



COUNCIL REPORT

Report Date: October 22, 2025
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RTS No.: 18148
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: November 4, 2025
[Submit comments to Council](#)

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: Chief of External Relations
SUBJECT: Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants – Fall 2025 Intake

Recommendations

- A. THAT Council approves 18 new Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants totalling \$118,500 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 Program 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 Recommendations A, and B and D above unless and until the grant agreement letter is executed and delivered by the grant recipient.
- D. THAT Council approve an amendment to the Council report titled “Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants – Spring 2025 Intake” dated April 1, 2025 RTS 17768) that was approved on April 15, 2025 to revise the recipient of the \$5,000 grant for the 60th Annual Mel Zajac Jr International Swim Meet from Vancouver Pacific Swim Club to University of British Columbia Athletics.
- E. THAT pursuant to the Section 206(1)(ii) of the *Vancouver Charter*, the organizations listed in Tables 1 and 2 that are not otherwise registered charities with Canada Revenue Agency are deemed by Council to be organizations contributing to the culture, beautification, health, or welfare of the City.

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

Purpose and Executive Summary

This report recommends approval of 18 new Vancouver Community Sport Event Grant applications totalling \$118,500. The 2025 Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grant budget is \$244,995.

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

This report also recommends an amendment to the previous grant report Spring 2025 Community Sport Hosting Grant Report – [RTS 17768](#) – due to an administrative error listing an incorrect organization to receive the community hosting grant as awarded by Council.

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.

1. Community Sport Event Grants

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 [here](#).

2. Community Sport Champions Recognition Grants

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, while aligning 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. The chosen theme for 2025 focuses on the recognition of local Indigenous Sport Champions from Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-

Waututh Nations (MST) and the Urban Native Youth Association (UNYA). More information and list of past recipients can be found on the City of Vancouver's website [here](#).

Discussion

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

This report recommends 18 new Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants for which applications were received in Fall 2025 under the [approved guidelines](#).

Overview of Local/Regional Sport Events

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

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

Organization	Event	2025 - 2026 Event Dates	Grant Recommended
1. BC School Sports	BC High School Football Championships Series	Nov 29 (2025)	\$5,000
2. Canadian Dolphin Swim Club	Mies Schootman Invitational Swim Meet 2026	Jan 16-18	\$6,000
3. Pacific Rim Curling League Society	Pac Rim Cup Bonspiel	Jan 16-18	\$5,000
4. Alma Mater Society of the University of British Columbia Vancouver	UBC New Year's Championships	Jan 24	\$2,500
5. Vancouver International Marathon Society	2026 First Half	Feb 8	\$5,000
6. BC School Sports	2026 BC School Sports Wrestling Provincial Championships	Feb 19-21	\$10,000
7. Vancouver Curling Club Association	International Tankard	Mar 21-23	\$3,000
8. Vancouver Curling Club Association	BC Curling Club Provincials 2026	Mar 31 – Apr 1	\$10,000
9. Tennis - British Columbia	U14 Fischer Junior Indoor Nationals	Mar 29 - Apr 5	\$5,000

Organization	Event	2025 - 2026 Event Dates	Grant Recommended
10. Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society	Burnwater Spring Spring/Youth Regatta	May 2	\$5,000
11. English Bay Whiskeyjacks Water Polo Society	Whiskeyjacks Water Polo Tournament	May 15-17	\$4,500
12. Turkish-Canadian Society (TCS)	4th Annual Atatürk Run – Youth & Sports Day 2026.	May 17	\$2,500
13. Tennis - British Columbia	2026 BC Masters Provincials ITF	May 23-31	\$5,000
14. Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society	Vessi 500 Championship	May 30	\$10,000
15. Latincouver Cultural & Business Society	2026 Soccer Festival	July 11-12	\$5,000
16. Swimming/Natation Canada	Junior Pan Pacific Championships	Aug 17-20	\$15,000
17. Canadian International Dragonboat Festival Society	Dragonboat August Competition	Aug 22	\$15,000
18. Vancouver International Marathon Society	Turkey Trot	Oct 12	\$5,000

Previous Community Sport Hosting Grant Report Amendment

The report also recommends Council amend the Spring 2025 Community Sport Hosting Grant Report – [RTS 17768](#) – due to an administrative error listing the incorrect organization to receive the community grant. Staff recommend the following strike and replace in **Table 2**, striking the Vancouver Pacific Swim Club as the organization to receive funds for the 60th Annual Mel Zajac Jr. International Swim Meet to the University of British Columbia Athletics. This will not impact the overall budget as the funds had already been committed and approved by Council but not distributed.

