Governance Process

- Formal Definitions: Clearly define “community group”, “resident”, “commercial”, etc. in your policy to avoid grey areas.
- Policy review: Municipalities to have a regular review schedule.
- Consistency: Establish consistency across Allocation Policies for different spaces in the community, i.e. arena, pool, fields, etc.
- Conflict resolution: Have a conflict resolution process in place to address complaints.
- Tracking: Keep a record of the development and changes made to policies.

Thank you to representatives from: City of Burnaby, City of Surrey, City of Kamloops, City of Vancouver, BC Hockey, Volleyball BC, BC Wheelchair Basketball Association, Gymnastics BC, and Baseball BC, for their contributions in creating this document.



Making a difference...together

REPORT TO THE SOOKE & ELECTORAL AREA PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 05, 2026

SUBJECT **Financial Statement of Operations – First Quarter of 2026**

ISSUE SUMMARY

To provide financial information to the Commission for the first quarter of 2026.

BACKGROUND

The first quarter financial results are now available for the period ended March 31, 2026.

In the first quarter of 2026, admissions and membership pass revenue exceeded 2025 results by 4%, primarily driven by an increase in membership sales. Program revenue is down 5% over first quarter 2025. Expenses in the arena, fitness & weights, and pool are down 12% over 2025 due in part to reduced spending in operating supplies, vehicle and travel costs, but mostly due to reduction in wages and benefits.

After three months of operations, actual results should be at 25% of budget utilization.

- Overall contribution revenue was on target at 24% of budget utilization, and direct operating expenses were 17% of budget.
- First quarter admissions, membership allocation and program revenues in fitness & weights averaged 31%; pool admissions, membership allocation, programs and rentals averaged 23%.
- Arena program registration revenue decreased 28% over 2025 values however, ice rental activities increased 3% over 2025, supported by additional revenue generated from ice rentals over spring break.
- Community recreation early years revenue is up 51% over 2025, approximately \$3,600.
- Overall direct and indirect operating costs were below budget at 18.5% for the first quarter.
- All program and operating expenses are closely monitored and continue to remain within forecasted values.

First quarter statement of operations notable variances from 2025 to 2026 include:

- Indirect contract for services and legal expense allocations from 2025 are no longer applicable in 2026.
- Utilities reflect a 12% increase over 2025 due to timing of water billing.
- Direct and indirect wage and benefit costs are reduced due to an accrual for wage settlement that will be recognized in April 2026 as well as vacation carryover.
- Vehicle and travel costs are down due to reduced ice resurfacer repair needs in 2026.

CONCLUSION

Overall, first quarter 2026 results for SEAPARC indicate a stable financial position. Revenues are generally tracking close to budget while operating expenses remain below forecast, primarily due to wage accruals for collective agreement estimates and vacation carryover. Staff will continue to closely monitor revenues and expenditures throughout the year, with particular attention to program performance and the recognition of deferred costs in subsequent quarters. At this time, the first quarter results indicate that operations remain within forecasted financial parameters.

RECOMMENDATION

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Submitted by:	Shari Mason, Administrative Officer, SEAPARC Recreation
Concurrence:	Melanie Alsdorf, Senior Manager, SEAPARC Recreation
Concurrence:	Luisa Jones, MBA, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A: Statement of Operations (3 month ending – Mar 31, 2026)

APPENDIX A

SEAPARC

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS (3 MONTH ENDING - Mar 31, 2026)

