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# Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Communiqué

Volume 3 • May/June 2006

*City of Richmond's vision is "to be the most appealing, livable and well-managed community in Canada."*

## Introduction

Welcome readers to the third edition of the PRCS Communiqué. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you, our partners, with an update on highlights in Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services as well as key initiatives that the City is involved in that may affect our Department. Updates in each Communiqué will include:

- City Major Projects
- Departmental Projects
- Research and Trends
- Contributors to the Well-Being Outcomes

Please refer to the box at the bottom of this page for contact information or to provide us with feedback.

Volume 4 of the PRCS Communiqué will be distributed in September/October 2006.

## Community Vision and Values

Developing a common vision and values for all those involved in planning for and/or providing parks, recreation and cultural services in Richmond is important so that all contributors can work toward a common goal.

Community values articulate what is important to the community; and the important fundamental principles and beliefs.

The vision articulates a common understanding of what the desired future is. This is important for making basic direction, goals and activities.

The shared community vision is: *"Richmond! Striving for a connected, healthy city where we cooperate to create and enjoy a dynamic and sustainable quality of life."*

The following values are the foundation for this shared vision:

### *Healthy Lifestyles*

We encourage individuals to live an active, healthy lifestyle and together build healthy, social, physical and economic communities.

### *Diversity*

We appreciate and celebrate all forms of diversity.

### *Choice*

We strive to provide accessible, affordable, equal opportunities that respond to the diverse needs of our community.

### *Community Engagement*

We believe that the community has a meaningful role in civic affairs. Through collaborative planning and learning, we share responsibility for achieving a common vision.

### *Volunteerism*

We believe that volunteers make a valuable contribution to a healthy community. Volunteerism creates a sense of community ownership and pride, cultivates community leadership and helps build our community capacity.

### *Safety and Security*

We believe that people feel safe and secure when we have well-planned, strong, connected neighbourhoods and a sense of caring and belonging.

### *Environment*

We are committed to responsible stewardship of the natural environment (including protecting community amenities), stewardship of our cultural heritage and maintaining the urban/rural balance of our island setting.

### *Sustainability*

We believe that integrating the management of environmental, economic, social and cultural elements ensures that all resources of the City are respected, preserved, enjoyed and utilized in a sustainable manner, for both current and future generations.

*If you would like more information about the content in this volume, please ask your Coordinator. If you would like to suggest highlights for future editions, please contact Kim Somerville at 604-276-4062 or [ksomerville@richmond.ca](mailto:ksomerville@richmond.ca)*

# Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Master Plan Process Update

Staff are currently working on a variety of program priorities for this year to advance the Master Plan recommendations, including the development of service plans, agreements, a community forum, Minoru Park plan, volunteer strategy, policy development and city centre facility planning.

As work programs are prepared, invitations for involvement will be extended. Many of these programs will also require broad community involvement and feedback, which will be included in each individual work program.

The following provides a summary of the Master Plan recommendations “in-progress”

## I. Relationship-Based Approach

1. Foster effective working relationships with the community, using shared values and commitment as the foundation. *(in progress)*
2. Ensure that the City continues to work with a wide range of community-based organizations and is committed to establishing and maintaining effective relations with others. *(in progress)*
3. Develop positive relationships with a wide range of community-based organizations to attain outcomes. *(in progress)*
4. Support the development of a comprehensive volunteer strategy and increase the City’s investment in volunteer management. *(in progress)*
5. Work with other government organizations and other institutions to develop new programs, respond to new opportunities and to share leadership and awareness. *(in progress)*

## II. Being Accountable

1. Allocate resources to system-wide and project specific planning. *(completed)*
2. Develop clear and consistent direction through system-wide, Council-approved policies as a foundation in areas of access, use, pricing, public involvement and customer service. *(in progress)*
3. Establish agreements with organizations that provide a service on behalf of the City, with a clear focus on service definition, roles, responsibilities, finances, business plans, accountability and evaluation. *(in progress)*