**TABLE 2. RECOMMENDED VANCOUVER COMMUNITY SPORT
EVENT GRANT ALLOCATIONS, SPRING 2025 INTAKE**

Organization	Event	2025 Event Dates	Grant Recommended
Vancouver Pacific Swim Club University of British Columbia Athletics	60th Annual Mel Zajac Jr. International Swim Meet	June 3-5	\$5,000

Financial Implications

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

TABLE 3. VANCOUVER COMMUNITY SPORT EVENT GRANTS, FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Program Stream	2025 Budget	Previously Approved Grants	Current Report Recommended Grants	2025 Budget Remaining
Community Sport Event Grant Program	\$244,995	\$78,600	\$ 118,500	\$ 47,895
Total	\$244,995	\$78,600	\$ 118,500	\$47,985

Legal Implications

There are no legal implications

CONCLUSION

Staff recommends that Council approve 18 new grants totalling \$118,500 as outlined in the body of this report. Staff also recommend an amendment to the previous grant report Spring 2025 Community Sport Hosting Grant Report – [RTS 17768](#) – due to an administrative error incorrectly listing the organization to receive the community grant. The Recommendations are aligned with the recommendations of the Vancouver Community Sport Event Grant review panel and the product of a comprehensive review process consistent with the policy and guidelines approved by Council. This is the second of two application intakes of 2025 for the Community Sport Event Granting stream. The remaining balance of the budget will be allocated to the Community Sport Champions Granting stream recognizing Indigenous Sport Champions from Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations (MST) and the Urban Native Youth Association (UNYA) in a future grant report.

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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. This grant program has an ongoing annual Operating Budget funding of \$200,000.

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.

Under s. 206(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*, approval of grant recommendations requires an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all Council members.

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

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

1. **BC School Sports – BC High School Football Championships Series** - The BCSS Football Championship Series at BC Place will feature more than 600 student athletes from across British Columbia competing in AAA Varsity, AA Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Grade 8 divisions at BC Place Stadium.
2. **Canadian Dolphin Swim Club – Mies Schootman Invitational Swim Meet 2026** - The CDSC Mies Shootman Invitational Meet has been held at the Vancouver Aquatic Centre annually for the past 15 years. This meet is our major invitational meet and our signature event that draws over 500 age group (youth) swimmers, their coaches and supporters from swim clubs all over the Lower Mainland as well as some clubs from other parts of BC. The event is run by parent volunteers and volunteer officials.
3. **Pac Rim Curling League Society – The Pac Rim Cup Bonspiel** – The tournament attracts local, national, and international participants, with more than 150 athletes and over 100 spectators taking part in three days of competition. Thirty-two teams play 72 games to determine the Pac Rim Cup champions, with spectators warmly welcomed to watch the action. Beyond the competition, the Pac Rim Cup fosters fellowship and connection within the 2SLGBTQ+ community, promoting friendly competition, fair play, and mutual respect at both local and national levels.
4. **Alma Mater Society of the University of British Columbia Vancouver - UBC New Year's Championships** – The first BC Powerlifting Association sanctioned competition of 202, hosted at the AMS Nest and run by student volunteers. The competition is split into 2 sessions, a morning session and an afternoon session with an awards ceremony after each for the respective weight class.
5. **Vancouver International Marathon Society – First Half 2026** – Recognized as Canada's fastest half marathon, the event is capped at 2,500 runners and kicks off the running season as athletes prepare for the Vancouver International Marathon. The 21.1KM scenic route starts at Roundhouse Community Centre, continues past Sunset Beach along the Seawall and back towards the historic Yaletown neighbourhood.
6. **BC School Sports - 2026 BC School Sports Wrestling Provincial Championships** - Thirty weight classes of male and female wrestlers from throughout the province will compete on behalf of their school to advance and become the winner of their weight class. Student-athlete wrestlers collect points for their school to determine an overall Boys, Girls and Combined winner at the PNE Forum.

