CITY OF VANCOUVER

COUNCIL REPORT

Report Date: November 6, 2026
Contact: Michelle Collens
Contact No.: 604.417.6529
RTS No.: 18391
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: November 17, 2026
Submit comments to Council

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: Chief of External Relations

SUBJECT: Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants – Fall 2026 Intake

Recommendations

A. THAT Council approve 21 new Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants totalling $101,050 from the 2026 Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Program Budget to the organizations listed in Table 1 of this report for the amounts set out in the column titled “Grant Recommended”.

B. THAT Council approve a Vancouver Community Sport Event Grant of $5,000 from the 2026 Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Program Budget to Volleyball BC for the 2026 Vancouver Open (July 10–12, 2026) as further described in this report.

C. THAT Council delegate authority to the City’s Director, Destination Events and Tourism (or their designate) to execute grant agreement letters that include: terms and conditions that are consistent with this report; satisfy the City’s Director of Legal Services; and disburse the grants described in this report.

D. THAT pursuant to the Section 206(1)(j) of the *Vancouver Charter*, Council deems any organization that is to receive a grant pursuant to the Recommendations above that is not otherwise a registered charity with Canada Revenue Agency to be an organization contributing to the culture, beautification, health, or welfare of the city.

E. THAT no legal rights or obligations are created by the approval of the Recommendations above unless and until the grant recipients execute and deliver grant agreement letters.

Approval of Recommendations A, B, and D requires an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all Council members pursuant to Section 206(1)(j) of the *Vancouver Charter*.

Purpose and Executive Summary

This report recommends 21 Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants from the Fall 2026 intake totalling $101,050. It also recommends one $5,000 grant to Volleyball BC for a Spring 2026 application that was omitted from the April 14, 2026 report due to a staff administrative error. Total recommended funding is $106,050. The 2026 program budget is $244,000.

The Fall 2026 intake of applications is the second of two intakes, with the first intake taking place in the Spring of 2026.

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. This report is focused on the Community Sport Event Grant recommendations.

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**

   These grants recognize non-profit organizations, and the people behind them, that make sport and physical activity accessible in Vancouver. Awards support their work and align with City Council priorities such as gender equity, reconciliation and affordability, with each cycle's theme set by current Council initiatives.

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 21 new Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants for which

applications were received in Fall 2026 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 2026 INTAKE

Organization	Event	2026/27 Event Dates	Grant Recommended
1. Alma Mater Society of the University of British Columbia Vancouver	UBC Powerlifting New Year's Championships	Jan 23	$3,000
2. BC School Sports	2026 BC School Sports football Provincial Championships	Nov 28 & Dec 5	$5,000
3. BC School Sports	2027 BC School Sports Wrestling Provincial Championships	Feb 25-27	$10,000
4. Club Planet Rhythmics Society	Ready or Not Competition	Nov 20	$2,500
5. False Creek Canoe Society	March Madness Outrigger Races	Mar 20-21	$3,500
6. Filipino Canadian Community & Cultural Society of British Columbia	Hoops & Headspace	Spring 2027	$3,000
7. Hastings Baseball Club (Hastings Community Little Leage)	Fred Ritchie Invitational Tournament	May 14-16	$5,000
8. Mabel League Fastpitch Association	The LIL Tournament	May 27-30	$5,000
9. Pacific Rim Curling League Society	Pac Rim Cup Bonspiel	Jan 15-17	$5,000
10. Pathways to Tennis Association	Multi-National Winter Tennis Gathering	Apr 16-18	$5,000
11. Royal Masters Swimming Society	Royal Masters Mega-Meet 2027	Feb 21	$3,750
12. Southlands Riding Club	Season Welcomer	Apr 29 – May 2	$5,000
13. Tennis British Columbia	U14 Fischer Junior Indoor Nationals	Mar 2-Apr 4	$5,000
14. The Canada One Athletic Foundation	KitsFest 27	Aug 5-8	$5,000

