



# City of Surrey

## *Parks & Community Services Committee*

### *Minutes*

Parks Boardroom 1  
City Hall  
14245 - 56 Avenue  
Surrey, B.C.  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2009**  
Time: 7:00 pm  
File: 0540-20

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**Present:**

Chairperson: Councillor Martin  
C. Annable  
R. Benson  
C. Girardi  
J. Grewal  
S. Hundal  
G. Rai

**Absent:**

Councillor Gill  
T. Allen

**Also Present:**

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
O. Croy, Manager of Parks  
T. Neufeld, Manager Park Operations South  
D. Vestergaard, Administrative Coordinator, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Service

**School Board Trustee:**

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**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the Parks & Community Services Committee held on February 25, 2009 to be adopted.

It was

Moved by Cliff Annable

Seconded by Carol Girardi

That the minutes of the Parks & Community Services Committee meeting of February 25, 2009 be adopted.

Carried

**B. DELEGATION**

**C. REQUEST(S) FOR DELEGATION**

**D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**1. Sport Registration Signs in Parks**

File: 6130-01

Memo outlining the current issues and actions regarding the use of signage for club registration purposes.

The GM, Parks provided further comments:

- Phase I - contact groups
- Phase 2 - development of sign project
- Kiosks will be installed in major athletic parks in the fall 2009

- Community sport site on internet will be running shortly  
[www.communitysport.surrey.ca](http://www.communitysport.surrey.ca)

Committee comments:

- Public signage at 148 Street and 24 Avenue is an issue. There is a sign there for Softball City. These temporary signs (for registrations) will be removed after the registration dates.
- There is a City by-law that precludes 3<sup>rd</sup> party advertising and signage.
- City has an initiative for bus shelters that could possibly be for third party advertising. The sign will have two parts, one part for the name of the park, the second part for the sports associations to show "*home of the...*". This was an initiative from the mid 1990s that could be revisited. The City would charge a nominal fee. Sign design still to be determined.

It was Moved by Rick Benson  
Seconded by Cliff Annable  
That the Parks & Community Services

Committee receive this memo for information.

Carried

**2. Review of 2001 Business Case for Synthetic Turf Fields'**

File: 5920-01

A report on the subject of evaluating the 2001 Business Case for Synthetic Turf Fields against Surrey's experience to date with the synthetic fields that have been developed since that time.

It was Moved by Shaba Hundal  
Seconded by Cliff Annable  
That the Parks & Community Services

Committee receive this report as information.

Carried

**3. West Newton Cricket Park**

File: 6140/20

A report containing information about the park design, funding sources, preliminary cost estimates, partnership opportunities, and potential construction timelines for this community level park.

It was Moved by Jagdeep Grewal  
Seconded by Cliff Annable  
That the Parks & Community Services

Committee receive this report as information.

Carried

**4. Parks Playground Infrastructure Update**  
File: 6120-01

A report on the City's playground infrastructure.

It was Moved by Rick Benson  
Seconded by Carol Girardi  
That the Parks & Community Services  
Committee receive this report as information.  
Carried

**E. STAFF PRESENTATIONS(S)**

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Invitation to Host the BC Seniors Games**  
File: 5000-01

This is a report on the cost benefits of hosting the BC Seniors Games.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It was Moved by Carol Girardi  
Seconded by Cliff Annable  
That the Parks & Community Services  
Committee recommend to Council that the City of Surrey not submit a bid to host  
the 2011 or 2012 BC Seniors Games.  
Carried

**2. Building Name Change – Existing Cloverdale Recreation Centre to Don Christian Recreation Centre**  
File: 8000-01

This is a report on the renaming of the current recreation centre in order to allocate the name Cloverdale Recreation Centre to the new centre that will become the focal point of recreation and Community and Leisure Services in Cloverdale.

Committee comments:

- This project is a 60,000 sq.ft. facility, a \$20 Million project.
- Staff could look at components of corporate sponsorship within the facility.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It was

Moved by Gurpreet Rai  
 Seconded by Shaba Hundal  
 The Parks & Community Services

Committee recommend that Council:

- (a) Receive this report as information; and;
- (b) Recommend that Council approve the re-naming of the current Cloverdale Recreation Centre, located at 6220-184<sup>th</sup> Street to "***Don Christian Recreation Centre***".
- (c) Recommend to Council that the new recreation complex that will be built in Cloverdale be named "*Cloverdale Recreation Centre*".

