



For Immediate Release

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North Vancouver residents to be consulted on plan for improving Recreation Facilities

North Vancouver, B.C. North Vancouver residents will soon be asked for their input on a set of draft recommendations for North Vancouver Recreation Commission indoor facilities. The recommendations, to be made available April 19, propose a cost-effective and sustainable facility plan to meet the changing recreation needs of North Vancouver residents.

The draft recommendations are the result of a comprehensive research study conducted in 2006. The study included a recreation needs assessment, a review of existing facility conditions, analysis of changing demographic and social trends, extensive community input including public workshops, stakeholder and recreation group meetings, and a resident survey.

North Vancouver is one of Canada's most active and healthy communities and its residents value a healthy lifestyle through recreation. However, many of the indoor recreation facilities have aged to the point that patchwork repairs and maintenance are no longer economically feasible. The preliminary study provides a cost-effective plan to renew the facilities to meet the needs of North Vancouver's changing demographic.

The Recreation Commission and the City and District of North Vancouver are all committed to ongoing public input into the planning process for indoor recreation facilities. The draft recommendations, along with the needs assessment and public survey results, will be available for the public to review on April 19 on North Vancouver Recreation Commission's website at www.northvanrec.com, with links from both the City of North Vancouver's website (www.cnv.org) and the District of North Vancouver's website (www.dnv.org). Copies will also be available for viewing at local recCentre and Community Centre front desks and at City and District municipal halls.

The public consultation process will begin in May. During the months of May and June, the public will be invited to comment on the recommendations through a series of open houses and a feedback form available through local newspapers and on the website. Community input will be considered along with technical and financial information in the consultants' final report.

The District and the City of North Vancouver regard recreation as an essential component to the overall health and wellness of its residents, as evidenced by over 3.5 million visits to recreational facilities each year. The North Vancouver Recreation Commission's mandate is to meet those objectives by providing a selection of recreational opportunities that meet the needs of residents regardless of age, gender, ability or economic status.

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