

Recreation and Culture



Recreation and Culture is responsible for facility maintenance, community events and sports field bookings.

Second Quarter Report, 2018



**CITY OF
CHILLIWACK**

Recreation and Culture

Through the months of April, May and June, the Celebration and Activity Grant program supported seven events with a total of \$2,155 in grant funding. The events included a mixture of community celebrations and block party events and hosted just over 900 total guests.

| Celebration and Activity Grant | | Community | Funding | Guests | |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------|--------------------|-----------|------------|
| | | | | Projected | Actual |
| May | Bernard Elementary Carnival | Downtown | \$ 500.00 | 500 | 320 |
| | RaN Community Garden Opening | Downtown | \$ 580.00 | 150 | 200 |
| | Beaufort Rd & Currie Place BBQ & Street Party | Sardis | \$ 190.00 | 55 | 37 |
| | Bike to Work Week Celebration Station | Downtown | \$ 200.00 | 100 | 50 |
| June | Elk Creek Park Neighbourhood Block Party | Eastern Hillside | \$ 165.00 | 50 | 63 |
| | River's Edge Block Party | Vedder | \$ 380.00 | 150 | 225 |
| | Pioneer Drive | Sardis | \$ 140.00 | 30 | 22 |
| Total | | | \$ 2,155.00 | | 917 |



Community Events:

Some of the larger community events that occurred this quarter included:

- Tulips of the Valley
- Gwynne Vaughan Park and Plant Sale
- Yarrow Days
- Fortin's Village Classic Car Show

The City provided varying levels of support for each of these successful events.

Yarrow Days was a rousing success again despite the weather. The City's Community Events trailer was on-site for the event to provide valuable event resources such as tables, chairs, barricades and more. The parade was especially enjoyable with the creative portrayals of this year's Knights and Dragons theme.



Recreation and Culture Projects



Construction of the Chilliwack Curling and Community Building continued to progress in the second quarter.

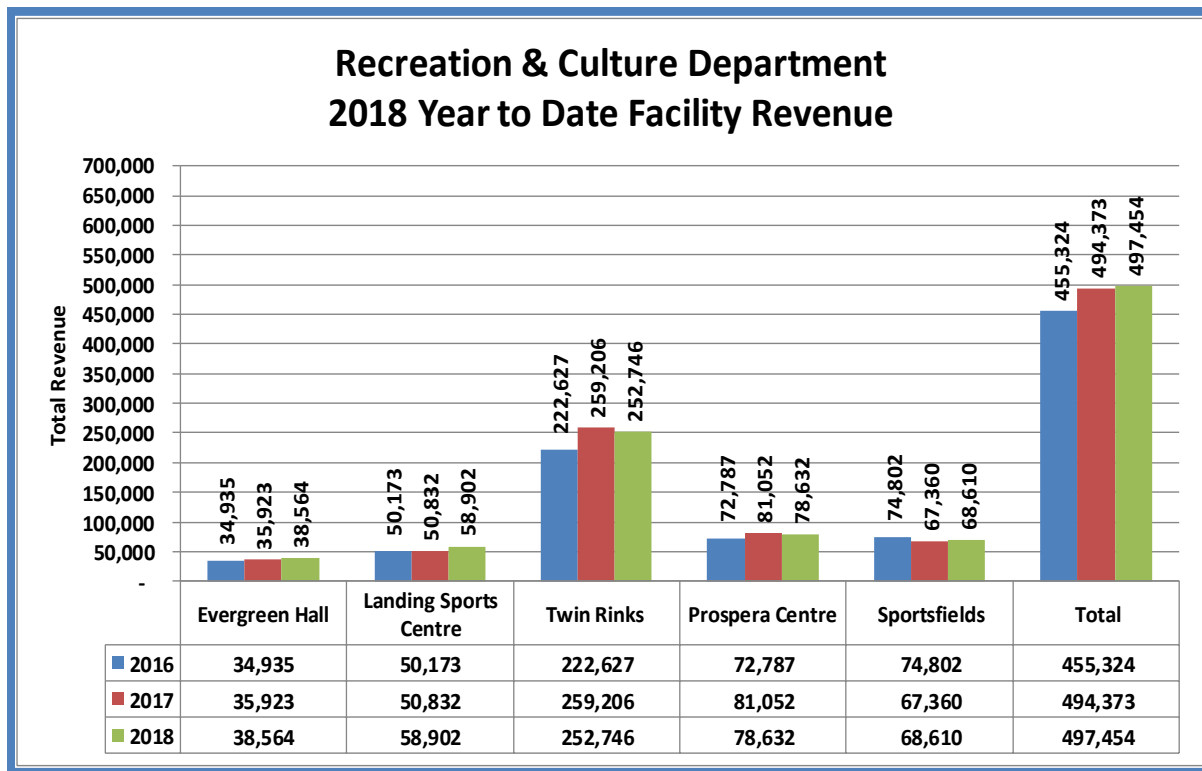
The two photos show the same side of the building just two and a half months apart.