Carried**3. Draft Policy for Developers Constructing Parks**

File: 6120-01

This report provides background information about how the City can work with developers to construct Surrey parks, to present the draft policy that will guide the administration of these efforts, and to solicit committee comments on the draft prior to submission to Council for consideration of adoption in 2009.

It was

Moved by Jagdeep Grewal  
 Seconded by Carol Girardi  
 That the Parks & Community Services

Committee:

- (a) Receive this report as information; and
- (b) Provide comments to staff relative to the draft policy.

Carried**4. Use of Pesticides in Surrey: Draft Pesticide Control By-law**

File No. 5280-23

This report is to provide status update on the progress of a review relating to the use of pesticides within Surrey, and to solicit comments on the draft by-law, particularly in relation to the potential impact on City operations in parks.

There has been 15 hours of debate at the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) on this since October 2008. The GM, Parks requests comments as this by-law will have a monetary effect within our parks.

In response to queries the following comments were provided:

- Few comments have been provided from any particular group within the city from an environmental perspective. Comments have been mostly to reducing pesticides with regards to human health.
- Information on the Integrated Pest Management Act and Regulations can be found on the Ministry of Environment website.
- UBCM lobbied the Province to prohibit the sale of household pesticides primarily for home use. The Province has chosen to not prohibit sales of this

type. Certain exemptions in the by-law are taken largely from the Integrated Pest Management Act and are listed on the back of the by-law (pg 10, Schedule A). That list is already exempted by the Act and Regulations.

- There are additional impacts but have not acted on it. Certain exemptions on the Pesticides Act are listed on the back of the by-law (pg 10, Schedule A). That list is already exempted by the Act and Regulations.
- By-law (pg 46, Section 3) has whole list of things that would be exempt. Highlighted in yellow are recommendations for removal by the EAC. Pesticides used for agriculture are reflected in the exemptions currently listed. The draft by-law only applies to public land or residential land. Golf courses are exempt. Industrial or commercial business parks, and the wet lands of the Serpentine Fen cannot be regulated by a city by-law.
- Noxious weeds are controlled under the BC Weed Control Act.
- City staff are concerned with that the version of the by-law being recommended by the EAC would not permit controlling non-invasive pests that can cause an infestation (i.e. rhododendron weevils or fungi attack) would result in staff not being able to control infestations at parks such as Darts Hill (special collections) if needed. The City manages miles of medians 3-4 meters wide. These are attended to once per month. Pre-emergent herbicide is used to control weeds on frontage roads, traffic circles, intersections and other street landscaping. Hand weeding would cost an additional \$800,000 annually. That work would come at the expense of other maintenance at our parks, such as washroom maintenance. We may need to create more tolerance for weeds in our public spaces.
- At the EAC scheduled for April 16, 2009 the intent is to remove certain sections of the by-law to ensure safety of pedestrians and sport surfaces. Controlling Cottonwood roots penetrating sport court surfaces wouldn't be permitted under this version of the by-law; infestations of clover, plantain and other weeds that creates slippery conditions on sport fields would not be permitted; staff would want exemption to do spot treatment on sport surfaces during the closed season. Lawn bowling pitches often require treatment with fungicide to control pink snow mould and other fungal organism. This wouldn't be permitted under the EAC recommended version of the by-law.
- The section that defined sensitive eco systems in parks was removed from the by-law in the EAC version. However, Exotic species can diminish the capacity of the forest to offer natural habitat for fauna, and herbicides sometimes needed to control invasive species to preserve habitat.
- How to control private land use of herbicides? Once adopted by by-law enforcement officers would record, collect samples to prove application. Enforcement group is already a busy group. They are pressed for resources. This by-law would be duplicating something that is already charged to another level of government. The Provincial government regulates the sale of pesticides and ensuring the correct use. *Federal government has said to use in accordance with directions for domestic use.* Two levels of government are already dealing with this. The EAC is asking for a third level of government to be involved.