15. Vancouver Comets Netball Association	Vancouver Mixed Tournament 2027	Aug 21-22	$2,500
16. Vancouver Curling Club Association	Sleeman Lower Mainland Curling Club Championships	Apr 17-18	$7,800
17. Vancouver Gay and Lesbian Tennis Society	Vancouver International Pride Tennis Tournament (VTA)	Jul 31 – Aug 2	$5,000
18. Vancouver international Marathon Society (RUNVAN)	First Half	Feb 7	$5,000
19. Vancouver Pacific Swim Club	2027 VPSC Winter Invitational	Dec 4-6	$5,000
20. Vancouver Speed Skating Club	2027 MiniVan Invitational	Feb 15	$5,000
21. Vancouver Thunderbirds Track and Field Club	Longest Day Road Race	Jun 18	$5,000

Exception: Spring 2026 Application Omitted Due to Administrative Error

Volleyball BC submitted an application for the 2026 Vancouver Open within the Spring 2026 intake period. Due to a staff administrative error, the application was not included in the Spring review or in the April 14, 2026 report to Council. The event took place July 10–12, 2026. Staff are implementing improvements to the application intake system to strengthen tracking of submissions and ensure all applications are reviewed within the intake period.
The applicant met program requirements and was not responsible for the omission. The application has since been assessed against the approved guidelines, and staff recommend a grant of $5,000. Funds are available within the 2026 program budget. Volleyball BC will provide the same final reporting required of all grant recipients, including event outcomes and recognition of the City's support.

This is a one-time exception and does not change the program requirement that grants be approved before an event takes place.

A brief description of each of the recommended events listed in Table 2 is contained in Appendix C.

TABLE 2. RECOMMENDED VANCOUVER COMMUNITY SPORT EVENT GRANT ALLOCATIONS, EXCEPTION EVENTS

Organization	Event	2026 Event Dates	Grant Recommended
1. Volleyball BC	Vancouver Open	Jul 10-12	$5,000

Financial Implications

The recommended Community Sport Hosting Event Grants will be funded from the 2026 Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Program Budget as detailed below.

TABLE 3. VANCOUVER COMMUNITY SPORT EVENT GRANTS, FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Program Stream	2026 Budget	Previously Approved Grants	Current Report Recommended Grants	2026 Budget Remaining
Community Sport Event Grant Program – Spring 2026 Intake	$244,000	$89,000	–	$155,000
Community Sport Event Grant Program – Fall 2026 Intake	–	–	$101,050	$53,950
Exception Event – Volleyball BC	–	–	$5,000	$48,950
Total	**$244,000**	**$89,000**	**$106,050**	**$48,950**

Legal Implications

There are no additional legal implications associated with this report's recommendations.

CONCLUSION

Staff recommends that Council approve 21 new grants and 1 exception grant totalling $106,050 as outlined in the body of this report.

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 2026 for the Community Sport Event Granting stream.

* * * * *

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.

Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes.

APPENDIX B
OVERVIEW OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL SPORT TOURNAMENT GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS - FALL 2026 INTAKE

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

1. **Alma Mater Society of the University of British Columbia Vancouver - UBC Powerlifting - UBC New Year's Championships** – The first BC Powerlifting Association sanctioned competition of 2027, 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.

2. **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.

3. **BC School Sports - 2027 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.

4. **Club Planet Rhythmics Society – Ready or Not Competition** – Ready or Not Competition is a developmental rhythmic gymnastics competition designed to support young athletes as they take their first sets into the competitive pathway.

5. **False Creek Canoe Society – March Madness Outrigger Races** – The March Madness Outrigger Canoe Race is a 2-day race regatta attracting outrigger canoe racers from all over metro Vancouver, the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island and the interior of BC.

6. **Filipino Canadian Community & Cultural Society of British Columbia – Hoops & Headspace** – Hoops & Headspace is a free youth basketball and mental wellness workshop designed to increase access to sport while supporting youth confidence, connection and wellbeing.

