

## CORPORATE REPORT

To: Recreation, Culture & Airpark Services Commission  
From: Christina Vugteveen, Manager of Parks and Recreation  
Tamsin Clarke, Recreation Programmer

Date: 2020-05-19  
File No: 7710-01

**Subject: Recreation, Culture & Airpark Services Programming - Summer 2020**

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### INTENT

This report is intended to advise the Recreation, Culture & Airpark Services Commission of information pertaining to recreational programming for summer 2020. Staff is not looking for a recommendation and has forwarded this information should members want clarification or to discuss the item further.

### STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

### PRIORITIES

Foster a Strong & Diverse Economy  
Support Healthy & Sustainable Community  
Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

### BACKGROUND

Recreation programming is an integral part of the services offered to the public. Whether it's registered programs, drop-in programs, fitness, aquatics or other classes for participants of all ages, programming is a dynamic part of the activities at the Recreation Centre. Although, Recreation, Culture & Airpark Services (RCAS) typically offers a wide range of innovative programming, COVID-19 has dramatically impacted its agenda since March 2020 forcing programs and events to be cancelled. Future programs and events are dependent on direction from the various health authorities, including the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control, Fraser Health, and WorkSafeBC.

Staff are working closely with the British Columbia Recreation & Parks Association and other related groups to understand and gain insight into alternative programming which could be offered under the restrictions. This report is provided to the Commission to highlight some of the programming considerations for the summer season given the current COVID-19 restrictions.

## DISCUSSION

### Virtual Programing

In response to the COVID-19 shutdown in March, staff created and launched a Hope Recreation YouTube channel and have been adding fitness and health related videos weekly. This has been well received by the community and staff are continuing to record fitness and recreation videos to keep the community engaged (<https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCtvdUlK65kkVWk8pXs8r5Cw>).

Other virtual plans in the works or options being explored include:

- Additional home based and outdoor recorded workout videos on the YouTube channel
- Live online fitness classes (Fitness Express, Boot Camp, Low Impact Fitness)
- Live children's Physical Fitness/ High Five based program
- Science Based Learning Programs (Mad Scientist & Little Einsteins)

### Fitness

For summer 2020, staff are exploring offering fitness classes in a variety of modified spaces including bringing classes outdoors which would make it easier to comply with social distancing requirements. Plans are being made for expected modifications to fitness equipment and capacity limits in fitness rooms to ensure that any requirements set out by the health authorities are met. Guidelines for these types of programs are anticipated to be released in the next month which will provide staff with more direction as what needs to be achieved before these programs can begin again.

### Club Child and Summer Day Camps

After considerable evaluation of current restrictions and related challenges brought on by COVID-19, it is not possible for RCAS to reinitiate its Club Child after-school care program until September. The opening of this service will hopefully align with the opening of public schools across BC. In addition, traditional summer day camps will not be offered due to similar constraints, but staff are looking at other on-line learning programs to fill the gap. Staff are looking forward to the issuance of guidelines from the provincial Restart BC framework to better understand the possibilities for September 2020.

### Aquatics

Guidelines for indoor and outdoor pools, for both registered programs and drop-in, are anticipated within the next couple of months. In the meantime, staff are exploring options of virtual programs including dryland based swimming lessons and virtual water safety for kids.

## **COST**

Any costs for programs would be in line with the Rates and Fees Bylaw and within current budget limitations.

## **CONCLUSION**

Recreation programming is a dynamic part of the services offered at the Hope and Area Recreation Centre. Overall demand for programs is increasing and staff are working to create program offerings to meet the needs of the community during this time of COVID-19 realities.

## **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.