



## COUNCIL REPORT

Report Date: April 1, 2025  
Contact: Michelle Collens  
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VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20  
Meeting Date: April 15, 2025  
[Submit comments to Council](#)

TO: Vancouver City Council  
FROM: General Manager of Arts, Culture and Community Services  
SUBJECT: Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants – Spring 2025 Intake

### Recommendations

- A. THAT Council approves 17 Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants totalling \$78,600 as outlined in the body of this report to each organization listed in Table 1 under the column entitled “Organization” and for the amount set out beside their name in the column entitled “Grant Recommended”; source of funding is the 2025 Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grant Budget.
- B. THAT the grants in Recommendation A be subject to each grant recipient agreeing to the terms and conditions of the community sport hosting grant program as generally outlined in this report and otherwise satisfactory to the Director, Destination Events and Tourism and the City Solicitor.
- C. THAT no legal rights or obligations are created by the approval of the Recommendations A and B above unless and until the grant agreement letter is executed and delivered by the grant recipient.
- D. THAT pursuant to the Section 206(1)(j) of the *Vancouver Charter*, the organizations listed in Table 1 which are not otherwise a registered charity with Canada Revenue Agency are deemed by Council to be an organization contributing to the culture, beautification, health, or welfare of the City.

Approval of Recommendation A constitutes a grant and therefore requires an affirmative vote of at least-two-thirds of all Council pursuant to Section 206(1)(j) of the *Vancouver Charter*.

## **Purpose and Executive Summary**

This report recommends approval of 17 Vancouver Community Sport Event Grant applications totalling \$78,600. The 2025 Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grant budget is \$244,995.

The Spring 2025 intake of applications is the first of two intakes, with the second intake happening in the Fall of 2025.

## **Council Authority/Previous Decisions**

An overview of previous Council decisions related to Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grants are contained in Appendix A.

## **City Manager's Comments**

The City Manager concurs with the foregoing recommendations.

## **Context and Background**

The Vancouver community Sport Hosting Program is comprised of the Community Sport Event Grant stream and the Community Sport Champions Recognition Grant stream, both supporting non-profit community sport organizations in the City of Vancouver.

*Community Sport Event Grants* provide financial support for sporting events that have the potential to bring direct or indirect economic, social, health and community development benefits to the City of Vancouver. Amounts are distributed annually to support local, regional and new sport event initiatives. Application intake and eligibility guidelines can be found on the City's Website at: <https://vancouver.ca/people-programs/sporting-event-grants.aspx>

*Community Sport Champions Recognition Grants* recognize and celebrate the non-profit organizations and their representatives who are making sport accessible in the City of Vancouver. This stream offers grants to advance the efforts and accomplishments of organizations and recognize the people behind those organizations who deliver sport and physical activity to make a positive impact in our community. These grants align with City Council's key priority areas, including but not limited to gender equity, reconciliation and affordability. Awards are directed to a certain theme or interest based on City Council priorities and initiatives within that cycle. More information and list of past recipients can be found on the City's Website at: <https://vancouver.ca/people-programs/community-sport-champions-recognition-program.aspx>

This report provides recommendations for the Community Sport Event Grants, Spring 2025 intake. Community Sport Champions Recognition Grants will be brought forward for Council consideration in October 2025.

## **Discussion**

All Vancouver Community Sport Event Grant applications are reviewed by a panel comprised of representatives from the Park Board, City of Vancouver and other key stakeholders in the sport hosting community.

This report recommends 17 Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants for which applications were received in Spring 2025 under the [approved guidelines](#). In this grant intake this is the first time the program has received applications to host community sport event competitions in Speed Skating and Lawn Bowling.

### Overview of Local/Regional Sport Events

A brief description of each of the recommended events listed in Table 1 is contained in **Appendix A**.

**TABLE 1. RECOMMENDED VANCOUVER COMMUNITY SPORT  
EVENT GRANT ALLOCATIONS, SPRING 2025 INTAKE**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Grant Recommended</b>
Southlands Riding Club	Season Welcomer	May 1-4, 2025	\$5,000
Vancouver Pacific Swim Club	60 <sup>th</sup> Annual Mel Zajac Jr. International Swim Meet	May 16-18, 2025	\$5,000
Tennis - British Columbia	2025 BC Masters Provincials	May 24 – June 1, 2025	\$5,000
Marine Drive Golf Club	Marine Drive Amateur	May 30-31, 2025	\$2,500
Mabel League Women's Fastpitch Association	The LIL Tournament	May 30 – June 1, 2025	\$5,000
Last Man Stands Canada DEI Foundation	LMS Canadian University & College Cricket Championship: Season 2025	June 30 – Sept 26, 2025	\$5,000
Vancouver Falcons Athletic Club Society	VFAC Summerfast 10k	July 5 2025	\$2,500
Tennis - British Columbia	J100 Stanley Park Open ITF	July 5-12, 2025	\$5,000
Volleyball BC	Vancouver Open	July 11-13, 2025	\$5,000
Vancouver Frontrunners Club	Vancouver Pride Run & Walk	July 13, 2025	\$5,000
Volleyball BC	Youth Beach Provincials	August 1-3 2025	\$5,000
Volleyball BC	Adult Beach Provincials	August 9-10 2025	\$5,000
Canadian Volleyball Association (Volleyball Canada)	2025 14U-16U Youth Beach Nationals	August 21-24, 2025	\$7,500
West Point Grey Lawn Bowling Club	Inter-club Gender Neutral Triples Tournament	August 23 2025	\$3,100
Vancouver Female Ice Hockey Association	Indigenous Female Jamboree	August 28-31, 2025	\$7,500

