RECREATION, CULTURE, AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 14, 2026 at 7:00pm
Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC

MINUTES

Present:
S. Cook, Community Co-Chair
Councillor T. Baillie, Council Co-Chair
Councillor M. Pratt, Council Co-Chair

E. Barbour, M. Brar, A. Castro, E. Hacker, T. Louie, L. Stepney, and J. Watson

Staff:
C. Marshall, Manager, Parks Design and Development
S. Groves, Director, Corporate Projects
K. Young, Deputy Director, Recreation, Arts and Culture
K. Stepto, Deputy Township Clerk

School District Representative:
S. Rai

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES

Councillor Pratt acknowledged the Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.

Welcome

Councillors Baille and Pratt welcomed everyone, and round table introductions took place.

Code of Ethics Signing

Members signed the "Code of Ethics, Confidentiality, and Conflict of Interest for Council Members and Appointees".

Election

E. Barbour nominated S. Cook to be the Community Co-Chair for 2026.

S. Cook was appointed Community Co-Chair, by acclamation, and assumed the position of Chair.

A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Recreation, Culture, and Parks Advisory Committee – January 14, 2026

Moved by E. Hacker,
Seconded by E. Barbour,
That Recreation, Culture, and Parks Advisory Committee approve the agenda and receive the agenda items of the January 14, 2026 meeting.
CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Recreation, Culture, and Parks Advisory Committee – November 12, 2025

Moved by E. Barbour,
Seconded by A. Castro,
That Recreation, Culture, and Parks Advisory Committee adopt the Minutes of the November 12, 2025 meeting.
CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Walnut Grove Community Park Improvements

C. Marshall and S. Groves provided a presentation on the work in progress (Phase 1) and the proposed improvements (Phase 2) at Walnut Grove Community Park.

Phase 1

Council has approved baseball improvements for the 2026 season including:

- Improved backstops
- Permanent fences
- New dugouts

Phase 2

Projects yet to be funded:

- Electrical improvements to light the fields
- Convert and expand the soccer field to a baseball facility with a synthetic surface.
- Additional permanent parking
- “Challenger Baseball” – increased accessibility for all players
- Pedestrian Plaza
- Upgrades to the picnic shelters and spray park
- New central fieldhouse with washrooms, concession, elevated spectator viewing and change, meeting and official’s rooms.
- Community garden upgrades

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Public Engagement Summary

A public survey regarding the proposed improvements was posted on the Township of Langley website, in the newspaper and on social media starting on November 28, 2025. Feedback closed December 7, 2025. 80% of respondents were from Walnut Grove. No comments were received that opposed improvements and repairs to the existing fields.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed improvements. The following comments were provided:

- The current gravel field is the muster area for Walnut Grove Senior Secondary. If the larger turf area is going to be fenced, getting 2,000+ students through the gate will be challenging. Staff commented that there are several gates that can be included and that this is something to work with the school on.
- Concerns were raised about not having enough community use spaces.
- Many of the existing features in the spray park including the river, hill area, and trees/shade were requested to remain in the future plans. Also keeping the washrooms near the spray park was requested.
- Uncaging the picnic shelters was requested. Staff noted that the plans are to move the shelters closer to the spray park where they can be monitored better and won't need to be caged.

D. REPORTS

1. Co-Chairperson's Report

S. Cook reported that she attended the Holiday Lights in Williams Park which was very well done.

Staff provided the following report regarding the event:

- Purchased additional lights through sponsorships bringing total lights up to 215,925.
- 99.25% of the event was sold out.
- 14,296 registered cars came through the event 15-20% of the participants were not registered.
- The number of registrants was decreased this year from 200 every 30-minutes to 150. This was to decrease line ups and wait times.
- The event ran from 5:00-9:00pm. Last year was 4:00-9:00pm. Feedback from the year prior was 4:00-5:00pm was still a bit too light out to get the full experience.
- The tap machine did not work in the rain and unfortunately, there was a lot of rainy nights. Staff are exploring better options for donation collection for the 2026 event.
- Six staff installed all the decorations in the park. A decrease from last year because much of the decorations were set-up from 2024.
- No generator was used on site this year. Staff split the power in a different way to avoid using a generator.

D. REPORTS

- Created "Do Not Block Driveway" signs from 232 to 238 street.
- Increased the number of traffic control.
- Implemented a Williams Park Resident Pass for the staging area. This helped speed up the staging area to get residents to their homes quicker.
- Created a Williams Park resident only walk-through event on Friday, December 12. This was a huge success with many residents thankful to be able to experience the event.
- Staff are reviewing a very successful year and looking forward to making next year's event even better.

Councillor Pratt reported that Council is working on many community and nature parks and also commented on the recent announcement about the new Performing Arts Centre at Langley Events Centre.

E. CORRESPONDENCE

F. WORK PROGRAM

1. Draft 2026 Work Program

The Advisory Committee discussed the draft 2026 Work Program.

