

Update on Recreation Services Fees and Charges for 2025

Recommendation:

THAT Council receive the report titled “Update on Recreation Services Fees and Charges for 2025” dated March 25, 2025, for information.

Report Purpose and Summary Statement:

This report provides an update on the proposed Recreation Services fee changes for 2025. It highlights the adjustments needed to ensure service fees remain current.

Previous Council Action:

The most recent update to fees and charges for Recreation Services occurred in January 2024.

Financial Impact:

Increases in fees for Recreation Services will support improved cost recovery from users of existing services, while keeping services accessible and affordable for vulnerable community members.

Strategic Alignment:

Governance & Corporate Excellence

Communications:

Communication of updated fee schedules will commence once the Fees & Charges Bylaw 7575-2019 omnibus report is brought forward for Council consideration and after final adoption, should it be supported.

Applicable Legislation/Bylaw/Policy:

Fees for Recreation Services are currently administered through “Maple Ridge Fees & Charges (Consolidated) Bylaw No. 7575-2019”.

To: Mayor and Council

File number: 01-0640-30-2025

Update on Recreation Services Fees for 2025

BACKGROUND:

The City of Maple Ridge charges fees for various community recreation services, including admissions, rentals rates for arena, fairground, halls, pools, fields, courts, shelters and event trailer.

Recreation Services fees were last updated in January 2024 as part of the "Maple Ridge Fees & Charges (Consolidated) Bylaw No. 7575-2019".

The proposed changes to the Recreations Services fees and charges were presented to and reviewed by the Parks, Recreations, and Culture Advisory Committee in Fall of 2024.

ANALYSIS:

Discussion

The Recreation Services team reviewed two aspects of fees and charges, the first reviewed the categories of the age groups in each fee type and the second being actual fees charged relative to municipal comparators.

Changes to Age Categories within Recreation Fees and Charges

Staff are recommending the following changes to the age categories within the Recreation Fees and Charges:

Old Categories	New Categories
	Preschoolers (0-4 Years) - Free
Child (3-12 Years) – \$3.11	Child (5-12 Years) - \$3.17
Youth (13-18 Years) - \$4.18	Youth (13-18 Years) - \$4.27
Student - \$4.18	Student (19+) - \$4.27
Adult (19-59 Years) + Tot (0-3 Years) - \$6.11	Adult (19-59 Years) - \$6.29
Senior 1 (60-74 Years) - \$4.18	Senior 1 (60-64 Years) - \$4.27
Senior 2 (75-79 Years) – \$2.09	Senior 2 (65-79 Years) - \$2.13
Super Senior (80+ Years) - Free	Super Senior (80+ Years) - Free
Family – Up to two parents/caregivers and their dependents under the age of 19 yrs living in the same household - \$11.18	Family – Up to two parents/caregivers and their dependents under the age of 19 yrs living in the same household - \$11.74

There are three main elements that make up the rationale for the proposed fee category changes.

- To align with school age structure for preschool and children.
- To distinguish Maple Ridge from other municipalities, for instance other cities charge admissions for children aged 0-12 years, Maple Ridge is one of the few proposing 0-4 years for free to help support families with very young children.
- To reduce rates for seniors 65-79 years. Senior admission rates have been adjusted for those aged 65 - 79 years, reducing from \$4.18 to \$2.13, to help support retired residents who may be on fixed incomes.

Changes to Recreation Fees and Charges

Proposed changes to Recreation Services are based on a regional analysis of admissions and rentals in the lower mainland in 2024. Based on the analysis of neighbouring municipalities, staff are recommending the following changes to the Recreation Fees & Charges Bylaw:

Fees near market average and proposed to be increased by 2%, include:

Memberships & Admissions

- Child
- Youth
- Adult

Fees below market average and proposed to be increased by 5%, include:

Memberships & Admissions

- Family rates

Rentals

- Multi-use room
- Ice - Prime + Non-Prime
- Ice – Junior B
- Dry Floor – Adult Non-Profit
- Fields – Commercial, Special Event, Regular Use
- Fairground – Barns, Grounds and Showrings
- 25 Metre lanes at Maple Ridge Leisure Centre

Fees above market average and proposed to not increase, include:

Memberships & Admissions

- 1 Year Membership

Rentals

- Kitchens – Fairgrounds, Hammond Hall, Whonnock Lake, Albion Community Centre
- Outdoor Pool – Non-Resident

Admission fees for drop-in skating visits have been updated to be the same for all drop-in admission rates at recreation centres including the 2% inflationary increase. This improves consistency of drop-in rates across services as there was no rationale for different rates for different types of drop-in admissions.

