

District of West Vancouver
POLICY

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

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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;

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- 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

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6. Approval

Approved by	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor and Council
Approval date	2025/04/14	
Council minutes eDocs # (Council Policies only)	5815944	
Council report eDocs # (Council Policies only)	5805703	
Signature	<u>[Original signed by Mayor]</u> MAYOR	

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	