7. **Vancouver Curling Club Association - The International Tankard** is a long-standing volunteer recognition curling event shared between British Columbia and Washington State. Over three days at the Vancouver Curling Club, sixty-four volunteers—honoured for their significant contributions to sport and community—will be celebrated through friendly competition, ceremonies, and shared meals. By bringing Canadian and American curlers together, the event strengthens cross-border friendships while showcasing the lasting impact volunteers have on healthy sport and community life.
8. **Vancouver Curling Club Association – BC Curling Club Provincials 2026** - This annual provincial championship brings together the top men's and women's club teams from across British Columbia to compete for the opportunity to represent BC at the Canadian Club Curling Championships, taking place November 23–29, 2026 (location TBD). The event will feature competitive play on-ice alongside a strong volunteer base and community engagement off-ice, highlighting Vancouver as a hub for curling excellence and grassroots sport development.
9. **Tennis- British Columbia – U14 Fischer Junior Indoor Nationals** – The 2026 U14 Indoor Junior National Canadian Championships draws up to 40 boys and 40 girls from across the country. Throughout the tournament, players score points for their province depending on their singles and doubles results. At the end of the tournament, the province with the most points will also be recognized and given an award, along with the players that place in the top spots in the individual competitions.
10. **Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society – Burnwater Spring Spring/Youth Regatta** - The event opens the season and dragon boat racing's annual return to False Creek. The BYR is Western Canada's only youth-focused dragon boat race. The race features high school teams from around the Sea to Sky corridor, Lower Mainland, and Fraser Valley, as well as local under-24 teams from the community and post-secondary institutions. In addition, a mini cultural program and local artisan market, plus food trucks, will be added to the event to upgrade its public and sporting value and improve long term sustainability.
11. **English Bay Whiskeyjacks Water Polo Society- WhiskeyJacks Water Polo Tournament** - This tournament is an inclusive 2SLGBTQIA+ water polo competition designed to celebrate diversity, athleticism, and community through sport. This multi-day event welcomes teams and athletes from across North America, including participants from San Francisco, Denver, Washington, New York, Montreal, Toronto, Edmonton, Kelowna, and Boston. Beyond the pool, the event will feature social and cultural components that foster community-building and promote visibility and inclusion in sport.
12. **Turkish Canadian Society - The 4th Annual Atatürk Run** – Youth & Sports Day 2026 is a 10 km community run (5 km out and 5 km return) combined with a family picnic. Organized by the Turkish-Canadian Society, the event celebrates May 19th Atatürk Youth and Sports Day, a national holiday in Türkiye that emphasizes health, youth empowerment, and active living.

- 13. Tennis- British Columbia - 2026 BC Masters Provincials ITF** – 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. Players get to chase international and national ranking points, improve their fitness, and refine their tennis skills.
- 14. Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society – Vessi 500 Championship** - The Vessi 500 Championship (V500) is one of North America's biggest dragon boat races with 120+ team entries racing annually in Mixed, Women, and Open divisions. V500 will also celebrate our community, with a free lineup of local entertainment and cultural displays in the heart of Olympic Village throughout the day, including lion dance, live music, DJ performances, and cultural displays.
- 15. Latincouver – 2026 Soccer Festival** – This annual community sports initiative takes place within the Carnaval del Sol, the largest Latin American festival in the Pacific Northwest. The adult soccer tournament brings together 12 co-ed teams, creating an atmosphere of inclusion, teamwork and respect.
- 16. Swimming/Natation Canada - 2026 Junior Pan Pacific Championships** –This international event will bring together elite junior swimmers from Canada, the United States, Australia, Japan, and other invited nations, providing a unique environment for emerging talent to compete at future World Champs & Olympics. Hosting this competition in Vancouver marks a significant milestone for Canadian swimming, as it will be the first time Canada hosts a high-level international junior swimming competition. The event offers local athletes a unique opportunity to compete on home soil, fostering community engagement and inspiring the next generation of swimmers.
- 17. Canadian International Dragonboat Festival Society – Dragonboat August Competition** – The 2026 International Dragonboat Festival in its full format was cancelled due to the conflict of FIFA World Cup 26™ dates and proximity of the event footprint in False Creek. However, event organizers are working closely with partners to establish an alternative dragonboat competition in August 2026 that would be a scaled down version of the annual Dragonboat Festival.
- 18. Vancouver International Marathon Society – Turkey Trot** – The Granville Island Turkey Trot 10KM race is a hallmark event for Granville Island and the Vancouver running community. The annual event on Thanksgiving Monday brings together runners in a celebration of Thanksgiving, demonstrating our community of running, our gratitude for the sport, and our commitment to supporting others.