

Service 600 – Recreation Grants

Transfers to Municipal Partners

PURPOSE

To provide supplementary information for the transfer of funds requested by our municipal partners, including specific details related to the City of Courtenay's (City) request to support its outdoor pool.

OVERVIEW

The primary purpose of this service, established in 1968, is to provide financial support for recreation programs that are provided by public authorities and non-profit organizations. The proposed budget includes a total of \$465,800 in transfers to municipal partners.

The maximum levy for the service in 2025 was \$1,432,061 with a maximum tax rate of \$0.05 per \$1,000 on land and improvements.

A key component of this Service includes the annual contribution that the City receives for the operation and capital improvements to its outdoor pool. This funding has increased substantially in the last 10 years, originally \$64,100 in 2016 for operations and \$64,100 for capital contributions. The 2026 proposed budget includes the City's request for \$141,000 to support pool operations, and \$100,000 to support the repairs and maintenance required to re-open the facility next season.

Table 1 – Annual Outdoor Pool Funding Request

CITY OF COURTENAY – OUTDOOR POOL					
Item	2026 Requested	2025 Actual	2025 Requested	2024 Actual	2024 Requested
Operations	\$141,000	\$134,700	\$134,700	\$105,500	\$105,500
Equipment, repairs & design work	\$100,000	0	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000
TOTAL	\$291,000	\$134,700	\$484,700	\$455,500	\$455,500

The City has initiated a project for the construction of a new outdoor pool with an estimated cost of \$32.5 million. In 2025, the City requested a total of \$350,000 for a detailed design (\$250,000) and repairs (\$100,00); these funds are yet to be paid out to the City. The City's scope of work intended for these funds is in progress.

In alignment with the Commission's Strategic Plan, staff will bring forward options for expanding and improving the CVRD's indoor aquatic facilities to better meet the year-round needs of the community. It is recommended that aquatics as a whole (indoor and outdoor) be considered before any further funding for the outdoor pool is provided.

The Town of Comox is requesting a one-time contribution of \$50,000 for a modular pump-track for cycling. The total cost of the project is \$215,000, with \$25,000 being contributed from the Lions Club and \$140,000 being proposed in the Town of Comox's 2026-2030 Financial Plan.

Other municipal 2026 funding requests includes the following list. These items have been included within the CVRD's 2026 Proposed Budget:

- \$5,000 for Village of Cumberland to support free drop-in parent and tot programs, and reduced rates for senior's programs
- \$4,800 for the Town of Comox for low-cost programs for children and youth
- \$10,000 for the City of Courtenay to maintain the Courtenay/Comox skate park
- \$155,000 for City of Courtenay adaptive needs programs