Committee comments:

- Very important concerns have been raised. This can cause the need to get exemptions for sport fields. Sports associations and teams are asked to provide third party liability insurance for sports fields injuries. All it takes is a weed on a playing field surface to cause injury.
- This will need to be a provincially mandated by-law if that is the route the EAC want to go.
- Provincially, Governments mandated the non-smoking by-law but tried to get municipalities to regulate their own communities.
- From the Parks & Community Services Committee standpoint, there is the need to look at the bigger picture to enhance the city. The eco system is to remain natural, but we need to balance a place to play, live, work. Some exemptions should be allowed to ensure sports fields are safe and playable. Otherwise there is a huge risk management issue.
- This by-law will be tying the hands of the City. Apply common sense in the use of pesticides. This by-law would allow for the control of bugs within buildings and structures but not an ant colony in the yard.
- There is a movement of dedicated people, backed by the BC Cancer Society who is making a significant effort to control the use of pesticides on residential properties as pesticides are often used incorrectly and children and pets are then subjected to exposure. To stop residential use, they are asking of Council and committees to enact a by-law to stop cosmetic use of pesticides. This has been developed by EAC to add exemptions (such as noxious weeds) for those workers who do this for a living.
- The City should lead by example. We have people who are trained certified applicators who do spot spray. We use a lot of herbicides in the medians where people/pets do not play.
- The GM, Parks Recreation & Culture notes that the committee certainly feels strongly that we continue to lobby provincially. Should Council advance the pesticides by-law within Surrey, segments would be eliminated and continue to be a component of the by-law since we feel those by-law sections would have a negative effect on these areas and the by-law is a part of that. Trained people would continue the applications.

Comments for the EAC:

- This is a Provincial By-law that should not be specific to each individual municipality and not create a municipal responsibility to the By-law.
- Currently the items within the draft pesticides recommendation for removal by the EAC should be retained; removal of these items will have a significant detrimental effect on our parks and recreation.
- Sport playing fields would be exempt. Removal could lead to negative impact for the City for risk management and liability and to increased risk issues for the City and the sports user groups. Player safety comes first.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It was

Moved by Gurpreet Rai

Seconded by Cliff Annable

It is recommended that the Parks &

Community Services Committee:

- (a) Receive this report as information; and

- (b) Recommends that some of the draft by-laws portions removed by the Environmental Advisory Committee at their meeting of March 18, 2009 be reinstated in the draft by-law, with the portions to be reinstated more specifically being:
  - (i) the definition of *Integrated Pest Management*;
  - (ii) Sensitive Ecosystem (b)"City of Surrey Parks...and functions";
  - (iii) 3.(e) "controlling or destroying pests...loss or damage."; and
  - (iv) 3.(i) "managing landscape operations on public lands...the application.";
- (c) Recommends that explicit exemptions for playing fields be retained in the draft by-law, for reasons of player safety, and reduction of risk and liability for both the amateur sport associations that use the fields, and also for the city which manages the fields; and
- (d) Lobby the Province to restrict the use of pesticides on private residential lands.

Carried. Unanimously.

## 5. Proposed Amendments to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Facilities Regulation By-law

File: 3900-02

This report provides the Committee with the background and rationale relating the amending the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Facilities Regulation By-law 13480, and to provide recommended amendments to the MTI By-law 12508 to ensure consistency with the revised By-law 13480.

### RECOMMENDATION:

It was

Moved by Cliff Annable

Seconded by Gurpreet Rai

That the Parks & Community Services

Committee recommend that Council:

- (a) Receive this report as information;
- (b) Authorize the City Clerk to introduce an amending by-law for the *Parks, Recreation and Cultural Facilities Regulation By-law 1998, No. 13480*, as amended; and
- (c) Recommend that staff prepare a corporate report to Council to accompany the Committee's recommendation to Council regarding to the by-law amendment.

Carried

## G. STAFF VERBAL REPORTS - DELIVERY OF SERVICES

### 1. Verbal Updates – April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009

#### Surrey Art Gallery

We are pleased to inform you that at the opening reception of Heaven's Breath and Pop Prints on April 4, 2009 the Surrey Art Gallery Association (SAGA)

received a cheque from the Vancouver Foundation – BC Arts Renaissance Fund in the amount of \$16,400. This cheque matches funds SAGA has raised, and SAGA will in turn present a cheque to the Surrey Foundation where they have established the Surrey Art Gallery Association Endowment Fund. Funds from this endowment are intended to benefit the programs of the Surrey Art Gallery. The purpose of the fund is to help arts organizations in BC develop sources of sustainable funds they could rely upon each year for their operations. Specifically the Arts Renaissance Fund was designed to help arts and culture organizations build permanent endowment funds by providing matching grants.

### **Cloverdale Public Art unveiling**

On Saturday, April 25, 2009 at 11:00 am there will be the unveiling of “Moments in Time” – three larger than life granite sculptures located on the “high street” in Cloverdale (176 Street). These sculptures were created as one of six public art projects funded by the Cultural Capitals of Canada program.