	% of Budget Utilized	2026	2026	2025	Actual YTD Difference 2026 to 2025	
		BUDGET	YTD Mar-31	YTD Mar-31	Dollars	%
25% percentage of budget @ 3 months						
DIRECT OPERATING REVENUES						
Admissions & Membership passes	21%	1,024,630	217,016	209,056	7,960	4%
Programs	20%	673,300	135,967	142,154	- 6,187	-5%
Rentals	33%	450,161	148,264	133,981	14,282	10%
Resale goods, concession	34%	72,240	24,650	23,578	1,072	4%
Advertising	9%	9,500	898	1,624	- 726	-81%
Sponsorships, grants, donations	0%	11,000	-	1,824	- 1,824	
Other (commissions, fees)	35%	35,850	12,588	9,333	3,255	26%
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	24%	2,276,681	539,382	521,550	17,832	3%
DIRECT OPERATING EXPENSES						
Contract & instructional services	17%	113,900	19,426	16,313	3,113	16%
Operating supplies	25%	163,220	41,223	46,064	- 4,841	-12%
Repairs & maintenance (pool, arena, f&w, golf, outdoor, vending)	27%	144,000	38,599	33,970	4,629	12%
Rentals	16%	15,000	2,410	792	1,618	67%
Vehicle & travel costs	19%	15,500	3,016	7,019	- 4,003	-133%
Wages & benefits (Pool, CR, Arena, Golf, F&W)	15%	1,615,592	239,918	279,543	- 39,625	-17%
Other (staff training, licences, fees, grants in aid)	26%	11,900	3,058	2,292	766	25%
TOTAL DIRECT OPERATING EXPENSES	17%	2,079,112	347,649	385,992	- 38,343	-11%
CONTRIBUTION DIRECT OPERATIONS	97%	197,569	191,732	135,558	56,175	29%
INDIRECT EXPENSES, ADMINISTRATION, MAINTENANCE						
Advertising & promotion	22%	21,500	4,741	2,030	2,711	57%
Contract for services & legal	35%	2,500	875	11,304	- 10,429	-1192%
CRD Charges (IT, HR, Ops, labour)	25%	393,683	98,860	96,799	2,062	2%
Insurance	0%	46,740	-	-	-	
Medical Costs	0%	250	-	-	-	
Licences, fees and dues	58%	81,350	46,931	44,575	2,355	5%
Permit Fees	0%	3,000	-	-	-	
Repairs and maintenance	10%	56,300	5,877	5,977	- 100	-2%
Garbage Disposal	0%	6,200	-	416	- 416	
Rentals	17%	2,800	472	600	- 128	-27%
Supplies	27%	66,300	17,853	20,849	- 2,997	-17%
Utilities	28%	289,990	81,086	71,564	9,522	12%
Travel & vehicle costs	9%	10,500	977	1,328	- 350	-36%
Honoraria	0%	1,000	-	-	-	
Wages & benefits (Ops&Admin, Facilities)	18%	2,195,829	390,665	449,164	- 58,499	-15%
Other (meetings, print costs, staff training, courier, postage, etc.)	21%	27,400	5,879	3,711	2,167	37%
Contingency		-	-	-	-	
TOTAL INDIRECT EXPENSES, ADMINISTRATION, MAINTENANCE	20%	3,205,342	654,215	708,317	- 54,101	-8%
INDIRECT REVENUES						
TOTAL INDIRECT REVENUES	0%	270	-	-	-	
NET CONTRIBUTIONS (DEFICIT)	15%	- 3,007,503	- 462,483	- 572,759	110,276	-24%
TRANSFERS & DEBT						
Transfers to Capital Reserve Fund	0%	369,342	-	-	-	
Transfers to Equipment Replacement Fund	25%	221,646	55,412	54,325	1,087	2%
Transfers to Operating Reserve Fund		-	-	-	-	
Debt-interest payments	4%	128,480	4,560	3,752	807	18%
Debt-principle payments	0%	35,486	-	1,326	- 1,326	
M.F.A. Debt Reserve Fund - Arena other debt	0%	270	-	-	-	
TOTAL TRANSFERS & DEBT	8%	755,224	59,971	59,403	568	1%
NET BEFORE REQUISITION & PRIOR YEAR SURPLUS	14%	- 3,762,727	- 522,454	- 632,162	109,708	-21%
Requisition & Payment in Lieu	0.56%	3,752,193	20,937	10,155	10,782	51%
Prior Year Surplus	0%	10,534	-	25,000	- 25,000	
NET OPERATIONS		-	- 501,517	- 597,007	95,490	-19%



Making a difference...together

REPORT TO THE SOOKE & ELECTORAL AREA PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 05, 2026

SUBJECT **Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia Equipment Financing Program Borrowing Resolution for Sooke and Electoral Area Recreation and Facilities Service**

ISSUE SUMMARY

A Board borrowing resolution is required to authorize borrowing for the Sooke and Electoral Area Recreation and Facilities Service (SEAPARC) under the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia (MFABC) Equipment Financing Program.

BACKGROUND

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Board approved the 2026-2030 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 4751 on March 11, 2026. The approved financial plan included \$60,000 in the SEAPARC capital plan for the replacement of a golf course turf aerator, to be funded through the MFABC Equipment Financing Program. Authorization to borrow through this program requires approval of a borrowing resolution by the Board.