## III. Service-Based Approach

1. Develop and adopt three-year Service Plans in 12 key service areas: Volunteerism, Youth Services, Sports, Arts, Heritage, Special Events and Festivals, Older Adult, Environment and Nature, Active Living and Wellness, Childcare, Community and Neighbourhood Building and Community Recreation. *(in progress)*
2. Adopt an asset-based approach to creating a child and youth-friendly community. *(adopted)*
3. Encourage and facilitate partnerships between the City and other organizations in the delivery of parks, recreation and culture services. *(in progress)*



## IV. Programs and Services

1. Implement an asset-based approach for children and youth. *(in progress)*
2. Emphasize and invest in programs and services with a wellness focus, which help individuals, families and neighbourhoods stay physically active and socially connected. *(in progress)*
3. Create capacity for a broad variety of events, tournaments, filming and special community activities. *(in progress)*
4. Embrace the 2010 Challenge – increase by 20% the number of Richmond citizens being physically active by 2010. *(adopted)*
5. Evaluate the impact of the Oval program and link with local community programming.
6. Plan for and implement the wellness, high performance sport and community program for post games use of the Richmond Oval. *(in progress)*

## V. Places and Spaces

### Parks and Open Spaces

1. Develop and adopt an Outdoor Sports Field Strategy. *(in progress)*
2. Encourage the development of welcoming passive gathering places and spaces in public facilities. *(in progress)*
3. Adopt and implement the City of Richmond Memorial Park Feasibility Strategy as a guideline for the City potentially providing a memorial park facility in the community in the future and/or as a benchmark to evaluate private-sector proposals. *(in progress)*
4. Implement and fund the 2010 Trails Strategy. *(in progress)*
5. Implement the 2001 Urban Forestry Strategy, with a focus on tree retention, tree removal, hazardous tree policies, tree removal policies and establishing a city-wide tree plan. *(in progress)*
6. Continue and expand the beautification initiative to other areas of the City and coordinate beautification improvements around the Canada Line. *(in progress)*
7. Continue to implement the existing Waterfront Strategy. *(in progress)*
8. Adopt and advance the acquisition and development of parkland through the 2021 Land Acquisition Development Cost Charge Program (DCC). *(in progress)*

*cont'd on page 3...*

*Facilities and Amenities*

1. Focus on City Centre improvements as a response to the Canada Line and increased growth in the City Centre area. *(in progress)*
2. Prepare a plan for cultural and heritage facilities for the development of expanded theatre and performance space, expanded library, expanded art gallery and new City museum reviewing the facilities in Minoru Park and need for expansion or relocation. *(museum in progress)*

*VI. Financials*

1. Assess the financial effectiveness of current operating models to benchmark their efficiency and effectiveness and to potentially restructure or adopt new models to meet any shortfalls. *(in progress)*

*Financial Analysis*

Recently, the City approved the expenditure to do a financial analysis of the current operating models. This project was initially a recommendation from the Community Working Group. The analysis will help to define financial standards and benchmarks, address opportunities for cost recovery, and establish benchmarks to evaluate the impact of any changes from financial perspectives.

Staff will be in contact with our partners to seek input and involvement in the process. For more information, contact Vern Jacques, Manager Projects and Programs at 604-233-3326 or [vjacques@richmond.ca](mailto:vjacques@richmond.ca).



**Staff Changes**

In recent weeks there have been some significant staff changes at the City of Richmond. These changes include new appointments, new portfolios and new staff to the Parks Recreation and Cultural Services Department. **Anne Stevens** has returned to our department to become the Manager – Community Recreation Services, **Dave Semple's** portfolio has expanded to include Public Works and **Vern Jacques** will be assigned to Manager – Projects and Programs reporting to Cathy Volkering-Carlile.

The Public Arts portfolio, which previously resided in the Urban Development Department has now been transferred to Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services and will report to **Jane Fernyhough**, Manager – Cultural and Heritage Services.

As a result of Anne Stevens arrival and Vern Jacques new assignment, the roles and responsibilities of each manager position within Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services will be reviewed. There will likely be adjustments to ensure balance within each of the manager's sections. These changes will not be determined until later this year.