### **Surrey Children’s Festival**

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Surrey Children’s Festival will take place for three days May 28-30, 2009 at the Surrey Arts Centre and Bear Creek Park. The theme this year is “*The Power of Creativity – Imagine It, Become It!*” There are also a series of tents on site that offer free hands on activities including storytelling, clay arts, face painting, mehndi, drumming and dance. Tickets are on sale through the Surrey Arts Centre box office and detailed information is available on the City’s website or [www.surreychildrensfestival.ca](http://www.surreychildrensfestival.ca).

### **Surrey Festival of Dance**

The Surrey Festival of Dance is taking place all this month at the Surrey Arts Centre. This is one of the largest Dance Festival in North America and there will be over 10,000 participants in this year’s event. Professional adjudicators from Montreal, Toronto, Calgary, Los Angeles and New York will evaluate the participants and provide written feedback. Over \$60,000 in scholarships will be awarded to the top performers. Nine students will go on to represent Surrey at the Provincial competition held later this spring in Prince Rupert. Thanks to Surrey’s Cultural Capitals of Canada award the Festival was expanded and this attracted major new sponsors including OMNI (\$17,000 in promotion) and The Epoch Times as media partners.

### **Healthy Kids Who Cook**

The Healthy Kids Who Cook Program consists of 5 weekly, 90 minute, in-school sessions that teach children to make healthy food choices in the kitchen. A maximum of 12 students (preferably with at-risk children that benefit from social support) will be taught to make nutritious meals by a Surrey Parks, Recreation & Culture facilitator. There is sponsorship from Save On and Price Smart Foods. The first session of Healthy Kids Who Cook is underway at Martha Currie, Latimer Road, Don Christian, and Lena Shaw, and the children are really enjoying the program. The second session is now underway. We are pleased to announce that we are able to accommodate all 17 Community School Partnership (CSP) schools without requiring any additional funds.

### **Community Sport Directory**



Parks, Recreation and Culture are currently working on implementing an online “Community Sport Organization/Association” Directory for sport groups in Surrey. It will be one component of a new “Community Sport” presence on the website that also will include an “event Calendar” and other profiled information related to Community Sport. It will have a devoted domain address [www.communitysport.surrey.ca](http://www.communitysport.surrey.ca). Staff will be contacting sport organizations for their information. End of April 2009 is the proposed timeline.

### **Guildford Just for Kicks Breakdance Showcase**

This youth break dancing event was held on March 21, 2009 at the Guildford Recreation Centre and consisted of 6 crews each with approximately 15 people per crew varying in age from 12 -18 years from all over Metro Vancouver. There was no cost for participants to enter the competition. Local Radio Personality, DJ Flipout, from the Beat 94.5 DJ'd the event. Approximately 211 spectators enjoyed the amazing break dancing talent of 90 youth participants.

### **Newton Seniors**

Some Indo-Canadian members of the Newton Seniors had requested additional time and space to play cards at the Newton Seniors Centre. Space was provided in January 2009 which got used a couple of times but then the seniors did not come back. The Newton Advisory Board cancelled the space due to lack of use. If this group would like to try again staff and the Advisory Board will work with them.

### **Weaving Wonders**

This temporary exhibition opened at the Surrey Museum on Tuesday, April 14 – May 23, 2009. An exhibition featuring the historic crafts of spinning, weaving and other fibre arts on loan from five regional Spinning and Weaving Guilds in Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley.

### **School Days**

This temporary exhibition opened at the Stewart Hall at the Historic Stewart Farm site on April 4 – May 31, 2009. Exhibition featuring early school experiences of Surrey students from the turn of the century to the 1960's.

### **Planet Earth Day at the Surrey Museum – Saturday, April 25, 2009 1:00–3:00 pm**

Part of Surrey's Environmental Extravaganza. Activities at the Museum will feature ways to “green” your life including:

- Drop-off old computers and electronics with the Electronic Recycling Association.
- Information on City Green energy-saving home renovation grants.
- Displays on the Jack Bell Ride-Share programs and Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition.
- Hands-on activities and crafts for children to turn their trash into treasures.

### **Heritage Sports Collections Development Project**

Heritage Services staff are working with a community advisory committee on a project to build the Museum and Archives collections of sports equipment, memorabilia and records.