Pacific Indoor Bowls Club	Pacific Coast Open	Sept 7-13 2025	\$2,500
Vancouver Speed Skating Club	2025 Kitsilano Classic	Sept 27, 2025	\$3,000

**Financial Implications**

The recommended Community Sport Hosting Event Grants will be funded from the 2025 Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grant Budget as detailed below.

**TABLE 2. VANCOUVER COMMUNITY SPORT EVENT GRANTS, FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

<b>Program Stream</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>	<b>Previously Approved Grants</b>	<b>Current Report Recommended Grants</b>	<b>2025 Budget Remaining</b>
Community Sport Event Grant Budget	\$ 244,995	\$ 0	\$78,600	\$166,395
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$244,995</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$78,600</b>	<b>\$166,395</b>

**Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications.

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## **APPENDIX A**

### **COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS**

This appendix provides an overview of the previous Council decisions related to Community Sport Hosting Grants:

2004: Council approved a policy statement in support of celebrations, sporting events and special events: “Council welcomes celebrations and special events for their contribution in making Vancouver a vibrant City, in reflecting our cultural diversity and neighbourhood character, and for economic, cultural and recreational benefits they bring to the City. Council supports the facilitation of these events by staff, encourages mitigation of short-term disruptions in neighbourhoods and encourages cities to welcome these activities and to participate in them.”

2006: Council approved a Sport Hosting Policy and Sport Hosting Grant Program effective January 1, 2007, with annual funding of \$200,000 to support a range of sporting events.

2008: Council adopted the Vancouver Sport Strategy as a guide to the City’s future initiatives and engagement with sport programs, facilities and events.

2011: Council approved revisions to the Sport Hosting Grant Program guidelines to improve the effectiveness of the grant and better serve local sport organizations.

2015: Council adopted the Sport Hosting Vancouver Action Plan, and approved the creation of the Sport Tourism Development Fund with funding of \$1.0 million over 2 years as the City’s commitment to this Fund which will support MAJOR sport events that advance the Sport Hosting Vancouver Action Plan goals. In that same decision, Council approved the change of name from the City’s current ‘Sport Hosting Grant Program’ to the ‘Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grant Program and directed staff to review the program and provide recommendations for any changes necessary to enhance the grant program.

2016: Council approved revisions to the ‘Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grant Program’, expanding the type of events that are eligible for funding at a community level, including Local or Regional Sport Tournaments, New Sport Event Initiatives, and Annual Sport Events.

2019: Council approved the recommendations for the City Participation in Women Deliver 2019 Conference (RTS 12946) including approval of the allocation of \$35,000 from the 2019 Sport Hosting Program budget to launch the new program stream of “Community Sport Champions Recognition” that will align with the themed Women Deliver objectives. Each year, the theme of the recognition program will change.

**APPENDIX B**  
**OVERVIEW OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL SPORT TOURNAMENT GRANT**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS SPRING 2025 INTAKE**

This appendix provides a brief description of each of the recommended events listed in Table 1 of this report.