*New Positions*

Three new positions within the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department have been approved by Richmond City Council. Staff are in the process of preparing the following position descriptions. Recruitment will follow soon:

- Public Art Coordinator
- Seniors Wellness Coordinator
- Park Landscape Architect – Major Projects

**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Master Plan Meeting**

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee dedicated a special meeting on June 5, 2006 for discussion on the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Master Plan.

The Committee endorsed the Master Plan, with the Facilities and Amenities section being referred back to staff for further work on prioritization.

A recommendation to officially adopt the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Master Plan will be presented to City Council on June 12, 2006.

For further information on the Master Plan, contact Cathy Volkering-Carlile, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services at 604-276-4068 or [ccarlile@richmond.ca](mailto:ccarlile@richmond.ca).



*Anne Stevens*

Anne started her career with the City in 1983 in Parks and Recreation after graduating from UBC with a Masters in P.E. In 1998, Anne assumed the position of Manager of Customer Service for the City. Her responsibilities included Permits, Rentals, Information, Zoning, City Grants and Sister City Liaison. Anne has now returned to Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services as the Manager of Community Recreation Services. Welcome back Anne!

## City Budget Process

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, like all City services has a budget (Fiscal) year that is the same as the calendar year, January to December. The budgeting process begins with both Operating and Capital budget submissions generally due around the first of September for the upcoming year. The City operates under an approved 5 Year Plan which is updated annually and requires approval each year.

The process begins with a review of the operating “same level budget”, which is the previous year’s operating budget adjusted with any changes that were approved during the year.

City Council then evaluates ‘additional level’ submissions and the approved additional levels are added to the same level budget for City Council’s final approval. This generally takes place early in the second quarter of the operating year.

Capital budgets are generally approved in the first quarter.

### Highlights for 2006:

#### Operating Budget approved

- \$27,710,000.00 Expenses
- \$8,815,000.00 Revenue
- \$18,895,000.00 Net
- Approval for a regular full time, Senior’s Wellness Coordinator
- Approval for a regular full time, Public Art Planner

#### Parks Capital approved

- \$7.5 million
- Artificial Field development at Hugh Boyd/West Richmond Park
- Steveston Water Park Development

#### One Time Projects approved

- Funding for a comprehensive Financial Review of Recreation and Cultural Services.

## Park Development

### • *Steveston Water Park*

Construction of the water park is underway and should be complete by mid-Summer. The water park will feature marine themed elements and several interactive spray elements where children, working together, can change the flow of water. There will be separate areas for pre-school and school aged children with the pre-school area having more gentle, ground spray and misting features while the school age area will have more boisterous action. This project is a partnership between the City of Richmond and the Steveston Community Society. The Society has been tirelessly fundraising for the past 3 years and will reach their goal of raising \$500,000 in time for the grand opening.

### • *Playground Update Program*

This is an annual program to replace playground equipment that no longer meets current safety standards. In 2006, playgrounds at King George Park and McNair School Park will receive playground equipment. The King George Park playground will be relocated just south of the water park and will be a much more significant playground when completed. The City will work with area residents to develop ideas for this unique playground where all can play. It is expected to be completed in the Fall of 2006.



### • *Hugh Boyd Park - Artificial Turf Complex*

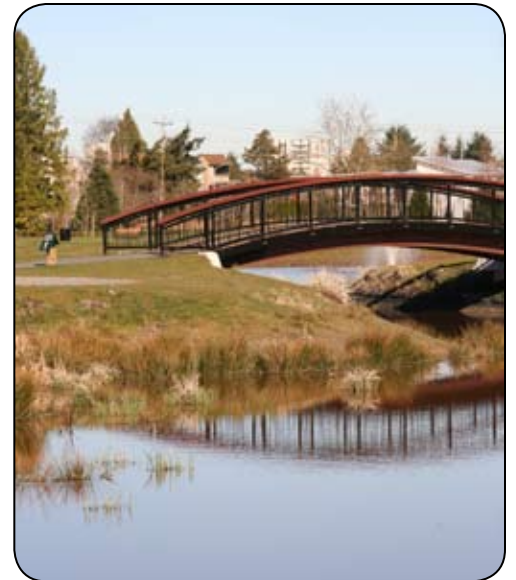
As part of an ongoing commitment with the Richmond’s Sports Field Strategy Development, the Parks Division working in conjunction with Richmond’s Soccer Alliance will construct a new synthetic turf sports field at Hugh Boyd Park, located at Francis Road and No. 1 Road. This new amenity will accommodate 2 full size and 2 mini soccer fields or alternatively 2 football fields. Construction will start this June and is anticipated to be open for the Fall season.