The tennis courts at Watson Glen Park were successfully relocated to the west side of the park and made available to the public in early June.



Recreation and Culture Facility Revenue Report



Promontory Heights Elementary Community School Association (PHECSA)

PHECSA has enjoyed a busy quarter of afterschool programs. Spring programs offered included: Lego Robotics, Zumba, baking/cooking classes, video game design, pickleball, dance lessons and many more.

PHECSA's drop-in programs continue to be successful, especially "Tween Night" held on Friday evenings for youth in grades 5 – 7. Parents are very supportive of this program as it offers kids the chance to socialize with their peers in a safe and fun environment. The Busy Bees caregiver/parent & tot program is also often at full capacity. Numbers for this program are capped at 15 families each week due to limited space. The program offers a variety of themed crafts and story time, in addition to free play time, all while providing participants with a chance to connect with others in the community. The Primetimers program has seen an increase in membership to roughly 20 participants per week. This weekly drop-in group provides seniors with a chance to enjoy conversation and coffee amongst their peers.

The private piano lessons are operating at full capacity, with a wait list. It is very convenient for parents to have their children attend music lessons and other activities at the school as they are all held in their own neighbourhood!

The community festival recently held at Promontory Heights Elementary was very well attended and everyone enjoyed the bouncy castles and carnival games despite the rain.



Rosedale Traditional Community School Society

The facility hosted several exciting events the second quarter of this year, including the Bahai Society, 4H, guitar and a piano recital. The society welcomes community members to the facility for their special events and celebrations. The society continues to partner with the school district, providing free afterschool programs. This quarter saw participants 6-12 years of age attending rhythmic gymnastics, mixed sports and hip hop dance. The Country Kids Childcare Centre continues to be very busy, as the infant, toddler, preschool and school aged kids programs are near capacity.



This past year, the society has also added a preschool class. This class has two groups and runs two hours per day. One group meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the other meets Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays. Celebrate Summer staff have been hired and the society anticipates a very busy summer.



Chilliwack Central Elementary Community School Society

The support of the City of Chilliwack enables CCECSS to continue to offer ongoing community recreation programs and special events throughout the year including, but not limited to, the aboriginal family gathering that 275+ people attended; the Second Day After School sports and arts program, which served 125 children; and the Tween Club drop-in youth program that served 323 children.

In addition to its regular community recreation programming, CCECSS introduced four new programs this spring: a Jumping Jellybeans program for preschoolers, Young Woodworkers, Minecraft 1.0, and Hoop Play for children ages 6 to 14. In total, CCECSS had 68 participants attend recreational programming this spring, 19 of which were from their new programs.





Greendale Elementary Community School Society

Every year, GECSS offers the Red Cross Babysitting Course for students aged 11 and up, which began earlier this year. At the end of May, GECSS offered its annual Home Alone Course for students aged 10 and up; it was a full class of eager students from Greendale and the neighbouring communities.

GECSS sends out quarterly fliers to Greendale residents, as well as other local elementary schools – Tyson, Watson, Sardis, Unsworth and Evans. Students from those schools often attend programming in the evenings or weekends.

GECSS was pleased to support and participate in the Greendale Playground Celebration on June 20. It was a great evening to recognize all the hard work, dedication and donors that went into adding all inclusive playground pieces, as well as the past librarian Richard Quiring and student Vienna Dueck.



Yarrow Community School Society

The Family Movie Night was very well attended again, and that was followed a month later by a crowded community pancake breakfast. In May, the afterschool kids archery program reached capacity with 18 kids. Some days the weather was too hot and windy for outside archery amateurs so the group moved indoors to the school's large gym. In June, the daycare kids joined in the Yarrow Days parade with an entry based on the Paper Bag Princess. Later in the month, families enjoyed several free, fun evenings, including kite making/flying followed by a BBQ, and a Nerf Night.



