



VANCOUVER PARK BOARD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SUBJECT: Economic Access Policy

CATEGORY: Recreation Services

POLICY NUMBER:

PURPOSE

To ensure that all residents of Vancouver shall have access to basic programs and services provided by the Board of Parks and Recreation regardless of ability to pay.

SCOPE

All City of Vancouver residents.

POLICY STATEMENTS

Through the Leisure Access Program, Vancouver residents facing financial barriers are provided free or reduced cost access to basic Park Board programs and services offered at its pools, rinks, participating fitness centres and community centres. The Leisure Access Program supports individuals, families, groups and communities in need.

Services available through the Leisure Access Program shall include:

- (a) Free access to public swim and skate sessions (includes rentals);
- (b) A 50% price reduction in basic programs and services (defined below);
- (c) Further reductions for persons needing more than a 50% reduction;
- (d) Admission discounts offered by participating external organizations (e.g. Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden, HR MacMillan Space Centre, Museum of Vancouver, Stanley Park Horse-Drawn Tours, Vancouver Aquarium, Vancouver Maritime Museum).

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The Leisure Access Program is available to City of Vancouver low-income residents who may receive or qualify for Federal and/or Provincial income or social assistance, such as:

- Income Assistance or have an assigned a Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation (MSDI) worker;
- Translink Red Compass Card (subsidized bus pass);
- Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS);
- Shelter Aid for Elderly Residents (SAFER);
- Support from a Vancouver based social services agency or organization;
- Support through the Government of Canada Resettlement Assistance Program (includes both government and privately sponsored refugees).

DEFINITIONS

The basic programs and services offered through the Leisure Access Program include:

- public swims and lessons;
- public skates and lessons (including rentals);
- community centre programs (one program per person per season at participating centres);
- fitness centre admissions;
- racquet/squash court admissions;
- pitch & putt golf course admissions (including rentals);
- admission to Park Board attractions, such as Bloedel Conservatory, Stanley Park Miniature Train, VanDusen Botanical Gardens, and other locations and activities as they develop.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1993

APPROVAL HISTORY

ISSUED BY: Recreation Services	APPROVED BY: Park Board	DATE: Jul 6, 1992
AMENDED BY: Access & Volunteer Services	APPROVED BY: Park Board	DATE: Apr 18, 2016