### • *Garden City Community Park*

Work is underway on planning for an enhanced children’s play area and the next phase of park construction. Over the Summer, a heritage house from Ash Street will be located in the park as a caretaker facility, a new parking area and basketball court will be installed and a portion of Alberta Road will be incorporated into the park.

### • *Terra Nova Rural Park*

This 63 acre park located west of No. 1 Road (between River Road & Westminster Highway) will include many distinctive features, including 5 heritage houses and homesteads, creative interpretive features and public art, a farm centre with community gardens, old field habitats, trails and boardwalks.



Garden City Park - view of bridge and pond

This year’s construction schedule plans for restoration of one of the heritage homes, installation and planting of a demonstration medicinal and waterwise garden, a parking area, retrofitting of an existing barn as a classroom space offering educational gardening and composting programs, constructing a heritage slough and installing park infrastructure components such as benches, bridges, thresholds and interpretative pieces.

## Partners For Beautification

The City of Richmond's Parks Division will be hosting a recognition event for all of its partners at Terra Nova Rural Park on Saturday, June 10th, 2006 from 10:00am to 1:00pm. This celebration is a unique opportunity for the City of Richmond to thank and recognize all of the individuals, community groups, service organizations, and businesses that have partnered with the Parks Division over the past year. The Park Partners Recognition Event will feature a formal recognition ceremony, a barbecue, live music, face-painting, children's activities and garden tours.



Tzu Chi Mother's Day Clean-up at Garden City Park



## Volunteer Management Strategy Update

Work on a Volunteer Management Strategy began in the Fall of 2005. A steering committee made up of representatives from a number of community organizations and City staff have been working together to develop a vision, desired outcomes and strategic directions for volunteer management within parks, recreation and cultural services in Richmond.

The vision is, "Richmond's parks, recreation and cultural services connects people with volunteer opportunities; leads and sustains a strong volunteer spirit."

The draft report is now complete and has been distributed to a number of community groups for feedback. It is expected to be presented to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee of City Council for endorsement on June 27th, 2006.

## Predicators of Early Childhood Vulnerability

Recently, the Human Early Learning Partnership at UBC published a study entitled, "The BC Atlas of Child Development." The Atlas is intended as a planning tool and presents a visual summary of early childhood development across British Columbia. The methodology used in the Study included implementing an Early Development Instrument (EDI) in every school district in the Province. The EDI assesses the state of child development at a kindergarten age and is administered in the form of a checklist to be completed by a kindergarten teacher after s/he knows a child for two to three months. There are five measures of development in the EDI:

1. physical health and well-being
2. social competence
3. emotional maturity
4. language and cognitive development
5. communication skills and general knowledge

In four of the five EDI measures, Richmond's children are generally less vulnerable than over half of the BC population. In the communication skills and general knowledge measure, however, over 12 percent of the children in Richmond were vulnerable. Since this measure prioritizes English language skills, the high level of children for whom English is a second language in Richmond is a likely explanation for this high vulnerability.

To learn more about "The BC Atlas of Child Development" and to discuss its potential to help with planning in your organization, please contact Serena Lusk, PRCS Planner at 604-247-4611 or [slusk@richmond.ca](mailto:slusk@richmond.ca).

## Older Adults and Youth Service Plans Update

Work began on 3-year service plans for Older Adults and Youth in late February. Since then, both planning teams including City staff and representatives from community associations, Richmond social service and government service agencies, Council-appointed committees, cultural groups and members of the older adult and youth community have drafted a vision, guiding principles and desired outcomes for each of the plans. Additional work is planned on identifying gaps in service levels and proposing recommendations for improvement.