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Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve Society (GBHNRS)

The GBHNRS education programs were very busy in April and fully booked in May and June. In April, seven schools booked 22 programs, five preschools booked seven programs, and three community groups booked three programs. In May, 22 schools booked 83 programs, three preschools booked programs, and two community groups booked programs. In June, 15 schools booked 71 programs, four preschools booked programs, and two community groups booked programs. The volunteer team monitoring the heron colony reported 95 active nests and observations indicated that the colony remains stable. Volunteers do weekly bird surveys and visitors and volunteers on site report a high diversity of birds at the reserve, including a Black Phoebe. This is only the twenty-fourth time that a Black Phoebe has been recorded in British Columbia.

Free public events this quarter included monthly guided walks to see the herons nesting and the Vedder River Clean Up Society event which was paired with Earth Day events held on April 21. Members only walks were held on a monthly basis. Almost 10,000 people came through the Interpretive Centre at the GBHNR this quarter.

Two biology students were hired to work this summer and have been busy planning monitoring programs for at-risk species and researching and implementing controls for invasive species. A group of volunteers has also been helping with invasive plant removal and resources are being created to aid volunteer groups with this type of work. Students also work on administration tasks to support the programs and services offered by the GBHNRS.



Chilliwack Heritage Park



April was a very busy month at Chilliwack Heritage Park. The month started off with a Remote Control Show and was quickly followed up by Heritage Park's largest dog show which showcased both top competition and the latest dog breeds.

The month rounded out with the Vintage Barn Market and the return of the farm machinery auction. In May, the facility welcomed the ever popular food truck festival, followed and the American Bike Association's BMX competition.

After the bikes left, the horses took over the arenas and remained at Heritage Park through the end of June with barrel racing, mini horses, reining and equestrian vaulting.



Chilliwack and District Seniors' Resources Society

In the second quarter of 2018, Chilliwack & District Seniors' Resources Society (CDSRS) hosted the Seniors' Expo in collaboration with Chilliwack Healthier Community's Healthier Seniors Task Team.

450 attended the event, including 52 exhibitors, local MLAs and Mayor Sharon Gaetz. Six workshops were offered on topics of interest to seniors. The City of Chilliwack supported this with the use of the Evergreen Hall.

Two community education sessions were hosted in the Slesse Room with a total of 58 participants.

The Income Tax Program saw 408 visits to Evergreen Hall.



CDSRS Pickleball continues to experience growth in Evergreen Hall with an increase of 30% over the first quarter of the year.

In the second quarter of 2018, 716 participated in bus trips which start and end at Evergreen Hall.

Enquiries to the CDSRS from seniors who were new to Chilliwack increased by 50% in the second quarter of the year.

The City of Chilliwack shared their Street Card template with the CDSRS, allowing the CDSRS to produce the Seniors' Card. Almost 1,700 copies were distributed in June.

In the second quarter of 2018, the City of Chilliwack agreed to the rental of the Shamrock Room to the CDSRS for a second office space. This space will host two staff members and allow for confidential meeting space with clients.

In the Slesse Room, 16 seniors were able to learn how to operate their mobile phones and tablets in technology classes that partnered seniors with students from School District #33.

In June 2018, CDSRS went through the rebranding process and a new exterior sign was posted at the front of Evergreen Hall.



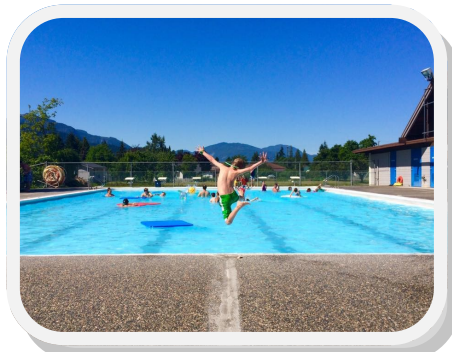
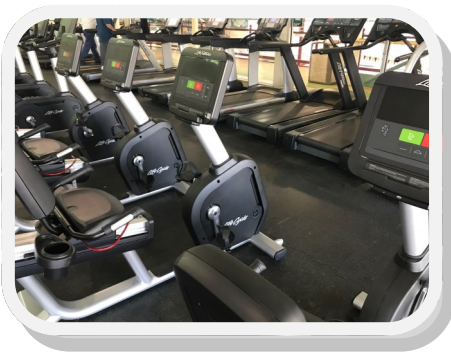


Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre & Cheam Leisure Centre



Chilliwack Landing Leisure Centre (CLLC)

Spring has been busy and productive for the team at Recreation Excellence (Rec Ex). Registration for swimming lessons was high and more lessons were offered than in the past to address the needs of the community. The Swim Instructor team has grown with 20 newly trained instructors this spring. Additionally, six staff were trained as Lifesaving Instructors which will allow Rec Ex to continue to offer the valuable programs of Bronze Medallion and Bronze Cross which are pre-requisites to becoming a Lifeguard. To date, 61 people have completed the spring courses. Both CLLC and Cheam also saw the second shipment of their cardio equipment this quarter.