**2012 BC Summer Games**

Surrey has been awarded the 2012 BC Summer Games. This announcement was made by MLA Gordon Hogg which took place on Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at the Surrey Sport & Leisure Complex. The Summer Games are the largest multi sport event in BC and create a vital step in the sport development pathway for the best young athletes in the Province. Host Communities realize a direct economic benefit of over \$2 million.

Surrey last hosted the Summer Games in 1989. The City has since grown and changed enormously and has shown leadership in the development of outstanding facilities and enthusiasm for sport and healthy living.

Surrey continues to be a chosen location for hosting provincial and national competitions and continues to pursue ways to be a leader in sport development and tournament hosting.

**Infrastructure Grants**

To date, there is no formal application process available to access funding that was announced as part of the stimulus package from the 2009 Federal Budget under the “Building Canada” Program or the “RINC” Recreational Infrastructure Canada Program. We have sent letters identifying projects that may fit their criteria as being “shovel ready” to Western Economic Diversification Canada, the federal agency who will administer these programs, as well as to our elected Members of Parliament to ensure they are aware of our interest in obtaining funding from these sources.

**Fraser Heights Community Centre**

A number of months ago a delegation appeared at the Parks and Community Services Committee to lobby for fitness space at the Fraser Heights Recreation Centre. Space at the centre that was previously utilized as an RCMP Community Police office is now being created for fitness. A public information session is taking place on Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at the Fraser Heights Recreation Centre (6:00 pm) to provide information on the progress of the Wellness Centre space being created.

**Surrey Sport and Leisure Complex – Pool Tile Repairs**

The Leisure Pool at the Surrey Sport and Leisure Complex will be closed for six days from Monday, April 27 – Saturday, May 2, 2009. This closure is necessary in order to facilitate replacement of several tiles that have lifted from the “lazy river” wall in the Leisure Pool and to allow for inspection of the tile in the surrounding areas. All other aspects of the facility will be open as usual.

**Kabaddi**

A meeting between RCMP, Parks Division Staff and Kabaddi Representatives (Western Kabaddi Player’s Association) took place Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009:

- Representatives of the Association indicated their concerns with the RCMP.
- The RCMP indicated that they would be able to reduce the costs down.
- The representatives of the Association were satisfied with this.

- The RCMP indicated that he would like to see the costs reduced as much as possible for community sport organizations. However, they indicated that there are security and safety issues that warrant police presence at these events.
- There was consensus amongst the representatives of the Association that police presence is required.

Committee comments:

- Bell Centre parking depends on the programming at Bell Centre. To ensure that a portion of the parking lots are available in the evenings, Kabaddi organizers to coordinate with the school district, Bell Centre and the Sunday church group to ensure the parking works.
- Suggestion had been made to the user group to trade a security guard for a traffic control person to ensure parking public do not push past the traffic barricades.
- By-law officers will be testing the noise levels. The noisier user groups could be reallocated to the outer fields. The Chair commended staff for all their work to find a solution to the noise factor.

**H. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

**I. CORRESPONDENCE**

**J. INFORMATION ITEMS**

Calendar of Events  
File: 7710-01

**K. EMERGING PRIORITIES/POLICY DISCUSSION**

**L. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

**1. Newton Athletic Park**

- Many people are walking for health and are using Newton Athletic Park in the evenings. There is the lack of washrooms. Washrooms are locked due to vandalism and are awaiting repairs. The City will be upgrading the field house with significant additions to washrooms using part of the grant provided by the senior governments last year.
- Parks users are running on the softball fields, grass and soccer fields. The fields are uneven and injuries are resulting. Is there the possibility of a track field being built somewhere at the Newton Athletic Park?

**2. Surrey Soccer League**

- 12 soccer clubs – ages 12+ are governed under the Sikh Temple tourney. Youth tourneys should be open to all ethnic backgrounds.
- United Surrey Soccer took all kids, ages 5-11. This has grown from 5 clubs to 130. Met with Bob Lenarduzzi, a multicultural partner, Porto Rico and Multicultural United soccer club. An open system.

**3. Soccer Field Allocations**

- There are a lot of clubs (44 teams, 31 teams for ages 5-11 year olds) and a lot of confusion around field allocations. Parks to provide a presentation regarding the field allocation process to a future meeting of this committee.

**M. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by Cliff Annable  
Seconded by Carol Girardi  
That the Parks & Community Services

Committee do now adjourn.

Carried

The Parks & Community Services Committee meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Certified as true and correct:

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Jane Sowik, City Clerk

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Councillor Martin, Chairperson  
Parks & Community Services Committee