The related annual debt payment was also included in the approved 2026-2030 Financial Plan.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

The Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That the Board of the Capital Regional District authorize borrowing of up to \$60,000 under section 403 of the *Local Government Act*, which applies section 175 of the *Community Charter* to regional districts, through the MFABC Equipment Financing Program for the purchase of a golf course turf aerator for the Sooke and Electoral Area Recreation and Facilities Service; and
2. That the loan be repaid within five (5) years, with no right of renewal.

Alternative 2

That the resolution be deferred pending further analysis by CRD Staff.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

For regional districts, liabilities under agreement are governed by section 175 of the *Community Charter*, as applied by section 403 of the *Local Government Act*.

The MFABC Equipment Financing Program provides borrowing for equipment purchases. Through this program, the CRD retains ownership of the asset and borrows at a variable interest

rate with fixed payment schedules. There are no fees to set up or discharge the agreement, no taxes on payments, and no penalties for early repayment or additional principal payments. These loans are direct obligations of the entity requesting funding.

The proposed borrowing term is up to five (5) years, which aligns with the expected service life of the equipment. The current Equipment Financing Program borrowing rate is 2.80% as of March 2026 and is subject to change. The estimated cost is \$1,075 monthly on a 60-month loan with a total interest of \$4,500 based on current rates. Payments will be funded through requisition.

CONCLUSION

The approved 2026-2030 Financial Plan includes \$60,000 for replacement of a golf course turf aerator for the Sooke and Electoral Area Recreation and Facilities Service, to be funded through the MFABC Equipment Financing Program. Board approval of the attached borrowing resolution is required to proceed.

RECOMMENDATION

The Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That the Board of the Capital Regional District authorize borrowing of up to \$60,000 under section 403 of the *Local Government Act*, which applies section 175 of the *Community Charter* to regional districts, through the MFABC Equipment Financing Program for the purchase of a golf course turf aerator for the Sooke and Electoral Area Recreation and Facilities Service; and
2. That the loan be repaid within five (5) years, with no right of renewal.

Submitted by:	Melanie Alsdorf, Senior Manager, SEAPARC Recreation
Concurrence:	Luisa Jones, MBA, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services
Concurrence	Nelson Chan, MBA, FCPA, FCMA, Chief Financial Officer & General Manager, Finance & Technology
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A: Borrowing Resolution for Equipment Financing Program with the Municipal Finance Authority

Borrowing Resolution for Equipment Financing Program with the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia

That the Board of the CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT authorizes up to \$60,000 to be borrowed, under Section 403 of the *Local Government Act*, through the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia Equipment Financing Program, for the purpose of purchasing a golf course turf aerator for the Sooke and Electoral Area Recreation and Facilities Service.

That the loan be repaid within five (5) years, with no right of renewal.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution which was passed by the Board of the CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT on the ___ day of _____, 2026.

Corporate Officer



Making a difference...together

REPORT TO THE SOOKE & ELECTORAL AREA PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 05, 2026

SUBJECT 2026/2027 Fees and Charges – SEAPARC Recreation

PURPOSE

To provide the Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission with recommendations for the 2026/2027 Recreation Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw.

BACKGROUND

Each year, all Capital Regional District (CRD) recreation centres are required to review and analyze their fees and charges and recommend any changes for approval by the CRD Board. Fees and charges are updated in amendments to Bylaw No. 3623, “Capital Regional District Recreation Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2009”, which contains fees for all CRD recreation centres.

The annual process for reviewing fees and charges includes consideration of:

- past and actual budgeted expenses and revenues
- activity and usage levels
- recognition of desired recovery rates and operational deficits
- operational assumptions regarding access, facility enhancements and recovery
- fees and charges at other municipal recreation departments
- previous year’s fee increases
- social & economic conditions; and
- SEAPARC Fees & Charges Policy

The primary consideration in the review of recreation fees and charges is to find a balance between fiscal accountability, access to recreation services, and the marketplace.

Wages, operating costs, and inflation impact the cost to operate facilities and deliver programs and services. Membership pass sale revenue increased through 2025, however this increase in revenue was offset by a decrease in drop-in admission revenue. Staff have considered the balance of expected revenues and escalating costs, recreation fees across the region, and previous rate increases and are recommending an average increase of 3% to fees.