No inflationary adjustment has been proposed for sports field annual user contributions. These fees require sports clubs to pay an amount per registrant (e.g., a soccer club with 15 players pays a fee for each player to participate at the sports field). The charge is levied on an annual basis at the following rates:

- Fall/Winter Clubs – per registrant - \$30.00
- Summer/Spring clubs – per registrant - \$15.00.

In June 2019, Council received a report on changes to fees and charges regarding sports field annual user contributions and kept fees static, to ensure rates are affordable and encourage youth and adults to participate in sports clubs. Therefore, this fee will have no change in the schedule.

Changes to Fees and Charges Bylaw 7575-2019 Notes

Staff will propose when the omnibus bylaw amendment is brought forward that the Fees and Charges Policy be retracted as key pieces will now be included in Fees and Charges Bylaw.

Key changes to notes with respect to the Recreation Services schedule in the updated bylaw will include:

Current Notes	Proposed Notes
New rates take effect January of the noted year.	Rate increases come into effect January 1 of each year.
If no new rate is identified, the most recently stated rate will continue to be applied.	If no new rate is identified, the most recently stated rate will continue to be applied.
All fees are exclusive of tax, which will be added, if applicable.	All fees are exclusive of tax, which will be added, if applicable.
Non-prime time rates will be a 50% reduction of the regular rates and applied to all hours outside of the prime-time windows listed below: Monday – Friday 5:00pm – 9:00pm Saturday/Sunday 8:00am – 9:00am	Non-prime time rates will be a 50% reduction of the regular rates and applied to all hours outside of the prime-time windows listed below: Arenas (Always existed just not included in the Bylaw) Monday – Friday 6:00pm – 11:00pm Saturday/Sunday 8:00am – 11:00am All Other Facilities Monday – Friday 5:00pm – 9:00pm Saturday/Sunday 8:00am – 9:00am

	Super Senior Rates are only available to Maple Ridge Residents.
	Student Rates are only available to those who provide proof of full-time enrollment (3+ Courses).
	Non-prime time rates are not applicable to Commercial and Non-Resident fees.
	<p>Facility Fee Category Definitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth/Senior Non-Profit: Facility fees for a non-profit community or sport association where the majority of participants are youth or seniors. • Adult Non-Profit: Facility fees for a non-profit community or sport association where the majority of participants are adults. • Private: Facilities fees for an activity or booking that is not open to the general public where the Renter resides in Maple Ridge. • Commercial: Facility fees for a business or where the activity object is to gain profit. • Non-Resident: Facility fees for an activity or booking where the Renter does not reside in Maple Ridge.

Strategic Alignment:

This supports Council's priority of Governance and Corporate Excellence by adjusting the Recreation Services fees within the consolidated "Maple Ridge Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 7575-2019".

Financial Impact:

Updating fees and charges improves cost recovery and aligns with increases in service delivery costs, labour rates, inflation, and sector trends, reflecting best practices in local government.

Applicable Legislation/Bylaw/Policy:

Fees for Recreation Services are currently administered through "Maple Ridge Fees & Charges (Consolidated) Bylaw No. 7575-2019".

CONCLUSION:

This report presents proposed changes to Recreation Services fees for 2025. It forms part of a series of reports to update the "Maple Ridge Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 7575-2019", ensuring departmental fees and charges are aligned, transparent and support improved cost recovery.

Prepared by: Cidalia Martin, Director of Recreation
Services

Attachments:

Attachment A – Proposed Recreation Services Fees for 2025

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Update on Recreation Services Fees for 2025.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment A – Comparison of Fees and Charges.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Mar 19, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Phil Sanderson, Manager of Corporate Strategy & Business Transformation

Cidalia Martin, Director of Recreation Services

Corinn Howes, Deputy Corporate Officer

Scott Hartman, Chief Administrative Officer