7. **Hastings Baseball Club – Fred Ritchie Invitational Tournament** - Hosting 16 little league teams from the Greater Vancouver area and Fraser Valley. This tournament is among the only Little League tournaments in the lower mainland for the 9-10 year old age group.

8. **Mabel League Fastpitch Association – the LIL Tournament -** 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.

9. **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

10. **Pathways to Tennis – Multi-Nation Winter Tennis Gathering** – The Multi-Nation Winter Tennis Gathering is a 2–3 day indoor community tennis event bringing Indigenous youth and adults from Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Host Nations together for an indoor gathering in Vancouver.

11. **Royal Masters Swimming Society – Royal Masters Mega-Meet 2027** - The Royal Masters Mega-Meet is a one-day, Swim BC-sanctioned Masters swim competition hosted by the Royal Masters Swim Club at the UBC Aquatic Centre. The meet will bring together up to 200 Masters swimmers to compete in a 12-event program spanning freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly, individual medley, and relay events across morning and afternoon competition blocks.

12. **Southlands Riding Club – Season Welcomer -** This show 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.

13. **Tennis British Columbia – U14 Fischer Junior Indoor Nationals** – The 2027 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.

14. **The Canada One Athletic Foundation – KitsFest 27 -** The annual KitFest is a three day festival of sports and culture. The culmination of 10 sports; incorporating free public activities an entertainment for all ages.

15. **Vancouver Comet Netball Association – Vancouver Mixed Tournament 2027 -** This one-day tournament will see over 150 athletes, umpires and spectators join us at the UBC Student Recreation Centre to participate and watch international netball.

16. **Vancouver Curling Club Association – Sleeman Lower Mainland Curling Club Championships** – This competition brings together club-level curlers representing curling clubs from across the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley. Approx. 192 athletes from 12 clubs will compete.

17. **Vancouver Gay and Lesbian Tennis Society – Vancouver International Pride Tennis Tournament (VTA)** - A 3 day international tennis tournament attracting over 140 athletes competing in singles and doubles tournaments in 5 different divisions over Pride Weekend. This tournament regularly attracts athletes from across Canada, the United States, Mexico and Asia-Pacific countries.

18. **RUNVAN – First Half 2027** – 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

19. **Vancouver Pacific Swim – 2027 VPSC Winter Invitational** - The VPSC Winter Invitational is a Short Course (SC) meet and open to swimmers of any who meet the qualifying entry standard. The meet offers 22 events across three morning Preliminary sessions to qualified male and female swimmers. A, B and C Finals are offered so 30 male and 30 female swimmers have the opportunity for a second swim in each event (except those that are Timed Finals such as the distance events and relays).

20. **Vancouver Speed Skating Club – 2027 MiniVan Invitational** - MiniVan Invitational is the Vancouver Speed Skating Club's half-day "mini-meet" on February's Family Day: a local event that gives Vancouver skaters the opportunity to race invited athletes from across the region. The meet is a chance for our club to train as officials to prepare for future meets, and a great opportunity for Vancouver residents to experience short-track speed skating races in their city.

21. **Vancouver Thunderbird Track Club – Longest Day Road Race** – The Longest Day Road Race is a family-friendly evening road-running event at UBC featuring 5K, 10K and Kids' Mile races on a scenic campus course. The event combines community participation with a post-race BBQ, live music and family activities.

APPENDIX C
OVERVIEW OF VANCOUVER COMMUNITY SPORT EVENT GRANT ALLOCATIONS, EXCEPTION EVENTS

1. **Volleyball BC – Vancouver Open 2026** - The Vancouver Open stands as the flagship event of The Beach Tour, proudly sponsored by Volleyball BC. Now entering its 33rd edition, this annual three-day extravaganza showcases the finest talent in beach volleyball, drawing competitors from Canada, North America, and beyond.

* * * * *