The draft vision for older adult services in parks, recreation & cultural services in Richmond is:

*"Our vision is for Richmond to be a community where older adults live healthy and active lives in a cooperative, welcoming and inclusive environment which promotes engagement, encourages lifelong learning and values the contribution of older adults."*

The draft guiding principles are:

1. Encourage Inclusion
2. Coordinate Services
3. Create Comfortable Environments

Working with the existing Youth Strategy from 1995 and the Council-endorsed vision, "To be the best place in North America to raise children and youth," the draft guiding principles for the Youth Service Plan are:

1. Think Holistically
2. Ensure Intentionality in Planning
3. Plan for Collaborative Services
4. Engage Youth
5. Invest Wisely

The planning teams for the Older Adults and Youth Service Plans are currently seeking feedback on the work done so far. If you would like a copy of the draft work, please contact Serena Lusk, PRCS Planner at 604-247-4611 or [slusk@richmond.ca](mailto:slusk@richmond.ca)

## Research

### *Ipsos Reid Survey*

The City of Richmond contracted Ipsos-Reid to conduct a random telephone survey to receive feedback on the City's recreation programs and facilities, as well as to understand resident's activity levels, recreation behaviours and needs relating to the community's physical fitness. The City of Richmond surpassed the municipal norm in most categories, scoring either above normal or normal.

For City services, 90 percent of respondents said that they were either very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with Richmond's recreation facilities, which exceeded the municipal norm. *The quality of recreation programs and services rated at 86 percent, exceeded the norm, while the variety of available recreation programs and services rated at 85 percent respectively.* Also equivalent to the municipal norm, scoring 69 percent, is the job the City is doing to encourage residents to become more active.

Meanwhile, the survey found Richmond residents are well on their way to active, healthy lifestyles. Of the 300 adult residents surveyed in Richmond, 63 percent participate in moderate physical activity three or more times per week. 43 percent of respondents scored walking as the most common form of physical activity, and on average, the duration spent on any given activity is one hour, three to four times a week.

Health and *physical wellbeing* received a rating of 47 percent as the primary reason for participating in physical activity. When asked what helps residents become physically active, respondents replied that information, affordability and access are the most important factors while time is seen as the main barrier to participation.

For complete details on the Ipsos-Reid survey, please contact your Area Coordinator.



### Richmond PlayDay

Plans are underway for the third annual **Richmond PlayDay**. On Saturday, July 29th from 11:00am-4:00pm at South Arm Park, families from Richmond and surrounding areas in the Lower Mainland will have the opportunity to celebrate play and the fun, freedom and learning that naturally comes with it.

At **PlayDay**, families can visit a variety of interactive Play Zones including the Sand Zone, Art Zone, Building Zone, Games Zone, Nature Zone, Safety Zone and new this year for older children, the Adventure Zone.

Returning sponsors, the Richmond Review and Coast Capital will join Dueck GM as the main sponsors for PlayDay accompanied by many other organizations.

Event details are available on the City website at [www.richmond.ca](http://www.richmond.ca) in the "Calendar of Events" section or contact Howard Palliser, Community Facility Coordinator at 604-233-8375 or [hpalliser@richmond.ca](mailto:hpalliser@richmond.ca).

To volunteer, visit [www.richmond.ca/prcsvolunteer](http://www.richmond.ca/prcsvolunteer) or pick up a form at your local community centre.

### Sport and Community Sponsorship for Business Seminar

The City is co-sponsoring a Sport and Business seminar to be held on June 16th from 8:00am-4:00pm at the Executive Airport Hotel in Richmond. The seminar is targeted at people who want to get involved in community events to increase their organization's public profile and grow their business.

This one-day seminar will feature best practice methods and effective tools in sports and community sponsorship, including valuable networking opportunities and a complimentary Best of B.C. Turkey barbeque lunch. Participants will also take home an informative workbook and a gift pack valued at more than \$150.

The cost for the event is \$199 (non-profit) and \$249 (corporate). To register or for more information, call 604-434-7373 or visit [www.csemeducation.com](http://www.csemeducation.com)

### Salmon Festival Expands to Pedestrian Village

Steveston Community Society is preparing for their annual Canada Day Steveston Salmon Festival parade on Saturday, July 1st, 2006. To facilitate this year's festival expansion, the following roadways will be open for foot pedestrian traffic only on July 1st from 9:00am to 6:00pm:

- Moncton Street from Third Avenue to Bayview Street
- No.1 Road from Bayview Street to Chatham Street
- First Avenue and Second Avenue from Bayview Street to Chatham Street

During this time, there will be two-way traffic maintained along Bayview Street to allow residential access and a traffic circulation route around the Salmon Festival area. City Parking Enforcement personnel and the RCMP will monitor a traffic circulation route around the Salmon Festival area.

