



MEMORANDUM

Date: March 31, 2025 File: 0282-20-0086
 To: Mayor & Council
 From: Sue Ketler, Deputy Municipal Manager / Director, Parks, Culture & Community Services
 Re: **Sport and Active Recreation Policy**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT

1. "Sport and Active Recreation Policy 02-70-366" be rescinded; and
 2. proposed "Sport and Active Recreation Policy 0086" be approved.
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The purpose of this memorandum is to request Council approval of the proposed Sport and Active Recreation Policy 0086.

Revisions of the subject policy include:

- reference to the District of West Vancouver's Official Community Plan (as amended), under Part 4 Policy Statement;
- reference to proposed policies, under Part 5 Related Documents; and
- minor housekeeping updates.

The proposed policy is being reviewed within the greater scope of the Legislative Services policy review project, as required by the Policy Framework Procedure 0029 (5.5). Further policies will be brought forward for Council's consideration over the course of 2025.

Appendices

Appendix A: Sport and Active Recreation Policy 02-70-366

Appendix B: Proposed Sport and Active Recreation Policy 0086

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District of West Vancouver

Sport and Active Recreation Policy
02-70-366 (2016)

Effective Date: November 29, 2016

District of West Vancouver

CORPORATE POLICY

Parks, Culture and Community Services Division	Sport and Active Recreation Policy
Policy # 02-70-366 (2016)	
CIS File: 0282-02	

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of the Sport and Active Recreation Policy is to articulate the underlying principles for the delivery of sport and active recreation opportunities to the community, and to provide policy statements to guide decisions for the provision of sport and active recreation opportunities.

2.0 Policy

West Vancouver is an active, healthy community, with a natural environment that makes active outdoor pursuits readily available to the community. The District of West Vancouver's mission statement states, "We champion the opportunities that demonstrate our deep commitment to enrich community vitality, health and understanding through integrating physical activity into our daily lives".

Activities that support physical and mental wellness are among the most frequently accessed services provided by the District of West Vancouver. This can include organized activities such as learning how to exercise without causing injury, how to play a team sport or how to swim, as well as unstructured opportunities like walking the Seawalk, visiting a playground or kicking a ball around at a park. These activities touch most residents at some point and are a vital part of community life. They are essential to community health and enhance quality of life.

2.1 Background

Sport and active recreation opportunities in West Vancouver are delivered primarily by the District of West Vancouver, often in cooperation with local sport and recreation providers. Some of these opportunities are delivered directly by the District. Others are delivered through cooperative arrangements with local community providers, most of which are

volunteer-run and provide high-quality opportunities, particularly for children and youth, at reasonable cost. Access to facilities or lands owned by the District facilitates these arrangements. For example, the West Vancouver Minor Hockey Association at the West Vancouver Ice Arena offers youth hockey opportunities; the West Vancouver Soccer Club at sport fields in West Vancouver offers youth and adult soccer opportunities.

Many of West Vancouver's sport and active recreation opportunities also benefit from oversight by a citizen-based board of directors at the West Vancouver Community Centre and the Seniors' Activity Centre, and an advisory committee at the Gleneagles Community Centre.

Hiking and walking trails, cycling routes and playgrounds, and information about how to access these opportunities and other options for active living, are also provided by the District.

2.2 Glossary

Accessibility: Accessibility cultivates inclusivity by eliminating barriers and creating social, physical and economic environments that enable all residents to participate actively in the community;

Active Transportation: Active transportation refers to any form of human-powered transportation – including walking, cycling, using a wheelchair, in-line skating and skateboarding;

Advisory Committee: refers to the Gleneagles Community Centre Advisory Committee;

Board: refers to the West Vancouver Community Centres Society Board of Directors and/ or Seniors' Activity Centre Board of Directors;

District: refers to the District of West Vancouver;

Local Community Sport and Active Recreation providers: refers to an organization not owned by the District that delivers or assists in delivering sport or active recreation opportunities in conjunction with the District;

Physical Literacy: Physical literacy is the motivation, confidence, physical competence, knowledge and understanding to value and take responsibility for engagement in physical activities for life.