Cheam Leisure Centre

Planning for all special events and camps continued at the Cheam location. More than 12 youth have trained to be Camp Leaders this summer. Their training consists of Standard First Aid, High Five program training as well as in-house training sessions. This kind of training for the youth is important in building healthy communities, providing jobs and quality camp spaces for the children of Chilliwack.

Rotary Outdoor Pool

Rotary Pool opened just in time for the May long weekend, offering public swimming, swimming lessons and special events for its open season. The season will run from May to September.

Participant Levels—Second Quarter

| CLLC | Cheam |
|-----------------|----------------|
| April – 37,069 | April – 26,044 |
| May – 41,929 | May – 23,985 |
| June – 32,468 | June – 20,329 |
| Total – 111,466 | Total – 70,331 |



Chilliwack Museum

Chilliwack Museum and Archive's temporary Education & Engagement Coordinator promoted the museum at various community events, such as the Seniors' Expo at the Evergreen Hall and Cultus Lake Days. With the support of the museum's Archivist, Curator, as well as guidance from Stó:lō, the Education & Engagement Coordinator is also working on adding to the local history kits with a new kit focused on the Coqualeetza Residential School.

In May and June there was an increase in school program bookings over the previous year with seven bookings in the second quarter of 2017 and 13 bookings in the second quarter of 2018.

Mountaineers: A History of Community Experience in Chilliwack's Mountains, is currently on exhibit until December.

This exhibit explores and celebrates the unique experiences of people exploring local mountains. Famous peaks include Lhilheqey (Mt. Cheam), Sells (Mt. Slesse), and Loyumthel (Liumchen Mountain).

Mountaineers opened on May 17 with 66 attendees and feedback during the opening was very positive.

The previous exhibition, *Sq'ewlets: A Stó:lō-Coast Salish Community in the Fraser River Valley* closed on April 28, 2018 and featured a closing ceremonial dance with young members of Sq'ewlets First Nation.



During the second quarter of this year the Chilliwack Museum and Archives strategic planning committee began the planning and coordinating, with architectural firm Craven Huston Powers, for the chambers gallery renewal.

The Interim Curator completed her one-year contract at the end of May and the new curator started in late June. Additionally two students began in early May 2018, to assist in the archives and museum over the summer.

Total Museum Visitors – 927 (excludes off-site exhibit locations)

Website Visitors – 12,340

Archives Visitors – 117

Archives Phone / Email Inquiries – 60



Chilliwack Cultural Centre

Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society Presentations

April's society presentations included the Latin dance band *Mazacote* and *Lisa Brokop – The Patsy Cline Project* as part of the music series, *From Berlin to Hollywood* was the final season installment in the classical music series. *Shawn Farquhar's Cabaret of Wonders XII* continued the magic series, and the season wrapped up with Fringe icon TJ Dawe's *The Slip Knot*. May kicked off with the fifth Chilliwack's Art of Wine Festival fundraiser.



Classes

Arts classes for adults were offered in pottery, wirework, jewellery making, framework, performance, photography, drawing, painting, as well as open studios for clay, life drawing and glass work.

Kids classes were offered in clay, performance, magic and anime.

Rental Organizations

Renters included: Shantero Productions presenting *The Stampede*, InFrench Live presenting *Mauvey in April*. May had The Conquer Cancer Tour 2018 presenting *Gary Cable & the Nearly Famous*, the return of the *Louisiana Hayride Show*, Showtime Australia Group presenting *QUEEN: It's a Kinda Magic*, Lighthouse Theatre presenting *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella* and a second *Mauvey* show. June was all about dance with year-end shows from Creative Outlet, Project Dance and Evolutionz Dance studios. Senior Discovery Tours had their annual travel presentation. *Belonging In The Body: Transgender Journeys of Faith* was presented by the Chilliwack Gender Care Committee, and Spiderlodge had their annual music festival, completing the month of June.



Partners

Chilliwack School of Performing Arts' Spring Festival in May consisted of *Seussical Jr.*, *Chaos Fairytale Forest/Acting with Scene Studies*, *Into The Woods Jr.*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Pinocchio Show* and *Halo*.