1. **Southlands Riding Club – Season Welcomer:** This show jumping competition which has been in existence for more than 80 years, provides the opportunity for riders across the lower mainland who don't currently train in Southlands to compete and show in Vancouver.
2. **Vancouver Pacific Swim Club - 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Mel Zajac Jr. International Swim Meet:** The 2025 event marks the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the elite competition for many up-and-coming swimmers and an opportunity for current Olympians from Canada and the United States to race in one of the most recognized swim meets in North America. Over 700 swimmers, 120 coaches, 30 officials and 50 volunteers
3. **Tennis - British Columbia – 2025 BC Masters Provincials:** The BC Masters Provincial Championships is the premier tennis event for senior players in our province. The event attracts players between the ages of 30-85 from all over British Columbia. Masters Provincials gives BC seniors an opportunity to compete in an event recognized internationally by the International Tennis Federation (ITF) and nationally by Tennis Canada.
4. **Marine Drive Golf Club – Marine Drive Amateur Tournament:** The Marine Drive Amateur Tournament is open to the public and provides an opportunity to compete in a high-level amateur competition in Vancouver. It attracts 150 competitors from BC, Alberta, and Washington, and is free to spectators.
5. **Mabel League Women's Fastpitch Association – The LIL Tournament:** This tournament is put on to welcome other queer-identifying teams from around the province to participate in a unique and inclusive sporting event. Past tournaments have included teams from Victoria, Calgary, the Sunshine Coast and Washington State. Operating since 1986 this is a marquee event in the season, with its signature Saturday costume parade and emphasis on community and fun. In 1986, Kate Stewart, a local activist who operated the Lesbian Information Line, created the LIL Tournament, one of the first events to bring local lesbian softball players together.
6. **Last Man Stands Canada DEI Foundation - LMS Canadian University and College Cricket Championship 2025:** Building on the remarkable growth and success of the past two years of this amateur cricket tournament, the tournament is expected to continue to grow with 20 teams represented from universities and colleges across Vancouver, BC and beyond. Fields of play include Douglas Park, Stanley Park, Memorial South, Trafalgar and Connaught.

- 7. Vancouver Falcons Athletic Club Society – VFAC Summerfast 10k:** Summerfast 10k is a competitive running race around the Stanley Park Seawall. The race usually attracts between 500 to 700 racers/runners/joggers/walkers.
- 8. Tennis - British Columbia – J100 Stanley Park Open ITF:** The J100 Stanley Park Open ITF is one of highest-level international events in Western Canada. With this tournament being at a J100 level, it attracts more and higher-level international players, and continues to help Vancouver be recognized as a tennis destination around the world.
- 9. Volleyball BC – Vancouver Open:** The Vancouver Open stands as the flagship event of The Beach Tour, proudly sponsored by Volleyball BC. Now entering its 32nd edition, this annual three-day extravaganza showcases the finest talent in beach volleyball, drawing competitors from Canada, North America, and beyond.
- 10. Vancouver Frontrunners Club – Vancouver Pride Run & Walk:** The Vancouver Pride Run & Walk (VPRW) is an annual event held in Vancouver, Canada, each summer in the week(s) just ahead of the city's 2SLGBTQIA+ Pride celebration. The event includes a 10-kilometre run and a 5-kilometre run or walk, concluding with a post-race celebration and awards ceremony.
- 11. Volleyball BC – Youth Beach Provincials:** Volleyball BC's Youth Beach Provincial Championships spans three days, hosting both female and male beach volleyball teams vying for top honors, marking the apex of the amateur beach season.
- 12. Volleyball BC – Adult Beach Provincials:** Volleyball BC's Adult Beach Provincial Championships is a premier three-day event showcasing top female and male beach volleyball teams competing for provincial titles.
- 13. Canadian Volleyball Association (Volleyball Canada) – 2025 14U-16U Youth Beach Nationals:** Volleyball Canada's 14U-16U Youth Beach National Championships is a three-day tournament to crown the top female and male beach volleyball teams for 14U, 15U and 16U in Western Canada. It is the pinnacle event of the beach season for amateur athletes and referees providing an unparalleled opportunity to gain experience at the highest level.
- 14. West Point Grey Lawn Bowling Club – Inter-club Gender Neutral Triples Tournament:** The West Point Grey Lawn Bowling Club is excited to introduce the Inter-club Gender Neutral Lawn Bowling Tournament, a new sport event initiative designed to promote inclusivity, community engagement, and the development of lawn bowling as a recreational sport.
- 15. Vancouver Female Ice Hockey Association – Indigenous Female Jamboree:** Building on the success of our inaugural event in 2024, the Jamboree continues to focus

on fostering inclusivity and creating opportunities for Indigenous girls in hockey across British Columbia. For 2025, we aim to expand participation by attracting Indigenous players from even more communities across BC and enhance cultural activities by highlighting the rich traditions of Indigenous communities alongside hockey.

**16. Pacific Indoor Bowls – Pacific Coast Open:** The Pacific Coast Open, hosted by the Pacific Indoor Bowls Club, is one of Canada’s premier lawn bowling events, attracting top players from across the country and beyond. The event is open to both men and women, featuring competitive singles and pairs formats, with exciting prizes awarded to the winners.

**17. Vancouver Speed Skating Club – 2025 Kitsilano Classic:** The Kitsilano Classic is a full-day ability meet open to skaters from clubs in Metro Vancouver and beyond. This new racing opportunity gives skaters an extra chance in the season to achieve qualification times for the BC Winter Games as well as other provincial and regional competitions.