

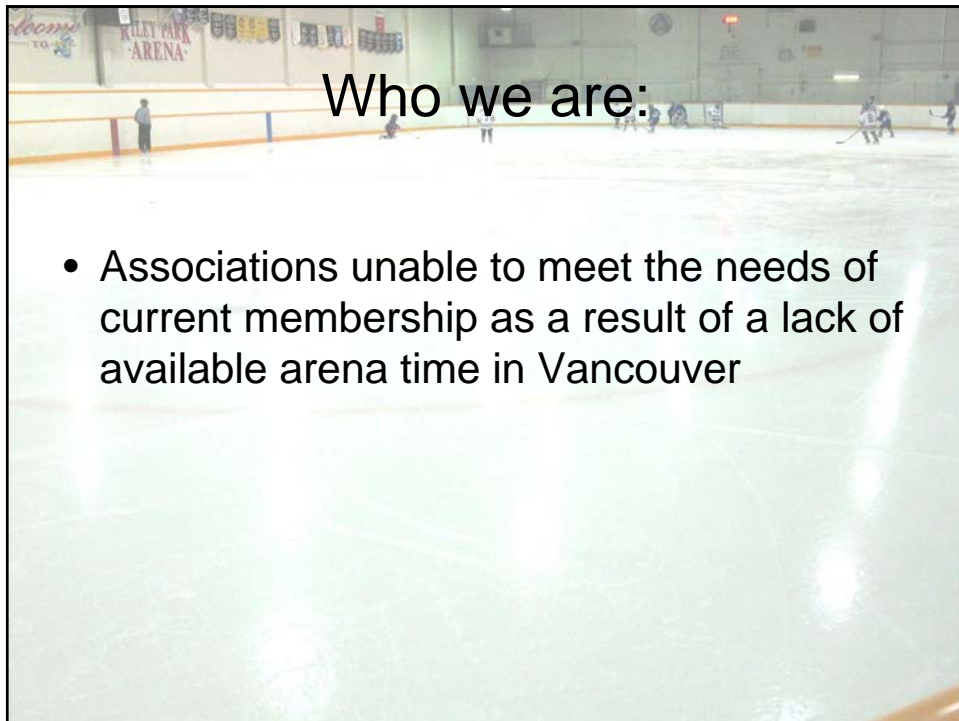
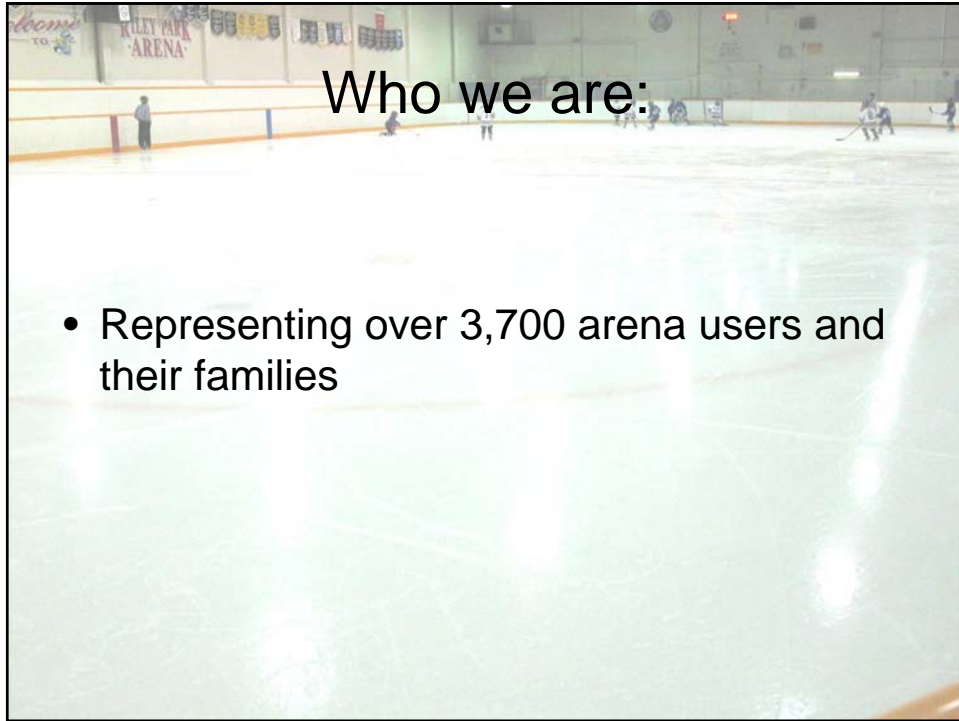
Rink users' associations

Presentation to the Planning and
Environment Committee of the
Vancouver Parks Board



Who we are:

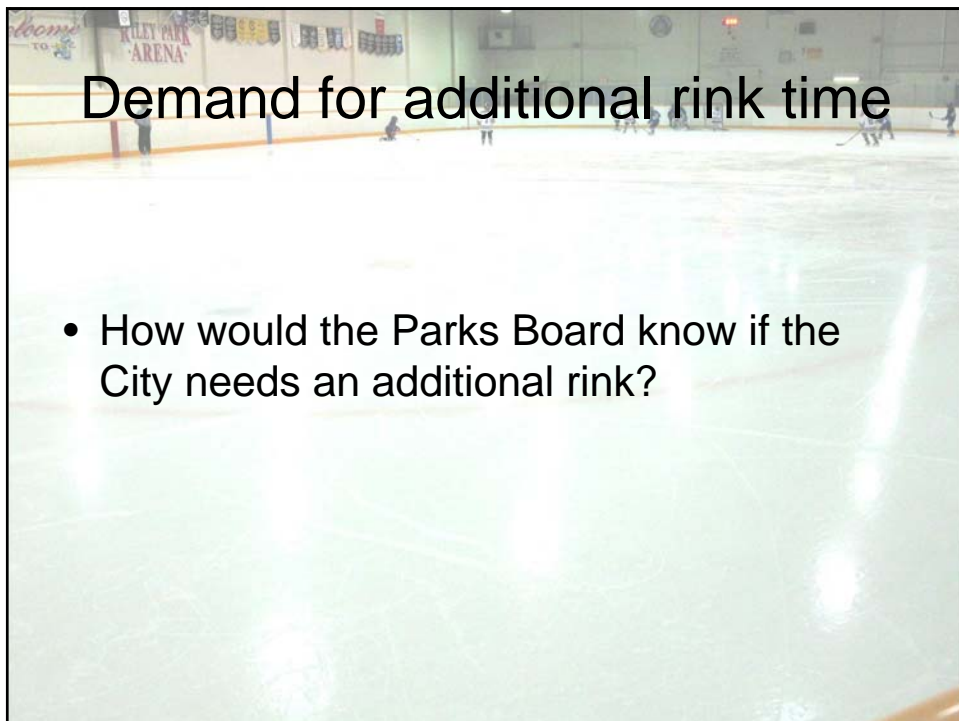
- Represent:
 - Vancouver Minor Hockey Association
 - Vancouver Thunderbirds Minor Hockey Association
 - Vancouver Girls Ice Hockey Association
 - Kerrisdale Figure Skating Club
 - Riley Park Figure Skating Club
 - Vancouver Speed Skating Club
 - Vancouver Inline Hockey League
 - Vancouver Killarney Minor Lacrosse Association
 - Vancouver Wheelchair Ball Hockey Club





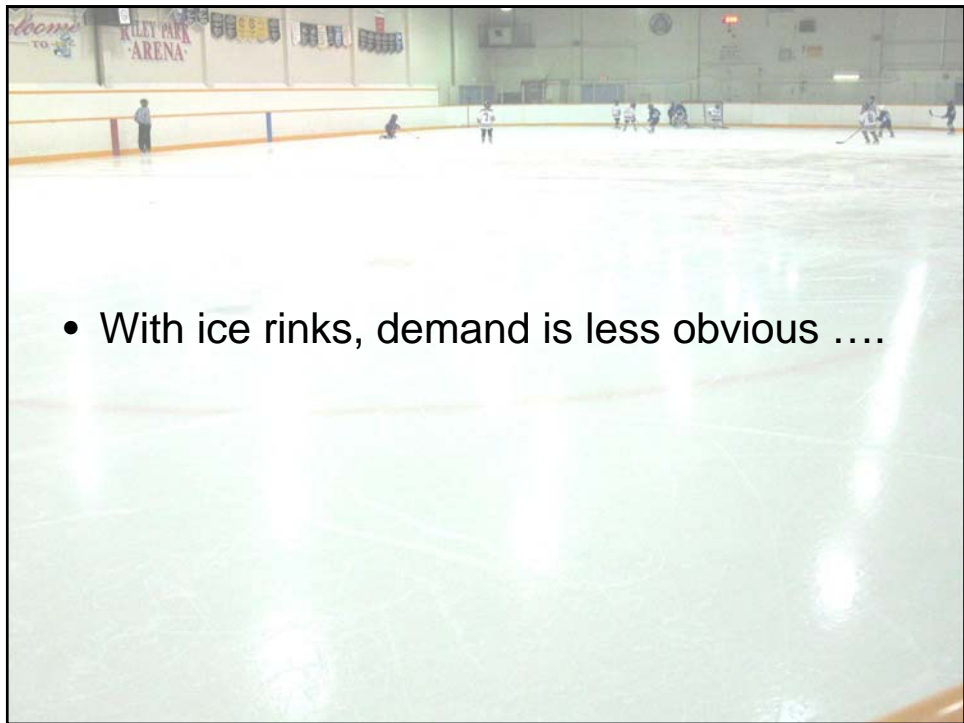
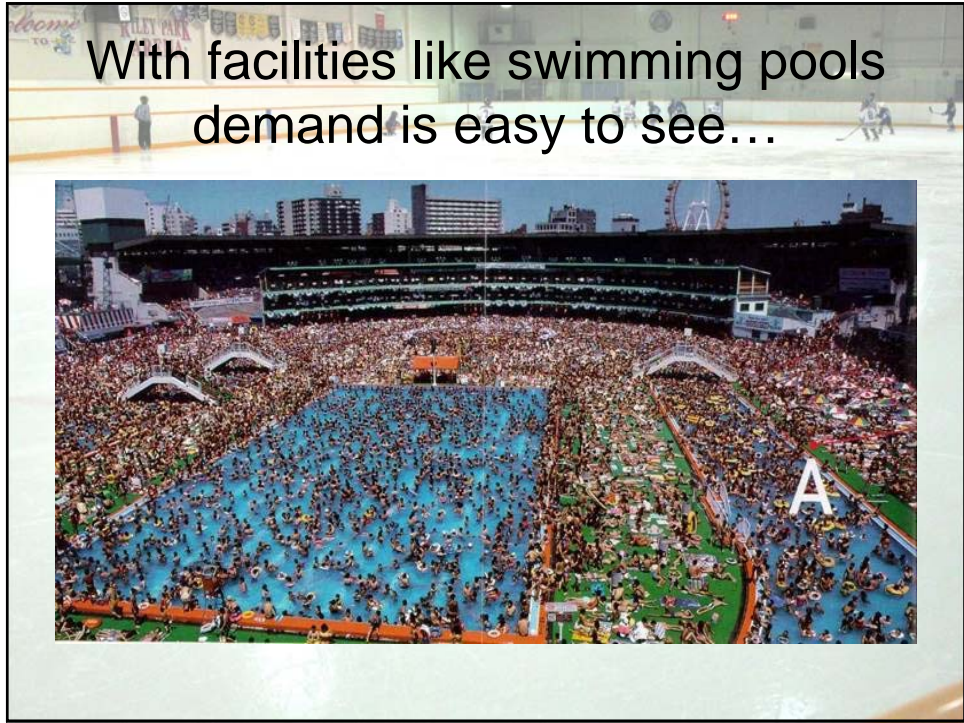
Why we are here:

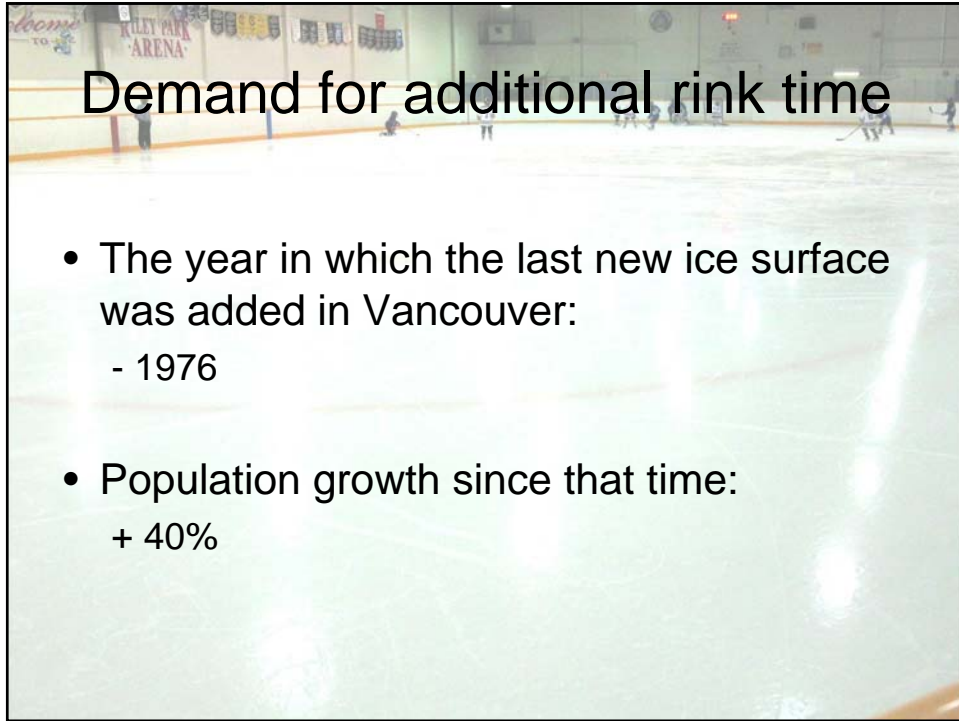
- To provide information on demand for ice time
- To ask Vancouver Parks Board to reassess needs and to evaluate alternatives



Demand for additional rink time

- How would the Parks Board know if the City needs an additional rink?





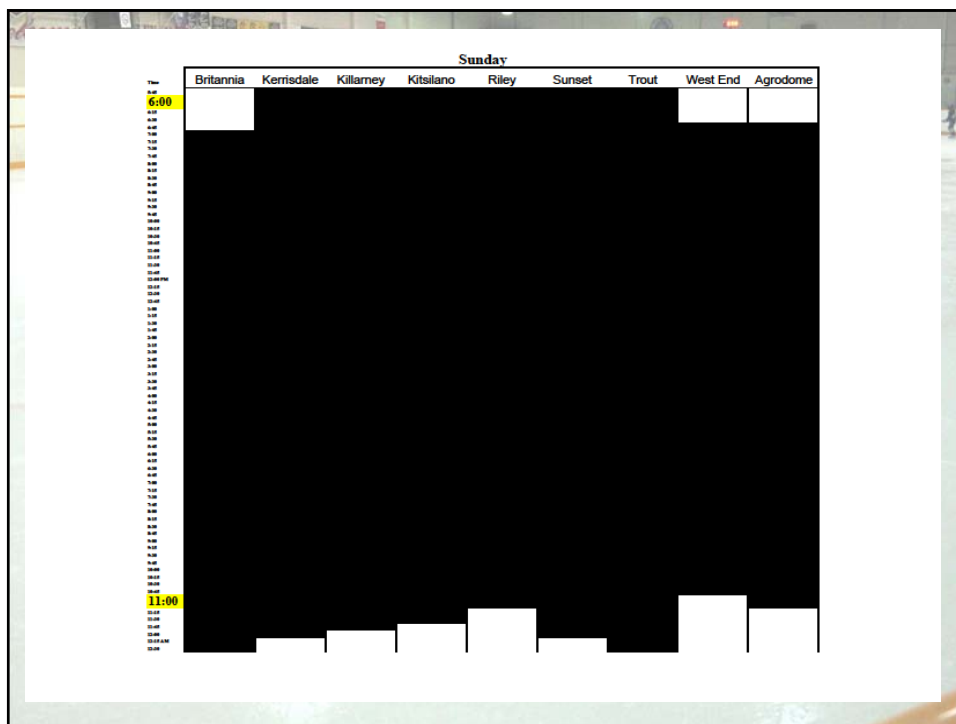
Demand for additional rink time

- The year in which the last new ice surface was added in Vancouver:
 - 1976
- Population growth since that time:
 - + 40%



Demand for additional rink time

- Comparison of Vancouver's rinks per capita to most other Lower Mainland municipalities:
 - Less than 1/2
- Compared to other cities in Western Canada
 - Less than 1/3



Demand for additional rink time

Chronic shortage of useable ice time in Vancouver impacts our programs:

- less ice time per child
- more kids on the ice per session
- unrealistic ice times
- use of facilities outside of Vancouver
- growing waiting lists
- top players playing outside of Vancouver
- more kids per team meaning less game time per kid

A photograph of an indoor ice skating rink. The rink is mostly empty, with a few people visible in the distance. The walls are light-colored and feature a sign that reads "WELCOME TO RILEY PARK ARENA". The floor is a smooth, reflective ice surface.