The committee asked for the following presentations to take place in 2026:

- Metro Vancouver Parks – update on Regional Parks
- Redwoods Golf Course – update from Ten Feet Sports

MOTION
Moved by J. Watson,
Seconded by E. Hacker,
That the Recreation, Culture, and Parks Advisory Committee endorse the draft 2026 Work Plan, including the additional presentations requested.
CARRIED

COUNCIL
Motion by A. Castro,
Seconded by J. Watson,
That the Recreation, Culture, and Parks Advisory Committee recommends that Council approve the Recreation, Culture, and Parks Advisory Committee draft 2026 Work Plan, presented as Attachment A.
CARRIED

F. WORK PROGRAM

2. Community Liaisons

The following members volunteered to be on the Langley Community Awards Selection Committee:

- E. Barbour
- J. Watson
- A. Castro
- S. Cook (Alternate)

MOTION
Moved by T. Louie,
Seconded by M. Brab,
That the Recreation, Culture, and Parks endorse the appointment of the following members to the Langley Community Awards Selection Committee:

- E. Barbour
- J. Watson
- A. Castro
- S. Cook (Alternate)

CARRIED

3. Museum Advisory Group

E. Hacker volunteered to continue as the Museum Advisory Group Liaison for 2026.

MOTION
Moved by A. Castro
Seconded by L. Stepney
That the Recreation, Culture, and Parks Advisory Committee endorse the appointment of E. Hacker as the Museum Advisory Group Liaison.
CARRIED

4. BCRPA Symposium
April 28, 2026 – May 1, 2026
Fairmont Hotel Vancouver

The Committee discussed sending one member to the symposium who will provide a report to the committee at a future meeting. L. Stepney and J. Watson expressed interest. Committee will choose which member at the February meeting.

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. 2026 Meeting Schedule

Provided for information.

2. 2026 Membership List

Provided for information.

3. RCPAC Photo

A photo of the committee was taken for the Township website.

I. NEXT MEETING

Date: February 11, 2026
Location: Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC
Time: 7:00 pm

J. MOTION TO RESOLVE INTO CLOSED MEETING

Moved by A. Castro
Seconded by J. Watson
That the Recreation, Culture, and Parks Advisory Committee now resolve into a Closed Meeting for discussion of the following item, in accordance with and as identified under Section 90 of the Community Charter:

Item A.1 - Section 90 (1) (n) Consideration; and
Item B.1 - Section 90 (1) (a) Personnel.
CARRIED

K. TERMINATE

Moved by A. Castro
Seconded by J. Watson,
That the meeting terminate at 8:47pm.
CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Community Representative Co-Chair

Council Representative Co-Chair

Township of Langley
Est. 1873

ATTACHMENT A

A Action Required
D Delegation
P Presentation
R Report
R/F Review / Feedback
U Staff/Rep Update

Recreation, Culture, and Parks Advisory Committee 2026 Work Program

General Committee Work

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Sept	Oct	Nov
Orientation	P								
Election of Community Co-Chair	A								
2026 Final Report									A
Work Program *Approve and appoint liaison roles*	R/F A	R/F A							
Conference *BCRPA 2026 annual conference. Selection of 1 member to attend and to provide report to committee.*	R/F	A			U				
Fees and Charges *Staff update re: 2025/2026 fees and charges*				U					
Terms of Reference Review *Review is every 2 yrs (reviewed in 2024)*			R/F						

Projects, Programs and Events

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Sept	Oct	Nov
Township of Langley Christmas Events	U								
2026 Special Events Plan		P							
Parks Projects			P						
Youth Programs and Services *Youth week, first week in May*				P					
Seniors Programs and Services *Seniors week, second week in June*					P				
Parks Tour						P			
Langley Walk *First Sunday in May*					U				
Adult Programs and Services							P		
Facility Projects							P		
Library Services *FVRL annual update*								P	
Cultural Programs									P
Summer Events							U		
Additional presentations as requested by the committee: • Metro Vancouver Regional Parks • Redwoods Golf Course	Presentations to occur when staff organize with respective groups.								

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Township of Langley
Est. 1873

Recreation, Culture, and Parks Advisory Committee 2026 Work Program

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D Delegation
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R Report
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U Staff/Rep Update

Annual Task Forces

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Sept	Oct	Nov
Langley Awards *Appointment of 3 representatives and subsequent updates* *Pete Swensson Outstanding Community Youth* *Eric Flowerdew Volunteer of the Year* *John & Muriel Arnason Volunteers of the Year* ***Selection Task Force*** *Staff: C. Naples* *Committee Representatives: E. Barbour, A. Castro, J. Watson, S. Cook (alternate)*	A		U	U					

Community Liaisons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Sept	Oct	Nov
ADHOC Group *Appointment of representative and subsequent updates* ***Museum Advisory Group*** *Staff: R.Schmidt* *Committee Representative: E. Hacker*	A	Updates to be provided following meetings.							

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