

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Master Plan 2004 Update

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

A Framework for Sustainability

The final discussion paper prepared for "Designing the New" addresses the question, "How does the City ensure financial, infrastructure, volunteer and governance sustainability?"

Sustainability refers to a method of tapping financial resources of the community today to fund needed/desired services and programs, while protecting the community's ability to afford to pay for the appropriate service in the future. This involves balancing the competing interests of protecting the environment, encouraging economic viability and achieving social equity (a triple bottom line).

In light of increasing costs and decreasing revenues, the City must be purposeful in its use of resources to ensure its parks, recreation and cultural services are sustainable, accountable and available for future generations to enjoy.

The proposed framework considers the need to balance the sustainability of 5 input categories:

- Financial
- Volunteer and non-profit organizations
- Human infrastructure
- Physical infrastructure
- Planning, policies and decision-making

How the Framework Works

The five input areas are related to each other creating a system to meet the needs of PRCS consumers. To ensure limited resources are used strategically, inputs are evaluated with the following questions:

1. Where do we want to go?
2. What do we need to do?
3. What are the desired outcomes?

The desired outcomes in each of the five areas must complement each other and align with community values, as well as corporate and divisional directions in a balanced and sustainable way. Inputs also need to be aligned with the Council-approved Guiding Principles and evaluated on their ability to achieve desired outcomes.

The framework creates outputs, which are the amenities, programs and services available to consumers. Each output must be sustainable by being cost effective, efficient, flexible and continually improving to make the best use of limited resources.

The overarching outcomes of this framework will result in:

1. Environmental, social and financial sustainability, and
2. A balanced and sustainable quality of life system.

PRCS Sustainability Framework

INPUTS



OUTPUTS



OUTCOMES

Environmental, Social and Financial Sustainability
&
Balanced and Sustainable Quality of Life System

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Master Plan

The overall aim of this process is to achieve the Community Vision:

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

The outcomes of these discussions will form the framework of the PRCS Master Plan. The Master Plan will be a living document that guides decision-making in quality of life services in Richmond over the next ten years and beyond.

Want more information?

The Master Plan process and resulting documentation is available on the City Website:
http://www.city.richmond.bc.ca/leisure/leisure_master_plan.htm

or contact Denise Tambellini-Abraham at 604-276-4349 or Cathy Volkering-Carlile, General Manager of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services at 604-276-4068.



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