

CORPORATE REPORT

To: Recreation, Culture & Airpark Services Commission
From: Jaime Reilly, Manager of Corporate Administration and
Christina Vugteveen, Manager of Parks and Recreation

Date: 2020-05-19
File No: 3920-20-1530, 2020

Subject: Almer Carlson Swimming Pool Fees & Other Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 1530, 2020

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Recreation, Culture & Airpark Services Commission recommend that the Fraser Valley Regional District Board provide three readings and adoption to the draft amendment bylaw *Almer Carlson Swimming Pool Fees and Other Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 1530, 2020*.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services
Support Healthy & Sustainable Community

PRIORITIES

Priority #5 Outdoor Recreation

BACKGROUND

In order for a regional district to charge for a service, the *Local Government Act* requires it to adopt a bylaw that clearly outlines and establishes all such fees and charges. For the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD), the *Almer Carlson Swimming Pool Fees and Other Charges Bylaw*, includes a list of all rental costs, program fees, as well as the costs of products associated with the Almer Carlson outdoor swimming pool located in North Bend. From time to time, the Bylaw is required to be updated to reflect any changes or new program fees.

DISCUSSION

The draft amendment bylaw addresses a few changes from the last time it was updated and adopted in 2016. These changes include:

Product Sales

Staff has recently obtained a legal opinion which advised that the FVRD is not required to include pricing for individual products which are not "services". With the ever changing nature of the products provided for sale, it is difficult and time consuming for staff to continually update the Bylaw each time

the price increases or decreases, or a new product is introduced for sale. Although these products will continue to be available for sale, the FVRD is not required to list them in the Bylaw. Moving forward, individual product prices will be determined at cost plus 20% to cover FVRD expenses.

Program Costs

Staff have recently conducted a review of similar size and structured facilities that offer similar programs. As a result of this review staff is recommending that the current rates for:

- Food Safe, will increase from \$85.00 to \$90.00 due to an increase in the contractor's rates
- Red Cross Preschool Swim Lessons increase from \$30.00 to \$45.00
- Private Swim Lessons increase from \$15.00 to \$20.00 per lesson
- For (10) private lessons the discounted rate will be \$160.00 (\$16/ lesson)
- Stay Safe (youth 9-15 years) \$30

Prior to implementing an adjustment to the rates and fees, the local economy, community demographics, cost recovery, and the impact to stakeholders and customers, are all taken into consideration as part of the review process. In order to maintain current levels of operation and to enable potential growth, the rates and fees must remain marketable and competitive with surrounding communities and or facilities.

As part of the rates and fees review, a review comparison, which included like-sized facilities with similar amenities, was conducted. Efforts were made to keep the Hope and District rates and fees comparable to other local communities.

COST

There are no costs associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

Staff are bringing forward the *Almer Carlson Swimming Pool Fees and Other Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 1530, 2020* which addresses changes to program costs and removal of product prices.

COMMENTS BY:

Stacey Barker, Director of Regional Services: Reviewed and supported.

Kristy Hodson, Acting Director of Financial Services: Reviewed and supported.

Jennifer Kinneman, Chief Administrative Officer: Reviewed and supported.