Proposed Fees and Charges Adjustments and Changes

- *Increase to single admission, per visit and passes:* Following a regional review of comparable rates, fee increases of 1–7% are being proposed. Consistent with feedback from both the public and staff, these rates have been rounded to the nearest \$0.25.
- *Increase to ice/dryfloor rental rates:* Although demand for SEAPARC’s ice and dryfloor spaces is high, current rental rates remain lower than those of comparable regional facilities. Proposed increases of 1–11% aim to narrow this gap. The “early morning” rate, which SEAPARC uniquely offers, has been increased at a higher percentage to begin aligning it with

the youth non-prime rate. In future years, increases may need to surpass typical inflation levels as part of long-term planning for a new arena facility.

- *Increase to supplemental staff rates:* The proposed 4% increase aligns with wage increases from the collective agreement.
- *Addition of daily/tournament rate for Stan Jones field:* The proposed rate establishes a daily/tournament rate to assist staff with bookings as a per game rate is difficult to ascertain with tournament use.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

The Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the proposed fees and charges be approved for inclusion in the 2026/2027 Fees and Charges Bylaw for SEAPARC services.

Alternative 2

That the proposed fees and charges, as amended, be approved for inclusion in the 2026/2027 Fees and Charges Bylaw for SEAPARC services.

IMPLICATIONS

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Recognizing that cost can be a barrier to recreation participation, SEAPARC offers the Leisure Involvement for Everyone (LIFE) program and the Leisure Assistant Program to support recreation access across the community. The LIFE program provides unlimited free access to drop-in programs and registered program subsidy for those requiring financial assistance. The Leisure Assistant Program provides free access to the support person for those needing additional assistance when visiting SEAPARC Recreation Centre.

Social Implications

The proposed increase to admissions, pass rates and rental rates align fees with other Greater Victoria recreation centres offering similar services. The proposed rates reflect increased operating costs while keeping rates as low as possible to support accessible recreation for community members to encourage a healthy lifestyle.

The following programs/measures are in place to support broad recreation use at low cost:

- Subsidized ice rental rates for School District 62 hockey academy
- Free swim/skate access and subsidized golf access during the day for School District 62 classes as part of a joint use agreement
- Free grade 2 swim lessons supported by sponsorship
- Free bike park, sport box and skate park facility access
- \$2 access for youth on Friday afternoons

Financial Implications

The user fees collected by SEAPARC Recreation are used to reduce the tax requisition funds required to operate the SEAPARC recreation service. In 2025, 38% of operations and transfers (excluding debt) were funded by users.

Over the next five years, the capital reserve fund and equipment replacement fund is maintaining an average balance of \$632,000 which includes the regular annual contributions. To proceed with a regular preventative maintenance plan, support an aging facility and be prepared for unexpected facility projects, the target range for this fund is \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000. Additionally, there are projects in the capital plan that are currently debt funded. Staff will need to consider budget contribution increases in future budget cycles to fund new projects and to meet capital reserve balance targets.

While some proposed fee increases align with or are below current inflation rates, other rate adjustments are higher to reflect market comparators, expected supply and wage cost increases above inflation rates, consider cash rounding, and/or support an increased service level. Overall, the changes to the fees and charges align with the approved 2026-2030 financial plan.

The proposed increase is expected to generate sufficient revenue to achieve targets for the 2026/2027 budget years and is in alignment with user fees across Greater Victoria.

CONCLUSION

The proposed 2026/2027 fees and charges adjustments balance rising operating costs, regional market comparisons, and the need to maintain accessible recreation services. The recommended increases—averaging 3%—support SEAPARC’s financial sustainability, advance alignment with regional rates, and help position the service for future facility planning. With programs in place to ensure equitable access, the adjustments are expected to generate sufficient revenue to meet budget targets while continuing to support broad community participation in recreation.

RECOMMENDATION

The Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the proposed fees and charges be approved for inclusion in the 2026/2027 Fees and Charges Bylaw for SEAPARC services.

