



**Minutes of a Meeting of the Peninsula Recreation Commission
Held Thursday, June 25, 2026, in the Panorama Boardroom
1885 Forest Park Drive, North Saanich BC**

PRESENT:

COMMISSIONERS: N. Paltiel (Chair), P. DiBattista (Vice Chair – EP), K. Frost; S. Garnett, V. Kreiser, C. McNeil-Smith

STAFF: S. Meikle, Senior Manager (EP); K. Beck, Manager, Program Services; L. Gregg, Manager, Facilities & Operations; M. Medland, Financial Services Advisor (EP); D. Toso, Administrative Secretary (Recorder)

EP – Electronic Participation

Regrets: Commissioner Jones; Commissioner Murray; Commissioner Windsor; S. Davis, Manager, Administrative Services

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Commissioner Paltiel provided a territorial acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Chair called for motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Kreiser requested that the Sport Box signage, art and grand opening be added under New Business.

MOVED by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, SECONDED by Commissioner Garnett

That the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes of May 28, 2026

MOVED by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, SECONDED by Commissioner Frost,

That the minutes of the May 28, 2026 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Chair's Remarks: There were none.

5. Presentations/Delegations: There were none.

6. Commission Business

6.1 Proposed Peninsula Recreation Facility In Central Saanich—Revised Scope

S. Meikle spoke to Item 6.1.

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

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- District of North Saanich did not vote on initial loan authorization bylaw.
- Concerns over capacity and programming pressures with a reduced sized facility.
- Staff foresee the combined multi-purpose and fitness space being designed in a way that's very conducive to fitness yet can pivot to accommodate larger-scale meetings, events, after-school care, etc. as needed; will increase programming options.
- No specific use for the approximately 2,500 sq. ft. outside of PRC operation has yet been designated by the District of Central Saanich. If future needs arise, PRC may enter discussions with DCS for the use of the space.
- Operational boundaries between PRC property and DCS property are very clear within the plan for the building.

MOVED by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, SECONDED by Commissioner Frost,

That the Peninsula Recreation Commission:

Endorse the revised scope of the proposed recreation facility with a target project budget of up to \$10.114 million, based on a program configuration consistent with Option 1.

CARRIED

Opposed: Kreiser

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Letter from Chief Pelkey in support of the project did not come to the Commission because it was not addressed to the Commission; however, this and other such letters can be included in information to Councils.
- Greenglade usage data was not brought to the Commission table tonight as it was previously presented to Commission in Annual Reports, but staff intend to include it in information to Councils.
- Staff will also highlight for Councils references to the demonstrated demand for pottery and other non-physical recreation opportunities.
- The size of the proposed weight room was compared to the Panorama and Greenglade weightrooms.
- In the proposed revised plan, room sizes are approximate. Staff will work to optimize square footage if the project moves to the detailed design stage.

6.2 Bylaw No. 4782 Saanich Peninsula Recreation Services (DCS Recreation Facility) Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 2, 2026

S. Meikle spoke to Item 6.2.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Other than dollar amounts, there is no material change to this bylaw.
- Contingency of 20% translates to approximately \$1.4 million dollars.
- Staff will follow up with CRD Legislative Services regarding how the length of time for Councils to respond is determined.

MOVED by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, SECONDED by Commissioner Frost,

The Peninsula Recreation Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That Bylaw No. 4782, "Saanich Peninsula Recreation Services (DCS Recreation Facility) Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 2, 2026", be introduced and read a first, second and third time; and

2. That participating area approval for Bylaw No. 4782 be obtained by way of the municipal consent on behalf of electors for Central Saanich, North Saanich, and Sidney, and if

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successful, be referred to the Inspector of Municipalities for approval.

CARRIED

Opposed: Kreiser

Discussion ensued regarding:

- A referendum would have been preferred had it been feasible.

6.3 Childcare Expansion—Verdier Avenue Affordable Housing Development

K. Beck spoke to Item 6.3

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Panorama participates in all components of the Child Care Operating Fund and will continue to monitor the \$10/day program.
- CRHC is not charging the PRC rent for the space; however, the intent is to align fees to our current offerings. CCOF requirements may limit increasing fees, and reducing fees may prevent the program from reaching net-neutral cost recovery.
- There are no legal concerns around developing an agreement between two CRD entities.

MOVED by Commissioner Garnett, SECONDED by Commissioner Kreiser,

The Peninsula Recreation Commission recommends:

1. That staff operationalize the childcare program and incorporate required resources into the 2028 service planning and five-year financial plan.
2. That staff develop a proposed operating agreement to bring forward to the Commission for approval at a future meeting.

CARRIED

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Childcare, while an important service to our community, does not fit as part of a recreation service and stretches the PRC with an additional location to operate.

6.4 Arena Lobby Update—Verbal

- The RFP for the Arena Improvement project closed today so an update on that project will come to a future meeting.
- This initiative comes from the Kiwanis Club's decision to not renew their concession agreement in the Arena. After 10 years of providing food services, their exit creates a service gap as well as an opportunity to re-imagine the space.
- Users and staff face ongoing challenges related to the Arena lobby in terms of service, supervision and safety.
- Renovating the concession area to create a more flexible community space for user groups while staying flexible and scalable as the larger Arena Improvement project develops.
- Food trucks and product resales are options being considered to complement current snack offerings available.
- The project cost is estimated at \$30,000 and is already in capital plan.
- A communication plan is ready for user groups and staff to help with the transition.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Engagement with the Panthers will follow Commission discussion.
- Interested groups may want to take on concessions themselves.

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- Placement of food trucks TBD for minimal impact to accessible parking spots.
- Licensing for specific tournaments and events requires further analysis by staff and the decision would come to the Commission table.
- Potential for merchandise to be included in resales to raise the profile and generate revenue for user groups and Panorama.

6.5 Commission Meeting Dates—Verbal

- Staff do not foresee any items for July. As is typical in an election year, the budget will come back to the Commission in August.

7. New Business:

a. Sport Box Naming, Art and Grand Opening Update

- Conversations are ongoing and staff are working to refine the call for artists to ensure inclusive selection process.
- Staff expect to report back to the Commission in September.
- An unveiling ceremony, rather than a grand opening, will be planned once completed.

8. Adjournment

MOVED by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, SECONDED by Commissioner Garnett,
That the meeting be adjourned at 7:18 pm.
CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER