

Motion on Notice - Expediting New Outdoor Pools



MOVER: Commissioner Coupar

WHEREAS:

1. Vancouver's parks, recreation, and cultural assets are prized by Vancouverites and visitors alike as some of the finest in the world;
2. Vancouver has one of the mildest climates in the country, a climate that is highly conducive to outdoor recreation facilities such as outdoor pools;
3. Compared to other major Canadian cities, Vancouver is dramatically underserved in terms of outdoor pool facilities, having the fewest number of outdoor pools of all major Canadian cities;

4. Montreal (population 3,824,211) has 74 outdoor pools, Toronto (population 2,791,140) has 57 outdoor pools, Winnipeg (population 699,346) has 10 outdoor pools, Ottawa (population 856,650) has 9 outdoor pools, Calgary (population 1,195,194) has 7 outdoor pools, Edmonton (population 835,000) has 5 outdoor pools, and Vancouver (population 680,000) has only 3 outdoor pools;
5. Demand for the services that Vancouver's pool facilities provide, such as swimming lessons, currently exceeds the supply of pool facilities; and
6. New outdoor pools would help to alleviate the shortage of facility space for such activities as swimming lessons and would also help to meet other important recreational needs for the city's residents.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation direct staff to explore quick start strategies, including the reallocation of existing capital funding, to expedite the construction of new outdoor pools in the City of Vancouver.