Submitted by:	Melanie Alsdorf, Senior Manager, SEAPARC Recreation
Concurrence:	Luisa Jones, MBA, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Nelson Chan, MBA, FCPA, FCMA, Chief Financial Officer & General Manager, Finance & Technology
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A: Proposed 2026/2027 Fees and Charges

Presentation: 2026-2027 Fees & Charges

Appendix A: Proposed Changes for 2026-2027 Fees & Charges

SEAPARC RECREATION FEES AND CHARGES

2025 Bylaw 4557 Fees and Charges			Proposed Changes for 2026-2027	% Change
DROP- IN FEES (swim, skate, weight room, fitness classes) (Includes applicable tax)				
Adult (19 – 59)	Single Admission	\$7.25	\$7.50	3%
	10x	\$65.25	\$67.50	3%
	1 month	\$69.50	\$72.00	4%
	3 month	\$155.00	\$159.00	3%
	12 month	\$432.00	\$456.00	6%
Senior (60+)	Single Admission	\$5.50	\$5.75	5%
	10x	\$49.50	\$51.75	5%
	1 month	\$52.00	\$54.00	4%
	3 month	\$120.00	\$124.00	3%
	12 month	\$432.00	\$456.00	6%
Student (19+)	Single Admission	\$5.50	\$5.75	5%
	10x	\$49.50	\$51.75	5%
	1 month	\$52.00	\$54.00	4%
	3 month	\$120.00	\$124.00	3%
	12 month	\$432.00	\$444.00	3%
Youth (13 – 18)	Single Admission	\$4.00	\$4.25	6%
	10x	\$36.00	\$38.25	6%
	1 month	\$39.00	\$40.00	3%
	3 month	\$93.00	\$93.50	1%
	12 month	\$249.00	\$255.00	2%
Child (5 – 12)	Single Admission	\$3.50	\$3.75	7%
	10x	\$31.50	\$33.75	7%
	1 month	\$33.50	\$34.00	1%
	3 month	\$77.25	\$79.00	2%
	12 month	\$210.00	\$215.00	2%
Family (Maximum 5)	Single Admission	\$14.50	\$15.00	3%
	10x	\$130.50	\$135.00	3%
	1 month	\$139.00	\$143.00	3%
	12 month	\$864.00	\$888.00	3%
Commercial Access	Single Admission	\$22.00	\$23.00	5%
Preschool Age (4 and Under)	Single Admission	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%
MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATION (Includes applicable tax)				
NSF Cheque Declined Credit Card Fee		\$25.00	\$25.00	0%
Card Replacement/Refund		\$5.00	\$5.00	0%
Late Withdrawal Fee		\$10.00	\$10.50	5%
Towel Rental		\$3.25	\$3.50	8%
Shower Fee		\$3.25	\$3.50	8%
Toonie Admission		\$2.00	\$2.00	0%

2025 Bylaw 4557 Fees and Charges		Proposed Changes for 2026-2027	% Change
POOL FACILITY (Rates per hour unless otherwise noted; Subject to applicable tax)			
Pool Facility Rental (includes 2 guards)	\$170.00	\$179.00	5%
Pool Rental Lifeguard/Instructor (additional staff)*	\$43.50	\$45.50	5%
Lane Rental – Commercial	\$28.00	\$30.00	7%
Lane Rental - Adult	\$20.00	\$20.50	3%
Lane Rental – Youth	\$15.00	\$15.50	3%
*Lifeguard/Instructor additional charge if required based on Lifeguard to Patron ratio			
ARENA FACILITY (Rates per hour unless otherwise noted; Subject to applicable tax)			
Ice - Adult Prime	\$249.00	\$262.00	5%
Ice - Adult Non-Prime	\$202.00	\$204.00	1%
Ice – Youth Prime Rate	\$136.00	\$142.00	4%
Ice – Youth Non-Prime	\$115.00	\$119.00	3%
Ice – Youth Early Morning Resident	\$62.00	\$69.00	11%
Ice – Youth Early Morning Non Resident	\$115.00	\$119.00	3%
Ice - Youth Commercial	\$165.00	\$175.00	6%
SD 62 School Use	\$92.00	\$96.00	4%
Dry Floor – Adult	\$82.00	\$84.00	2%
Dry Floor – Youth	\$44.00	\$47.00	7%
Dry Floor – Commercial	\$119.00	\$126.00	6%
Arena Staff	\$43.50	\$45.50	5%
Arena Office Space – fee per month	\$368.00	\$379.00	3%
RATES PER DAY FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:			
Complex – Dry Floor Non Profit (per day)	\$1,310.00	\$1,350.00	3%
Complex – Dry Floor Non Profit (Move In/Out)	\$655.00	\$675.00	3%
Complex – Dry Floor Commercial (per day)	\$1,960.00	\$2,019.00	3%
Complex – Dry Floor Commercial (Move In/Out)	\$980.00	\$1,009.00	3%
Concession – Non Profit (per day)	\$30.00	\$35.00	17%
Concession – Commercial (per day)	\$165.00	\$170.00	3%
As per Fees & Charges Policy: Prime Time Rate: 4pm-10pm weekdays; 8am-10pm weekends Early Morning Rate: 12am-8am Non-Resident: Less than 75% of members living in SEAPARC service area			
ARENA SKATE SHOP FEES (Includes applicable tax)			
Skate Rental	\$3.75	\$4.00	7%
Skate Rental – Family Rate (Maximum 5)	\$7.50	\$8.00	7%
Skate Sharpening	\$5.75	\$6.00	4%
Skate Sharpening 10x	\$51.75	\$54.00	4%