For questions regarding road closures during Salmon Festival, contact Doug Newton, Traffic Technician at 604-276-4032 or [dnewton@richmond.ca](mailto:dnewton@richmond.ca)

## JCC Maccabi Games

This Summer, Richmond will play host to the Maccabi Games at Watermania, Minoru Arenas, Brighthouse Park, Minoru Park and Palmer, McRoberts and Richmond Secondary Schools as well as the Richmond Golf and Country Club and Richmond Tennis Club.

The Games are an Olympic-style sporting competition held each Summer in North America. They are the largest organized sports program for Jewish teens in the world.

From *August 13-17th*, over 1,200 Jewish athletes aged thirteen to sixteen will participate in the Games. Delegates from Canada, Israel, South America, the United States and Europe will test their skills in twelve different sports. Team Vancouver will include 300 Greater Vancouver area teens.

Spectators from the Lower Mainland and visitors from out-of-town are invited to attend the Opening Ceremonies and athletic competitions throughout the week. All spectators must be registered with official credentials in order to gain entry to all Games venue.

For more information about the JCC Maccabi Games, contact the Maccabi office at 604-257-5111 or [maccabi@vancouvermaccabi.org](mailto:maccabi@vancouvermaccabi.org)



Photo courtesy: JCC Maccabi website

## Councillor Linda Barnes elected to BCRPA Board

Richmond City Councillor, Linda Barnes was nominated by the British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) membership at large to the BCRPA Board of Directors.

BCRPA is a not for profit organization dedicated to building and sustaining active healthy lifestyles and communities in B.C. It inspires and supports community leaders and practitioners to build and sustain healthy communities through advocacy, communication and education with a diverse network of partners. Congratulations Councillor Barnes!

## City Website Improvements

Over the next 4 months, a focus will be placed on the development and redesign of the Parks and Recreation section of the City's website. During this time, a concerted effort will be placed on making improvements to the site that will assist us in:

- Raising awareness about our programs and services;
- Providing better customer services by ensuring information is rich in content, updated frequently and is easy to navigate;
- Marketing Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services opportunities in Richmond as a destination for visitors.

Aquatics will also be launching an Aquatic E-Newsletter to its annual pass holders this Summer. The E-Newsletter will be distributed on a quarterly basis.

To find out more about the development of our website, please contact Renee Moffatt at [rmoffatt@richmond.ca](mailto:rmoffatt@richmond.ca) or 604-247-4692.

## This Month in the Arts

"This Month in the Arts" is an online source for art enthusiasts looking to engage in Richmond's cultural offerings. Located on the City website, it is designed to increase awareness of Richmond's cultural events available to residents and tourists, increase participation in cultural-based activities in the community, and provide a comprehensive listing of cultural activities in the City.

In the Fall, an effort will be made to increase the visibility of "This Month in the Arts" in the community and to develop a brand image that will be identifiable in the future.

To list your cultural event, email [thismonthinthearts@richmond.ca](mailto:thismonthinthearts@richmond.ca). or to browse the events currently listed, visit [www.richmond.ca/thismonthinthearts](http://www.richmond.ca/thismonthinthearts)



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## Celebrations Tool Kit

**Public Dreams**, a registered charitable organization has been creating community events that provide mentorship and employment for people in the arts. To assist other organizations with their events, Public Dreams has created a practical guide with information and tools designed to create arts and cultural celebrations and special events.

Downloadable versions of the Tool Kit are available on the Legacies Now website at [www.2010legaciesnow.com](http://www.2010legaciesnow.com)



## Garratt Wellness Centre

In August 2004, the City of Richmond granted a Licence to Occupy to Vancouver Coastal Health – Richmond Health Services for Garratt Elementary School. In turn, Vancouver Coastal Health, in partnership with the City's Parks Recreation and Cultural Services Department developed a community-based Wellness Centre.

