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**REPORT TO SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL COMMUNITY COMMISSION
MEETING OF THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026**

SUBJECT Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation - 2026-2027 Fees and Charges

ISSUE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide the Salt Spring Island (SSI) Local Community Commission (LCC) with recommendations for the 2026-2027 Recreation Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw, effective September 1, 2026.

BACKGROUND

Each year, all Capital Regional District (CRD) recreation centers are required to review and analyze their fees and charges and recommend any changes for approval by the CRD Board.

The annual process for reviewing Fees and Charges includes consideration of:

- Past and actual budget expenses and revenues
- Activity and usage levels
- Recognition of desired recovery rates and operational deficits
- Operational assumptions regarding access, facility enhancements and recovery
- Fees and charges at other municipal recreation departments
- Previous year’s fee increases
- Social and economic conditions; and
- Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Fees and Charges Guidelines

The primary consideration in the review of recreation fees and charges is to find a balance between fiscal accountability, access to recreation services, and the marketplace. User fees and charges provide revenue and offset the tax requisition requirement in providing parks and recreation services and programs.

Revenue Sources as a % of Total Revenue:	2025 (Actual)	2026 (Budget)
Requisition	77.95%	78.54%
Parks and Administration	2.11%	1.90%
Rainbow Recreation Centre	9.24%	9.04%
Community Rec and SIMS	10.70%	10.52%
Total	100%	100%

Wages, operating costs and inflation impact on the cost of operating facilities and the delivery of programs and services. While revenues have increased over the past years, escalating operating costs and annual wage increases have resulted in higher than projected operating costs. Staff are recommending a 3-5% increase to most fees and charges. Fees and charges are updated annually in amendments to Bylaw No. 3623, “Capital Regional District Recreation Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2009”, which contains fees for all CRD recreation centers.

All fees are to be rounded to the nearest nickel and are listed before applicable tax. Program registration fees are not included in the fees and charges bylaw. Fees included in the fees and charges bylaw include:

- Recreation Centers Admission Fees (SIMS & Rainbow)
- Rainbow Recreation Pool Rental Rates
- Field and Court Rental Rates
- Gym Rental Rates
- Classroom and Storage Rental Rates
- Park Use Rental Rates
- Miscellaneous Fees

Proposed Fees and Charges Adjustments and Changes (Appendix A)

- **Recreation Centre Admission Fees:**
 - 3-4% increase to single admission and timed passes.
 - Discounted admission offered as below:
 - Youth – 75% of adult fee
 - Child – 60% of adult fee
 - Family (Maximum 5) – double the adult fee
 - Tot – free of charge
 - 10 visit punch pass – 9 times the regular fee
 - 20 visit punch pass – 17 times the regular fee
 - *Aqua Fitness pass increases are below 1% in a multi year strategy to align the Aqua Fitness passes with the adult passes rates.*
- **Rainbow Recreation Pool Rental Rates:**
 - 3.5% increase to commercial booking rates.
 - Apply formulas to offer reduced rental rates for non-profit adult (75%) and youth (60%).
- **Field and Court Rental Rates:**
 - NEW: Tennis and Pickle Ball bookings transition from \$5.00 flat fee per day to hourly rates equivalent to the field booking rates.
 - Field bookings
 - *5% increase to the flat daily field booking fee*
 - *Hourly rental fee for field use is increasing by 0.25 cents for non-profit adult & youth.*
- **Gym Rental Rates:**
 - 3% increase to commercial booking rates.
 - Apply formulas to offer reduced rental rates for non-profit adult (75%) and youth (60%).
- **Classroom and Storage Rental Rates:**
 - 3% average increase to commercial booking rates.

- Apply formulas to offer reduced rental rates for non-profit adult (75%) and youth (60%).
- **Park Use Rental Rates:**
 - 3-5% increase to commercial park use rental rates.
 - Apply formulas to offer reduced rental rates for non-profit adult (75%) and youth (60%).
- **Miscellaneous Fees:**
 - 3% average increase to miscellaneous fees excluding lockers.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation 2026/2027 Fees and Charges be approved as presented in Appendix A.

Alternative 2

That the Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation 2026/2027 Fees and Charges be approved with specific amendments to Appendix A.

IMPLICATIONS

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Implications

Recognizing that cost can be a barrier to recreation participation, PARC offers the Leisure Economic Access Pass (LEAP). The LEAP program provides 52 free drop-ins and subsidies for those requiring financial assistance for memberships or registered programs. CRD Recreation centres currently offer free access to the support person for those needing additional assistance.

Financial Implications

User fees collected are used to reduce the tax requisition and for the delivery of recreation services. Recreation fees and charges continue to be reasonable and affordable for most residents and visitors and are aligned with user fees across Greater Victoria. It is anticipated that the proposed increase will generate sufficient revenue to achieve targets for the 2026/2027 budget years.

Social Implications

The proposed increase to admission and rental rates ensures fees remain comparable across greater Victoria and accounts for increased operating costs associated with inflation, while keeping recreation accessible to our community members encouraging active living.

CONCLUSION

Each year, the fees and charges for recreation services are re-evaluated to determine if new charges are required and if existing fees need to be adjusted. Comparing fees to other recreation centers and looking at social and financial factors, the recommendation is that most fees should be increased by an average of 3 to 5%.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation 2026/2027 Fees and Charges be approved as presented in Appendix A.

Submitted by:	Kent Bittorf, BPhEd, Manager, SSI Parks and Recreation
Concurrence:	Dan Ovington, BBA, Senior Manager, Salt Spring Island Administration
Concurrence:	Stephen Henderson, MBA, P.G.Dip.Eng, BSc, General Manager, Electoral Area Services
Concurrence:	Nelson Chan, MBA, FCPA, FCMA, Chief Financial Officer & General Manager, Finance & Technology
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

Appendix A: Proposed Changes for 2026-2027 Fees and Charges

Appendix B: 2026 Updated SSI Parks and Rec Fees and Charges Guidelines