2.3 Principles

During 2016, through workshops with stakeholders, a survey and consultation with the community, the citizens of West Vancouver

articulated principles on which provision of sport and active recreation opportunities is based. These principles are:

- Provide or support a diverse range of high-quality activities that benefit residents' physical and mental wellness, lifelong learning, physical literacy and life skills;
- Continue to support creation of excellent facilities indoors and outdoors, which helps facilitate participation in sport and active recreation for all ages, safety, inclusion and pride in our community;
- Encourage participation in sport and active recreation which facilitates connectedness with others, inclusivity and a sense of belonging;
- Recognize that participating in a spectrum of activities, particularly for children, is a healthy part of development and long-term wellness;
- Engage with youth positively and proactively;
- Encourage continued positive collaboration between Local Community Sport and Active Recreation providers and the District;
- Engage volunteers at all levels;
- Support active transportation like walking, cycling and other active modes of transportation, which owing to its daily nature, provides health and active recreation benefits to the community;
- Continue to facilitate accessibility for sport and active recreation opportunities, acknowledging that the barriers to participation can take many forms.

The principles of fairness, access, harmonious relationships and collaborative decision-making are central to this policy.

2.4 Policy

The community of West Vancouver highly values diverse opportunities for sport and active recreation. This Sport and Active Recreation Policy formalizes District provision of and support for programs, services and opportunities for sport and active recreation, and helps guide decisions for the provision and support of these services through the following policy statements:

- 1) The District provides opportunities for participation in sport and active recreation through provision of active recreation programs, lessons, access to facilities, fields, parks, trails and playgrounds, and space for collaborative programs with Local Community Sport and Active Recreation providers, and pedestrian and cycling routes that provide active transportation opportunities.
- 2) The District provides, supports and facilitates opportunities for participation in sport and active recreation through:

- A continuum of sport and active recreation opportunities from introductory through to more advanced sport and active recreation opportunities;
 - Partnership opportunities with Local Community Sport and Active Recreation providers;
 - Access to unstructured opportunities, including playgrounds, parks and trails, and active transportation opportunities including walking and cycling routes;
 - Provision of information on how to access these opportunities through the District website and publications.
- 3) The District ensures responsiveness to community needs by working in conjunction with the Boards, Advisory Committee and with Local Community Sport and Active Recreation providers to provide feedback on relevance of programs and services provided by the District and community partners.
 - 4) The District continues to seek and collaborate with Local Community Sport and Active Recreation providers to augment opportunities for residents.
 - 5) Access to low-cost, unstructured opportunities like parks, trails and playgrounds is important because they provide active recreation opportunities to all residents.
 - 6) Decisions about space or support of new or emerging activities will be made in a collaborative and transparent manner with current and potential users, respecting the Principles noted in this policy. A balance between existing and new activities will be actively sought.

2.5 Supporting Documents

In addition to community feedback, the Sport and Active Recreation Policy draws on other District policy documents, which provide a backdrop for the provision of sport and active recreation opportunities. The other District policy documents include:

- Sport Field Master Plan
- Parks Master Plan
- Healthy Communities Partnership Agreement
- Blueprint for Social Responsibility and Change
- Access and Inclusion Policy

These documents are available on westvancouver.ca.

Approval Date: November 29, 2016	Approved by: Council
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Title: Sport and Active Recreation
Division: Parks, Culture & Community Services
Policy Number: 0086
File Number: 0282-20-0086

1. Purpose

- 1.1. To articulate the underlying principles for the delivery of sport and active recreation opportunities to the community.
- 1.2. To provide policy statements to guide decisions for the provision of sport and active recreation opportunities.

2. Scope

- 2.1. This policy applies to all sport and active recreation in the District of West Vancouver.

3. Definitions

- 3.1. **“Accessibility”** means cultivating inclusivity by eliminating barriers and creating social, physical and economic environments that enable all residents to participate actively in the community.
- 3.2. **“Active Transportation”** means any form of human-powered transportation including walking, cycling, using a wheelchair, in-line skating and skateboarding.
- 3.3. **“Advisory Panel”** means the Gleneagles Community Centre Advisory Panel.
- 3.4. **“Board”** means the West Vancouver Community Centres Society (Enhance West Van) Board and/or Seniors’ Activity Centre Advisory Board.
- 3.5. **“District”** means the District of West Vancouver.
- 3.6. **“Local Community Sport and Active Recreation Providers”** means an organization not owned by the District that delivers or assists in delivering sport or active recreation opportunities in conjunction with the District.
- 3.7. **“Physical Literacy”** means the motivation, confidence, physical competence, knowledge and understanding to value and take responsibility for engagement in physical activities for life.