Since Garratt Wellness Centre opened for business more than 7,796 people have come through the doors.

Other highlights include:

- 71percent of visits come from community programs, representing a tremendous support for people in primary and secondary prevention of chronic disease.
- The City has increased the number of physical activity programs for those individuals living with chronic health conditions. Specialized programs such as Heart Wellness, Lose Weight Feel Great and Diabetes Exercise have all positively impacted those individuals participating in them.
- 2,140 individuals have participated in programs offered at Garratt.
- A delegation from Holland came to visit the facility to learn about the successful partnership between Health and the City.
- The Provincial government featured Garratt Wellness Centre, and in particular the programs offered by the City as part of its report on successful Primary Care strategies.
- Feedback from the surrounding neighbourhood has been extremely positive. People living in the neighbourhood see the facility as a positive addition to their area.

The City of Richmond, in partnership with the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority have provided a seamless continuum of service through Garratt Wellness Centre and are increasing the number of Richmond residents who are taking control of their health through education, awareness and physical activity; thus contributing to the City of Richmond's goal of increasing physical activity by 20 percent by 2010.



Garratt Wellness Centre

## Recreation and Culture Guide

Production of the Fall/Winter 2006/07 Guide is underway. The Fall/Winter Guide will be distributed to Safeways, Save-on Foods and community facilities on July 18th, 2006. Online and Touch Tone Registration will begin on Tuesday, July 18th at 12:01am followed by Call Centre and In-Person registration during regular hours of operation.

A review of the format, content and timing of our Recreation and Culture Guide will be taking place this Summer. Changes will be implemented into planning for the Spring 2007 Guide.



## City Major Projects

### Canada Line

The Canada Line, formerly known as RAV is a rapid transit system linking Vancouver's Waterfront Station transportation hub, Richmond's civic precinct and the Vancouver International Airport.

Operation is scheduled to begin in 2009 with the majority of construction affecting Richmond's City Centre between 2006 and 2008. The line will be elevated along the east side of No. 3 Road with stations initially planned for Bridgeport, Cambie, Landsdowne and Richmond Centre. A future station is also planned for Capstan Way.

Canada Line stations in Richmond are expected to draw both new residents and businesses, and stimulate the already expected population growth in City Centre.

At a length of nearly 19 km, the Canada Line will provide the much needed transit link for workers, residents and travellers. It will complement supporting transit enhancements and road improvements providing increased access and mobility within, to and from the City.

The expected travel time from Richmond Centre to Downtown Vancouver will be about 25 minutes and add transit capacity equivalent to 10 major road lanes. A train will arrive about every five minutes.

Transportation choice depends on a variety of factors. By planning and building more compact and complete neighbourhoods, and providing more transportation options, residents will be able to spend less time traveling, more time on recreational activities, reducing the environmental impacts of motorized travelling.

For up to date information on the Canada Line, visit the News and Events section on the City website at [www.richmond.ca](http://www.richmond.ca)

### *Richmond Oval*

The Richmond Oval will be located on the eastern portion of a 32-acre City-owned site fronting River Road between No. 2 Road and Hollybridge Way. The Oval will become part of a vibrant and integrated urban waterfront development, and will be bordered by a City Centre Waterfront Park with a major outdoor plaza linking the facility directly to the Fraser River and the City's 40-plus kilometres of waterfront trails.

It is anticipated that residential and commercial development will occur over the next twenty years, increasing the number of residents to 37,000 in the area immediately to the South and West of the Oval site. These residents will enjoy access to the Oval for recreation opportunities. However, the nature of the Oval as a combined high performance and wellness facility will mean that many general community needs will not be met entirely by the facility.

An Oval Neighbourhood Sub-area plan, integrated with the City Centre area plan, is expected in the near future.

### *Post-Games Community Legacy*

The City's vision is for the Oval to be a multipurpose centre of excellence for sports and wellness, mixing community uses, health and wellness services, and both summer and winter sports at all levels including high performance, recreational and developmental.