Options

- Keep Riley Park rink open
- Build a new rink
- Other
- Reassess priorities of Parks Board ice rink program

A photograph of an indoor ice skating rink, identical to the one above. The rink is mostly empty, with a few people visible in the distance. The walls are light-colored and feature a sign that reads "WELCOME TO RILEY PARK ARENA". The floor is a smooth, reflective ice surface.

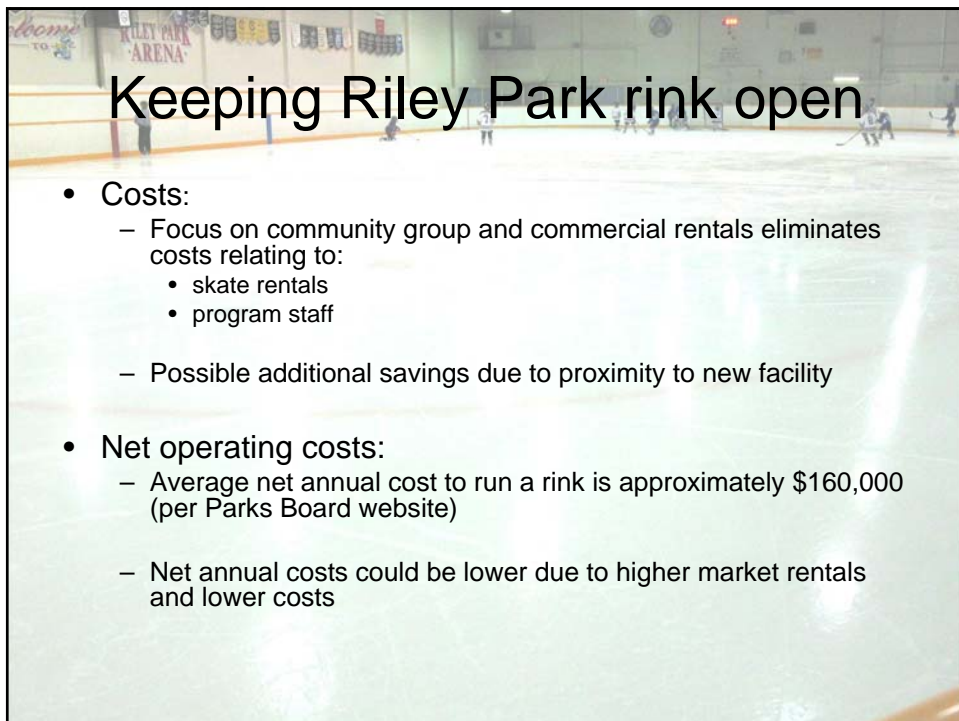
Keeping Riley Park rink open

- Assume Riley Park operated as a community user group rental facility:
 - minimal programs
 - no skate shop / skate rentals
 - only maintenance staff



Keeping Riley Park rink open

- Revenues
 - The three major hockey groups alone need to purchase additional “over allocation” ice equal to 50% of the useable ice time of an ice surface
 - Additional ice time required to allow our organizations to grow
 - Significant market for prime time commercial rentals



Keeping Riley Park rink open

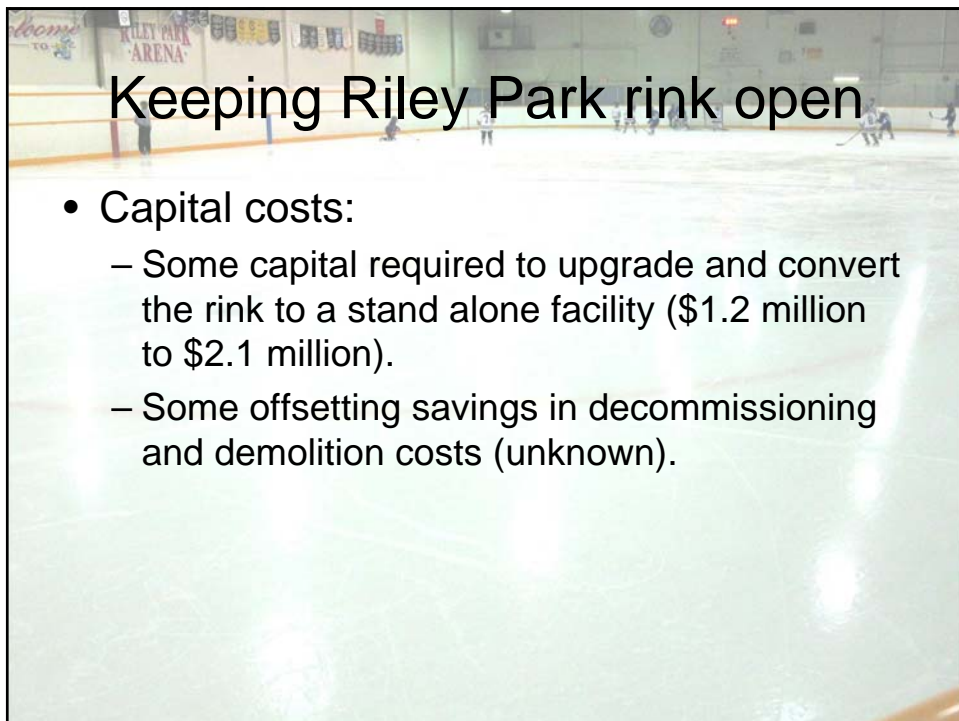
- Costs:
 - Focus on community group and commercial rentals eliminates costs relating to:
 - skate rentals
 - program staff
 - Possible additional savings due to proximity to new facility
- Net operating costs:
 - Average net annual cost to run a rink is approximately \$160,000 (per Parks Board website)
 - Net annual costs could be lower due to higher market rentals and lower costs

