

# Leisure Access Program Update Report Reference

## Regular Board Meeting Monday, December 3, 2018







- To provide a high level overview of the Leisure Access Program
- To introduce additional Access initiatives for future consideration

# Leisure Access Program





# What is the Leisure Access Program (LAP)?

It provides Vancouver residents facing financial barriers to participation with free or reduced cost access to basic Park Board programs and services offered at its pools, rinks, participating fitness centres and community centres.







- 1993 Leisure Access Program (LAP)
- 2015 LAP Process Review
- 2016 Third Party Referral application introduced
- 2016 Access to Park Board Services without Fear

### Background

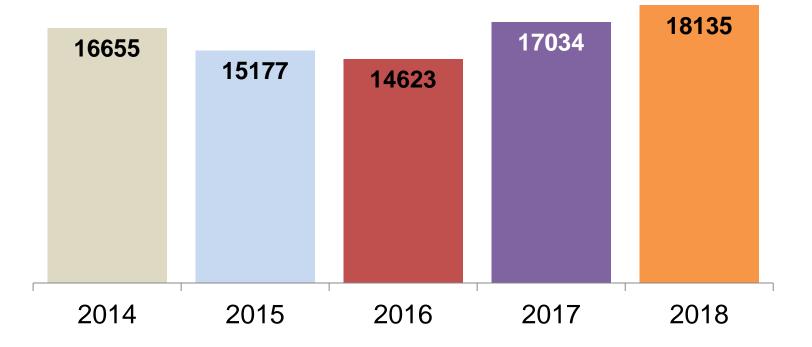


- 2017 2018 Changes
  - Now provide free 12 month flexipass to residents of shelters and treatment facilities
  - Translated into Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Punjabi, Spanish & Vietnamese



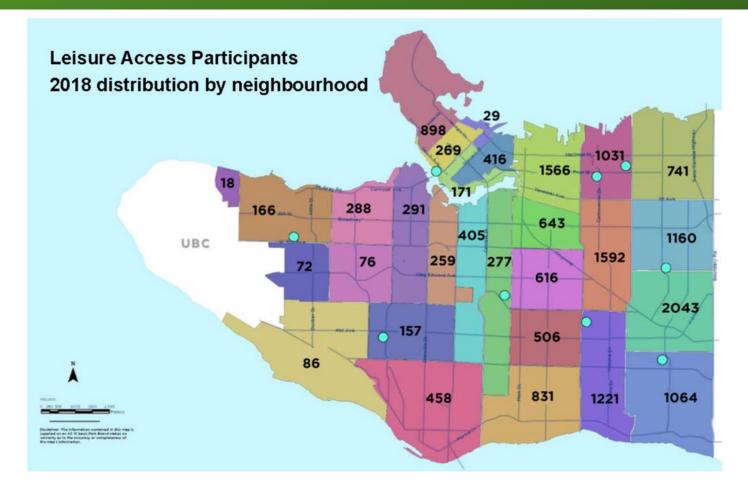


### LAP participants by year



#### Background







### Testimonial

"Sometimes I drag my feet - I already have so much going on in my recovery it's easier just to stay in bed. But we go as a group and the staff encourage us. It's helped me start swimming again, and learn how to use the gym. Getting outside means I belong with others."



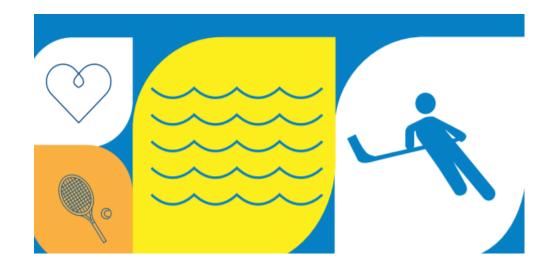
### Testimonial

"I like going to the gym as it helps me blow off steam..... Sometimes I do not feel like going but afterwards I feel good, full of endorphins. Going to the gym helps me find a 'natural high ' instead of alcohol or drugs, which is how I've usually coped with my trauma in the past."





- Increase term of Leisure Access Program from 1 year to 2 years
- Explore, with CCA partners, an increase in subsidy for Fitness Centre drop-in admission at participating fitness centres from 50% to 100% for Leisure Access Program





- Current term is 1 year
  - Impacts agencies providing referral as they must complete new application each year
  - Impacts applicant as they must demonstrate low income status each year
  - Low income status does not change dramatically over 2 years
- Report will request that term be extended to 2 years



- Current subsidy is 50% of drop-in admission
  - 50% subsidy for drop-in remains a barrier to participation
  - LAP participants to receive 50% subsidy on flexipass, cost remains a barrier for many
- Will explore, with CCA partners, an increase in subsidy to 100% for fitness centre drop-in admission

# Access Initiatives





- In partnership with the Vancouver School District and independent schools explore:
  - Free universal swimming lessons for a single grade citywide
  - Free access to ice rinks, skates, helmets and possibly instruction during non-prime time hours