2025 Bylaw 4557 Fees and Charges		Proposed Changes for 2026-2027	% Change
SEAPARC ROOM RENTAL (Rates per hour; Subject to applicable tax)			
Boardroom	\$22.75	\$25.00	10%
Boardroom – Local Non Profit	\$0.00		0%
Multipurpose Room – Half Room	\$34.00	\$35.00	3%
Multipurpose Room – Full Room	\$68.00	\$70.00	3%
Parking Lot (daily rate per 1/4 of parking lot)	\$75.00	\$75.00	0%
Facility rental for commercial film rental	Negotiated		
Fitness Instructor	\$53.50	\$55.50	4%
Maintenance Staff	\$53.50	\$55.50	4%
Table Rental (per booking)	\$3.00	\$3.00	0%
Chair Rental (per booking)	\$1.00	\$1.00	0%
SEAPARC STAN JONES FIELD (Subject to applicable tax)			
Adult Per Game / Practice	\$29.00	\$30.00	3%
Youth Per Game / Practice	\$14.00	\$14.50	4%
*Tournament / Day rate (NEW) - Adult	\$0.00	\$179.00	
*Tournament / Day rate (NEW) - Youth	\$0.00	\$87.00	
Commercial / Community Event	Negotiated	Negotiated	
RAVENS RIDGE PARK SPORT BOX (Rates per hour; Subject to applicable tax)			
Youth	\$16.25	\$16.75	3%
Adult	\$32.50	\$33.50	3%
Commercial	\$65.00	\$67.00	3%
GOLF COURSE GREEN FEES AND RENTALS (Includes applicable tax)			
Adult	\$18.00	\$18.50	3%
Adult 10x	\$162.00	\$166.50	3%
Adult/Senior – Season Pass	\$535.00	\$549.00	3%
Senior (60+)	\$16.00	\$16.50	3%
Senior (60+) 10x	\$144.00	\$148.50	3%
Youth (6-18)	\$11.25	\$11.50	2%
Youth (6-18) 10x	\$101.25	\$103.50	2%
Youth (6-18) - Season Pass	\$227.00	\$232.00	2%
Family (Max 4 incl. 2 adults)	\$47.00	\$49.00	4%
Extra Round	\$11.00	\$11.50	5%
Pull Cart Rental	\$5.50	\$5.75	5%
Club Rental	\$7.75	\$8.00	3%
Golf Tournament Fee	Negotiated	Negotiated	
FACILITY ADVERTISING (Subject to applicable tax)			
Rink Board (per year)	\$655.00	\$675.00	3%
Zamboni Ad (per year)	\$1,100.00	\$1,150.00	5%
Brochure Advertising	Negotiated	Negotiated	



Making a difference...together

REPORT TO THE SOOKE & ELECTORAL AREA PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 05, 2026

SUBJECT **Low-Cost Community Program Pilot**

ISSUE SUMMARY

To inform the Commission of the intent to offer a low-cost yoga program in local parks.

BACKGROUND

The 2025–2035 SEAPARC Strategic Plan includes goals to optimize service delivery through new or expanded programming that does not require new infrastructure and incorporates nature-focused opportunities. In alignment with this direction, staff are proposing a low-cost Yoga in the Park program to support social connection while leveraging the well-documented physical and mental health benefits associated with outdoor green spaces.

The SEAPARC Fees & Charges Policy directs that fees for registered adult programs should recover all direct and indirect costs. However, the policy also allows for consideration of reduced fees for programs that advance social objectives and/or function as a loss leader. Staff consider the proposed Yoga in the Park program to align with these provisions, as it is intended to promote social connection and community well-being.