A photograph of an indoor ice hockey rink. The rink is mostly empty, with a few people visible in the distance. The walls are light-colored and feature several banners and signs, including one that says "RILEY PARK ARENA". The ice surface is bright and reflective.

Keeping Riley Park rink open

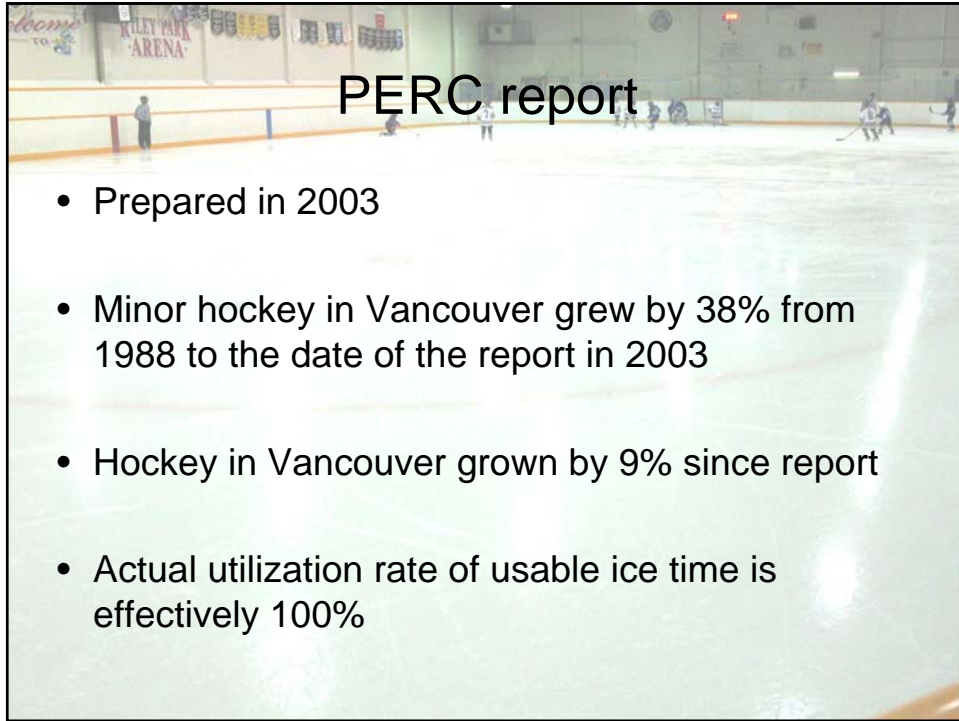
Green space:

- Estimated 60% of existing facility can be converted to green space
- Area of rink (est. 125' x 200') is a small fraction of the total existing green space in the neighbourhood

