



# City of Port Moody

## Minutes

### Youth Focus Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Youth Focus Committee held on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 via Zoom.

#### Present

Nathan Piasecki, Chair  
Nyah Courchesne, Vice-Chair  
Daniel Dian  
Roxanna Ferdowski (joined at 5:20pm)  
Chloe Goodison  
Esme Harris  
Nicole Leng  
Pedram Moshirfatemi (joined at 5:10pm)  
Raag Nair (joined at 5:33pm)  
Sarah Wong  
Jennifer Zhang  
Chris Zhao

#### Absent

Arun Ghag (Regrets)  
Palak Sharma (Regrets)

#### In Attendance

Councillor Steve Milani – Council Representative  
Jim LaCroix – Manager of Recreation  
Corina Lefebvre – Recreation Programmer  
Philip Lo – Committee Coordinator  
Mayor Rob Vagramov – Alternate Council Representative

#### 1. Call to Order

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#### Call to Order

1.1 The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:05pm.

#### Acknowledgement of Unceded Territories

1.2 The Committee acknowledged the traditional territories of the Coast Salish First Nations.

#### 2. Adoption of Minutes

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#### Minutes

2.1 YFC21/006  
Moved, seconded, and CARRIED  
**THAT the minutes of the Youth Focus Committee meeting held on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 be adopted.**

### 3. Unfinished Business

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### 4. New Business

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#### **Black History Month Update**

4.1 The Black History Month Subcommittee noted that Port Moody Public Library staff shared information regarding Black Canadian authors, their works and biographies, which was compiled into a PDF document and shared via the City's social media accounts. The Committee thanked staff for their assistance.

#### **Pink Shirt Day Update**

4.2 The Pink Shirt Day Subcommittee noted that there were many Committee members who participated in the composite photo, and that the photo was posted on the City's social media account on Monday, February 22, 2021. The Subcommittee thanked staff and Committee members for their assistance and participation.

#### **Youth Outdoor Recreation**

4.3 Staff noted that this item was previously raised at the Parks and Recreation Commission, and that staff are seeking feedback from the Committee regarding outdoor recreation ideas or facilities that can be developed.

Staff gave a presentation regarding youth outdoor recreation, noting the following:

- there is currently a low rate of youth physical activity;
- benefits of physical activities include improvement of mental and physical health, and stress reduction;
- current youth amenities in the City include a bike trial park, a skate park, six outdoor basketball courts, and two multi-sports courts;
- Camp Get Out, the annual weekend at Camp Sasamat for Youth, is hosted in partnership with Metro Vancouver and eight municipalities at different locations; this activity could be held again depending on the state of the pandemic;
- a presentation on the benefits of physical activity and outdoor play was previously given by Dr. Hartley Banack, Professor of Outdoor Education at UBC, to the Parks and Recreation Commission;
- Canadian children received a grade of D+ from ParticipACTION for overall level of physical activity;
- physical literacy comprises of learning basic motor skills, building confidence to do different activities, which motivates further physical activity; activities are categorized by structured and unstructured, indoors and outdoors;
- active outdoor play is essential for healthy child

development; the recommendation is to increase children's opportunity for self-directed play outdoors in all settings, including activities that involve risk assessment;

- benefits of outdoor learning and recreation include: improving health and wellbeing, developing connections with the environment and influencing commitment to environmental protection, and promoting active citizenry;
- Vancouver Park Rangers has a Junior Ranger program which encourages youth to volunteer in parks; and
- the City of Vancouver has also has partnered with schools and community-based organizations to offer before and after school outdoor programs for primary and elementary school children.

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- Committee members currently engage in the following outdoor activities : running, walking, hiking, cycling, swimming, trail activities, water activities, sports fishing in rivers and lakes, skateboarding, and mountain biking;
- the City of Coquitlam partners with Rocky Point Kayak for water-based activities; Port Moody could consider something similar;
- the City should focus on expanding outdoor activities rather than indoor facilities, for example creating more mountain biking trails, or trails that are multi-purpose;
- consider increasing the number of outdoor volleyball facilities;
- consider expanding and improving the spray park;
- geocaching could be a popular activity with younger kids;
- encourage more murals and promote them as art, and provide location maps for visitors;
- provide a small section of the skate park for younger children; accommodate mixed-use, and provide incentives for helmet use;
- skate parks in Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam are the "hot spots" for skateboarding, as the skate bowls are larger and there are less younger children; and
- there is a need for more ball and roller hockey boxes, table tennis facilities, and parkour facilities

## 5. Information

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### Staff Updates

- 5.1 Staff noted that many applications have been received for the Youth Scholarship Program, and that staff have been in contact with schools and youth workers to promote the program. Staff noted that a selection subcommittee will be formed at the next Committee meeting.

## 6. Adjournment

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6.1 The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:55pm.