

7. National Health and Fitness Day - Bill S-211

MOVER: Councillor Louie

SECONDER:

WHEREAS

1. The Parliament of Canada wishes to increase awareness among Canadians of the significant benefits of physical activity and to encourage Canadians to increase their level of physical activity and their participation in recreational sports and fitness activities;
2. It is in Vancouver's interest to improve the health of Canadians and to reduce the burden of illness on Canadian families and on the Canadian health care system;
3. The City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation has many public facilities to promote the health and fitness of our citizens;
4. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation has created the *OneCard* to provide universal access to the Park Board's pools, rinks, and fitness centres, and participating community centres available to everyone at no charge and it also includes a built-in 50 percent Leisure Access program subsidy for qualified low income residents;
5. BILL S-211 has been introduced by the Honourable Nancy Greene Raine and completed first reading in the Senate to encourage local governments to facilitate Canadians' participation in healthy physical activities;
6. BILL S-211 also wishes to encourage the country's local governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and all Canadians to recognize the first Saturday in June as National Health and Fitness Day and to mark the day with local events and initiatives celebrating and promoting the importance and use of local health, recreational, sports and fitness facilities;
7. Canadian Environment Week is observed throughout the country in early June, and walking and cycling are great ways to reduce vehicle pollution and improve physical fitness;
8. Declaring the first Saturday in June to be National Health and Fitness Day will further encourage Canadians to participate in physical activities and contribute to their own health and well-being and align with the City of Vancouver's Greenest City goals.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council endorse BILL S-211 for the annual designation of the first Saturday in June as "NATIONAL HEALTH AND FITNESS DAY" to be enacted as follows:

SHORT TITLE

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the *National Health and Fitness Day Act*.

NATIONAL HEALTH AND FITNESS DAY

National Health and Fitness Day

2. Throughout Canada, in each and every year, the first Saturday in June shall be known as "National Health and Fitness Day".

Not a legal holiday

3. For greater certainty, National Health and Fitness Day is not a legal holiday or a non-juridical day.

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