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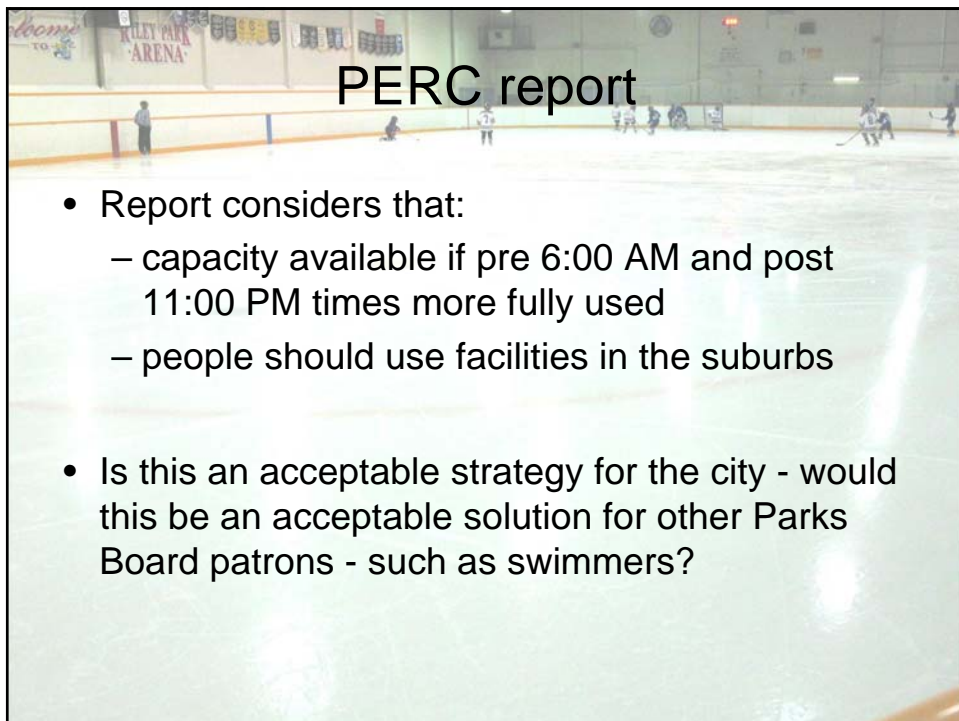
Keeping Riley Park rink open

- Capital costs:
 - Some capital required to upgrade and convert the rink to a stand alone facility (\$1.2 million to \$2.1 million).
 - Some offsetting savings in decommissioning and demolition costs (unknown).



PERC report

- Prepared in 2003
- Minor hockey in Vancouver grew by 38% from 1988 to the date of the report in 2003
- Hockey in Vancouver grown by 9% since report
- Actual utilization rate of usable ice time is effectively 100%



PERC report

- Report considers that:
 - capacity available if pre 6:00 AM and post 11:00 PM times more fully used
 - people should use facilities in the suburbs
- Is this an acceptable strategy for the city - would this be an acceptable solution for other Parks Board patrons - such as swimmers?



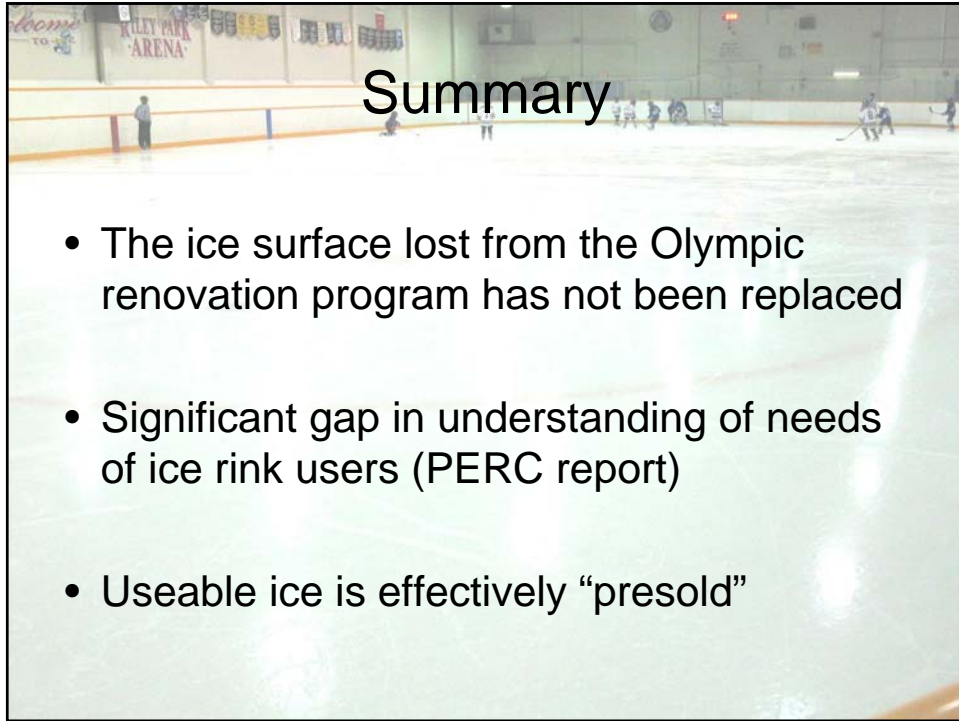
Build a new rink

- Costs in the area of \$15 million for a new facility
- Need to find a location
- Lack of budget in short term