The main floor of the Oval will have an indoor sports field house divided into three sections: ice, court and turf.

- The ice section will be home to two Olympic-sized ice rinks.
- The court section will be a hardwood surface playing area capable of hosting up to eight full-sized basketball courts or other court sport configurations.
- The turf section will have a rubberized turf surface that will be home to a 200-metre indoor running track and other turf sport uses.

The main activity area will be convertible to different configurations that allow the facility to be used for a flexible variety of ice and dry sports as demand warrants. It will be possible to reactivate the speed skating long track; however, this is only envisioned as a possible occasional event.

In addition to the main activity area, the facility will include a complete range of sports medicine services and a major focus on wellness activities and programming to promote healthy lifestyles or other health-related rehabilitation programming. A major fitness centre will also be available for public use.

Community use will be the primary focus of Oval programming, with a diverse array of sports and wellness activities for both young and old. With its flexible and multiple uses, the Oval will help fill the space and programming needs of dozens of local sport and community groups.

In addition, the Oval will also be a major training centre for athletes from novice to elite levels. A number of Canada's national sports teams are expected to make the Oval their national training centre. It will also be the home of leading sport development agencies and will host a variety of competitions from the local to international level.

The **Richmond Oval Update** is a monthly report to the community on City initiatives related to the Richmond Oval project and to the community's preparations for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. For more information on the Richmond Oval visit the City's website at [www.richmond.ca](http://www.richmond.ca) and click on the Olympic Oval link on the home page.



3D conceptual rendering of Oval



Concept rendering of Oval Neighbourhood



Concept rendering of Oval Neighbourhood



Concept rendering of Oval Neighbourhood

## Contributors to the Well-Being Outcomes

In each issue of the Communiqué, we highlight staff and our community partners who have contributed to the Well-Being Outcomes. This article focusses on Youth Services staff who develop relationships with youth throughout the community and connect them to recreational, cultural and social experiences. By networking with other youth service providers, non-governmental organizations and schools, Youth Services is able to support the individual needs of youth in Richmond.

*Utilizing Developmental Assets and the Youth Involved Process, Youth Services met the following LIVE.CONNECT.GROW outcomes:*

### To Live

1. Invest in youth through intentionally building developmental assets
2. Increase opportunities to develop life skills by creating social, recreational and cultural experiences
3. Connect unaffiliated youth to programs in their community
4. Youth experience a safe and accepting environment

### To Connect

1. Connect youth to volunteer opportunities, job skills training, recreational and cultural programs and community service providers
2. Network with not-for-profit organizations and community groups to provide expertise and support

### To Grow

1. Expose youth to community centres and facilities
2. Encourage youth to actively access community centres by increasing their comfort level and enrolling them in programs
3. Create future citizens by instilling positive values, developing self confidence and expanding community awareness

Through the Roving Leader positions community needs are addressed by utilizing a “Service-Based Approach”. Low asset youth are referred to the Roving Leader program by service providers, their needs are identified and an individual plan is developed to build assets and involve them in the community.

The Roving Leader position embraces the “Relationship-Based Approach” in the realms of both community networking and youth mentorship. It is imperative that the Leaders network with service providers and community agencies so that there are appropriate resources to meet the needs of our Richmond youth.

Developing asset rich youth who will become productive members of our community will help support a “Financially Sustainable” future for our community.

A JOB WELL DONE YOUTH SERVICES STAFF!



### *Meeting the Well-being Outcomes:* **LIVE.CONNECT.GROW**

Three outcomes themes are essential to the lives of all Richmond residents. They reflect the fact that different aspects of living contribute to individual well-being and quality of life.

The three themes – **LIVE.CONNECT.GROW** are key components of the Well-being Framework. They create a common purpose for organizations and individuals who are part of the parks, recreation and cultural services system and quality of life services in Richmond.

To **LIVE** focuses on the basic physical, mental and spiritual “being” needs of individuals and families who want to live healthy, happy lives.

To **CONNECT** addresses the needs an individual or family has to fit with their physical environment, with the people around them and with their community.

To **GROW** addresses the needs an individual or family has to use discretionary time for fun and enjoyment and to enhance their skills beyond the basic levels.