4. Policy Statement

- 4.1. West Vancouver is an active, healthy community, with a natural environment that makes active outdoor pursuits readily available to the community. The District’s Official Community Plan, as amended, (OCP) supports this policy under section 2.9

District of West Vancouver

POLICY

Community Health and Cohesion by enabling an active community through support for sports, leisure, and recreational activities and spaces throughout the District.

The community of West Vancouver values diverse opportunities for sport and active recreation. This policy formalizes the District's provision of and support for programs, services, and opportunities for sport and active recreation, and helps guide decisions for the provision and support of these services through the following policy statements:

1. The District provides opportunities for participation in sport and active recreation through provision of active recreation programs, lessons, access to facilities, fields, parks, trails and playgrounds, and space for collaborative programs with Local Community Sport and Active Recreation providers, and pedestrian and cycling routes that provide active transportation opportunities.
2. The District provides, supports and facilitates opportunities for participation in sport and active recreation through:
 - a) a continuum of sport and active recreation opportunities from introductory through to more advanced sport and active recreation opportunities;
 - b) partnership opportunities with Local Community Sport and Active Recreation providers;
 - c) access to unstructured opportunities, including playgrounds, parks and trails, and active transportation opportunities including walking and cycling routes; and
 - d) provision of information on how to access these opportunities through the District website and publications.
3. The District ensures responsiveness to community needs by working in conjunction with the Boards, Advisory Panel, and with Local Community Sport and Active Recreation providers to provide feedback on relevance of programs and services provided by the District and community partners.
4. The District continues to seek and collaborate with the Boards, Advisory Panel, and with Local Community Sport and Active Recreation providers to enhance opportunities for residents.
5. Access to low-cost, unstructured opportunities like parks, trails, cycling routes, and playgrounds is important because they provide active recreation opportunities to all residents.
6. Decisions about space or support of new or emerging activities will be made in a collaborative and transparent manner with current and potential users, respecting the principles noted in this policy. A balance between existing and new activities will be actively sought.

4.2. Principles

Sport and Active Recreation Principles, include, but are not limited to the following:

- a) provide or support a diverse range of high-quality activities that benefit residents' physical and mental wellness, lifelong learning, physical literacy and life skills;

District of West Vancouver **POLICY**

- b) continue to support creation of excellent facilities indoors and outdoors which help facilitate participation in sport and active recreation for all ages, safety, inclusion and pride in our community;
- c) encourage participation in sport and active recreation which facilitates connectedness with others, inclusivity and a sense of belonging;
- d) recognize that participating in a spectrum of activities, particularly for children, is a healthy part of development and long-term wellness;
- e) engage with youth positively and proactively;
- f) encourage continued positive collaboration between Local Community Sport and Active Recreation providers and the District;
- g) engage volunteers at all levels;
- h) support active transportation like walking, cycling and other active modes of transportation, which owing to its daily nature, provides health and active recreation benefits to the community; and
- i) continue to facilitate accessibility for sport and active recreation opportunities, acknowledging that the barriers to participation can take many forms.

5. Related Documents

- 5.1.** In addition to community feedback, the Sport and Active Recreation Policy draws on other District policy documents, which provide a backdrop for the provision of sport and active recreation opportunities. Other District policy documents include:
- a) Access and Inclusion Policy
 - b) Ice Allocation Policy
 - c) Ice Allocation Procedure
 - d) Blueprint for Social Responsibility and Change
 - e) Parks Master Plan
 - f) Sport Field Master Plan

6. Approval

Approved by	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor and Council
Approval date	Click here to enter a date.	
Council minutes eDocs # (Council Policies only)		
Council report eDocs # (Council Policies only)		
Signature	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 60%; margin-left: 0;"> X </div>	

7. Additional Information

Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative
Related procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Date of last review	2025	