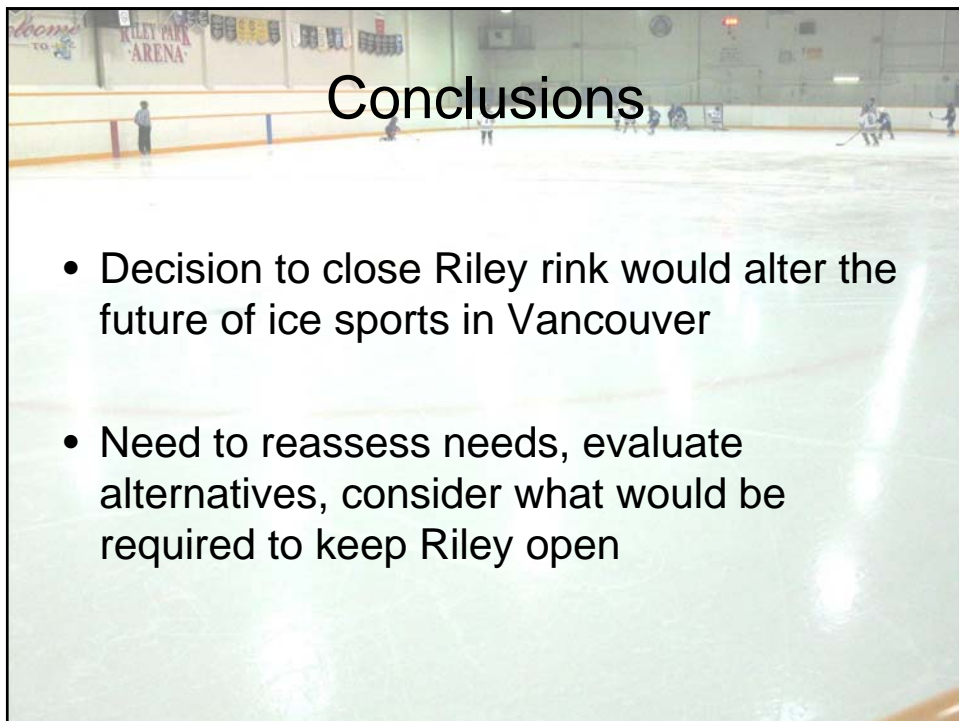
Summary

- 40% growth in population, no additional ice surfaces
- Growing participation in hockey
- Facilities already fully / over utilized
- Compromised youth hockey programs

A photograph of an ice hockey rink at Riley Park Arena. The rink is mostly empty, with a few people visible in the distance. The arena's name "RILEY PARK ARENA" is visible on the wall in the background.

Summary

- The ice surface lost from the Olympic renovation program has not been replaced
- Significant gap in understanding of needs of ice rink users (PERC report)
- Useable ice is effectively “presold”

A photograph of an ice hockey rink at Riley Park Arena, identical to the one above. The rink is mostly empty, with a few people visible in the distance. The arena's name "RILEY PARK ARENA" is visible on the wall in the background.

Conclusions

- Decision to close Riley rink would alter the future of ice sports in Vancouver
- Need to reassess needs, evaluate alternatives, consider what would be required to keep Riley open

Conclusions

- How we can help:
 - Facilitate access to information from organizations
 - Solicit opinions and input from organizations

This is what Vancouver rinks look like to us...





• Thank you for your consideration



Ice Rinks

Park Board operates 7 Ice Rinks:
 West End Kitsilano
 Sunset Kerrisdale
 Riley Park Trout Lake
 Killarney

- Providing a range of family programming
- Some offer year-round skating
- Others offer summer day floor activities
- Lessons and public skate sessions
- Fun for all ages and abilities
- Adapted programs and equipment

Family Skate
 Teen ice sports
 Parents and Tot
 Hockey for Children, Women, Adults
 Leisure and Totonic Skates
 Senior Skate
 And more!

2008 Actual	
Revenues	\$ 1,566,600
Expenditures	\$ 2,635,800
Net Costs	\$ 1,069,200
761,035 visits a year	
\$1.40 cost per visit	