Offering a balanced mix of full cost-recovery programs alongside free or low-cost opportunities supports equity, public value, and overall community wellness. Free or low-cost programming helps reduce financial barriers, promotes public health, and enables participation across a range of socio-economic backgrounds. Additionally, Yoga in the Park would function as a loss leader by introducing community members to yoga, with the intent of encouraging future participation in SEAPARC's regular fee-based programming in the fall.

SEAPARC has a history of offering free or low-cost programming, including summer Play in the Park programs, walking groups, \$2 admission activities, and recreation opportunities delivered at community events.

To proceed with the Yoga in the Park program in District of Sooke parks, a permit application fee of \$150, a refundable damage deposit of \$500, and a daily rental fee of \$150 are required. Staff have submitted a permit application and a request to District of Sooke Council for these fees to be waived in support of the program. The current SEAPARC budget can support the Yoga in the Park program only if the application and rental fees are waived.

IMPLICATIONS

Alignment with Existing Plans & Strategies

This program aligns with SEAPARC Strategic Plan actions 1H “*Further investigate specific program demands and priorities for youth, older adults, arts and culture and nature focused programs*” and 1I “*Identify ‘easy win’ opportunities for new or expanded types of programming that doesn’t require new infrastructure*”. It also aligns with goal 10c of the Corporate Plan – “*Affordable recreation opportunities that improve livability*”.

Financial Implications

The proposed Yoga in the Park program would be offered over an eight-week period at a participant fee of \$5 per class. Based on an average registration of eight participants per class, the program is designed to recover direct instructor costs estimated at \$320 over the program term. This participation level represents the minimum required to achieve full recovery of direct program costs. By comparison, typical yoga programs offered at SEAPARC are priced at approximately \$15 per class and are intended to recover both direct and indirect costs.

As outlined in the SEAPARC Fees & Charges Policy, direct program costs include program supplies, direct advertising expenses, staff wages, and facility rental fees. Indirect costs include SEAPARC-operated facility space, programming and administrative staff time, maintenance services, and general advertising. While adult registered programs are generally required to recover both direct and indirect costs, the proposed Yoga in the Park program is intentionally structured to recover direct costs only. This approach supports affordability objectives and aligns with SEAPARC's strategic and CRD corporate goals related to affordability, access and participation.

Indirect costs not recovered through participant fees would be offset by surplus revenue generated from other registered fitness programs. To mitigate financial risk, the program will only proceed if minimum registration targets—defined as an average of eight participants per class—are achieved. Additionally, due to the cost of park rental rates and application fees, the Yoga in the Park program is financially viable only if District of Sooke park use and application fees are waived. Confirmation of this waiver is required to ensure the program meets budget targets and does not result in an operating deficit.

Intergovernmental Implications

Collaboration with the District of Sooke to utilize local parks and green spaces for active recreation opportunities supports shared objectives related to community health, recreation, and social connection. Parks and public spaces are valuable community assets that play a key role in promoting physical activity, community well-being, and inclusive access to recreation. Establishing a core level of free or low-cost programming within these spaces enhances quality of life, strengthens social connectedness, and increases the visibility and use of parks as welcoming and inclusive environments for physical activity and community health. The proposed Yoga in the Park program reflects the benefits of intergovernmental partnership in delivering accessible recreation opportunities that serve the broader community.

Social Implications

Participation in outdoor recreation provides a range of physical, mental, and social benefits, contributing to overall community well-being. Removing financial barriers where possible helps ensure equitable access to recreational opportunities for residents of all ages and socio-economic backgrounds. Offering a balanced mix of free and fee-based programming supports community health, social equity, and well-being. Delivering programs in local parks expands recreation opportunities, encourages use of outdoor spaces, and fosters unique community engagement experiences, while reducing pressure on existing indoor recreation infrastructure.

CONCLUSION

The proposed Yoga in the Park program supports SEAPARC’s strategic objectives by expanding nature-focused, low-cost recreation opportunities that promote community health, social connection, and equity. Subject to the waiver of District of Sooke park use fees, staff will proceed with the program as a financially manageable initiative that leverages existing community assets, aligns with adopted policies and plans, and provides meaningful public value to residents.

RECOMMENDATION

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Submitted by:	Colleen Hogle, Program Services Manager, SEAPARC Recreation
Concurrence:	Melanie Alsdorf, Senior Manager, SEAPARC Recreation
Concurrence:	Luisa Jones, MBA, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services