Art Gallery

The Chilliwack Visual Artists Association exhibits in the O'Connor Group Art Gallery included: The CVAA's *Artist's Choice* on display from April 5 to May 12, *Art 33* from May 17 to June 16, *Open Door* - an exhibit by the Chilliwack Society for Community Living from June 20 to 23, followed by *Grief Work / Hope Work* running from June 28 to August 2.



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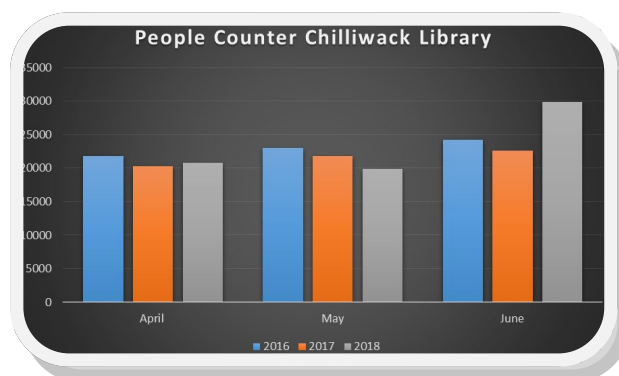
Chilliwack Library

For the month of April, the Chilliwack Library was proud to present local artists during its 'Art in the Stacks' weekly lobby program. Stone carver Paul McCarl, the Chilliwack Floral Art Club and potter Sarah Belley each spent a Wednesday afternoon presenting and interacting with the public to bring interest and awareness to the arts. As the first presenter, Paul was able to promote the event with an interview with the Chilliwack Progress, during which he was also able to showcase a 9 tonne stone grizzly that has been 14 years in the making.



May was Mental Health Awareness month. To recognize its importance, the Chilliwack Library organized a free weekly meditation series over the span of four weeks. Everyone can benefit from meditation. By focusing and quieting the mind, it can reach a higher level of awareness and inner calm, positively influencing health and wellbeing. Local meditation practitioner and yoga instructor Kristy Van Den Bosch went over the basics of meditation and gave participants an opportunity to put their newly acquired skills into practice through guided meditations.

In honor of National Indigenous Peoples Day, the Chilliwack Library hosted the Chilliwack Métis Association in its lobby in June. Elders from the Chilliwack Métis Association were in the library lobby to highlight their rich culture and traditions, a fusion of French, English, Scottish and Indigenous influences, and to help people with Métis ancestry learn how to become members of this active local association.





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Sardis Library

Environmental stewardship has been an ongoing theme at the Sardis library. Reduce, reuse and recycle was the goal during the annual sale of gently used books, held on April 21. The Friends of the Chilliwack Libraries Society arrived early sold half of their inventory within the first two hours. The money raised will be used at a later date to purchase some new items for all three Chilliwack Libraries.

Sardis Library hosted an interactive and educational presentation stressing the importance of water literacy and protecting this vital resource. Invitations to attend 'Swim, Drink, Fish Canada' went out to teachers in the community. The response was so overwhelming that staff arranged extra sessions in schools, enabling a large number of students to benefit from their message. At Vedder Middle School, 250 students and their teachers attended the presentation, and Sardis Elementary School enrolled the entire school of 500 to attend one in the near future.



Sardis Library was also pleased to offer a new program for children 6-12 years old who may need a boost to their reading self-confidence. 'Tail Waggin' Tutors' consists of trained therapy dogs that are the perfect fit for kids to practice reading with a friend. Many reluctant readers progress in their reading skills naturally by reading with these patient and attentive four legged friends.

Yarrow Library



Reading Link Challenge (RLC) is an award-winning public library/school partnership program that promotes the 'sport of reading'. Fraser Valley Regional Library is proud to be a part of Reading Link Challenge with local librarian Jacquelynne Gardner taking the lead on its organization.

Jacquelynne works with school librarians and teachers to make up teams of six students in grades 4 and 5. The program is run as a series of quiz/trivia challenges with questions based on six books. Jacquelynne and a team of other librarians pre-select, giving preference to local BC authors that the children might not otherwise be exposed to. All teams participate in one or more levels, with the winning teams advancing to higher levels of competition within the community. At FVRL, the challenge levels are as follows:

- School Challenge – teams against other teams within their school
- Library Challenge— winning teams from each school against each other at an FVRL location
- Community Challenge – FVRL Library Challenge winning teams against each other.
- Grand Challenge – Winning teams from FVRL, Coquitlam, North Vancouver and Surrey Library systems battle to the finish.

The Yarrow Library played host to the Library Challenge in April to many excited, eager readers. Greendale Elementary Community School students were victorious in their bid to go on to the Community Challenge.