



Date: 07/04/2022

To: South Cariboo Joint Committee

And To: John MacLean, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Darron Campbell, Manager of Community Services

Date of Meeting: South Cariboo Joint Committee_April14_2022

File: 8020-01

Short Summary:

South Cariboo Recreation Fees and Charges – Recreation Pass and Two-Tiered Rates Discussion

Voting:

By Consensus

Memorandum:

At its meeting March 7, 2022 the South Cariboo Joint Committee directed that the South Cariboo Recreation Fees and Charges bylaw be brought forward for discussion prior to renewal to consider changes to the Recreation Pass policies included therein.

In order for fees and charges to be imposed at Regional District recreation facilities , they must be set in bylaw and adopted by the Regional District Board. The current bylaw as attached set the fee structure and Recreation Pass policy for a three-year term ending with the 2021/22 season. A renewal bylaw and fee schedule will be brought back to the joint committee at its meeting in May or June.

In brief summary, the policy in the bylaw currently requires a Recreation Pass for all league play registration, such as hockey, figure skating, curling, softball, slo-pitch and soccer. For drop-in activities that don't require pre-registration, such as public skating, a two-tiered pricing system was implemented in 2019.

For the Pass policy and fee structure, a 'resident' is defined as a person holding a valid Recreation Pass whether they received it at no charge by living within the taxation boundary or purchased the Pass for the fee included in the bylaw. 'Non-residents' are defined as persons that do not present a Pass when attending the facility and are required to pay higher admission according to the two-tiered pricing system.

The current "non-resident" rate is set at 40-50% higher than the "resident" rate for drop-in activities and an additional fee is charged for non-residents program registration such as youth camps.

Options for discussion

Staff has reviewed the current bylaw with the South Cariboo Recreation Centre facility manager and propose several amendment options for the joint committee to consider.

The first option is to increase the non-resident premium charge in the two-tiered system from 50% to 100%, or double, the resident rate. This would apply to regular use drop-in programs such as senior hockey but public skating, which is primarily youth focused and has significant participation of one-time visitors from out-of-town, would remain at a 50% increase.

In option one, the 100% increase would also now be applied to activity programs and gym sports such as pickleball, dance and youth camps and the previous 'additional fee' noted in the bylaw would be discontinued.

The second option proposes that, rather than the 100% two-tiered rate, Recreation Passes could be required for all regular drop-in and activity programs such as senior hockey, as well as gym sports and youth camps. In option two, the two-tier system for public skating would be retained for the reasons noted above.

In both options, it is proposed that the full ice rental, dry floor and meeting room rates be continued as is, without two-tiered pricing, due to the inability to implement and enforce such a system for all attendees to a trade show, concert or other event. Use of the facility by the 100 Mile Wranglers hockey club would also continue as is and be excluded from the Rec Pass policy.

Some South Cariboo Recreation facilities such as the agriplex, Outriders equestrian grounds and Martin Exeter Hall complex are currently not included in the Recreation Pass policy. Due to the administrative and enforcement complexity of requiring Passes for all users of these facilities, it is recommended that they continue to be excluded from the policy. The agriplex and Outriders grounds do not receive any regular financial support through the South Cariboo Recreation function.

Attachments:

Current South Cariboo Recreation Fees and Charges Bylaw 5231 (2020-2022)

Financial Implications:

The cost of a Recreation Pass in the current bylaw is \$200 per household and the long-term average annual revenue from Pass sales is approximately \$9,000, which would be the collection from 45 households.

In an average year, about 1400 Passes are provided at no charge to residents within the taxation area.

Pass numbers were down significantly in 2020 and 2021 due to facility use restrictions as a result of COVID-19.

The 2022 residential tax rate for South Cariboo Recreation is approximately \$35 per \$100,000 of assessed value.

As examples from the current bylaw for context, a 100% higher non-residential, drop-in rate for senior hockey would equate to \$6.50 for participants with a Pass and \$13.00 without.

Registering for the Pickleball activity program would be \$65 with a Pass and \$130 without.

Registering for a Youth Camp would be \$155 with a Pass and \$310 without.

Policy Implications:

It is consistent with Regional District policy that users of a service contribute to the cost of providing that service and both the Recreation Pass and two-tiered pricing systems are intended to reflect this intention.

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

- ☐ **Communication:** Facilitate communication strategies throughout the entire Cariboo Regional District that meet the needs of residents, community stakeholders, and other levels of government.
- ☒ **Planning:** Intentionally plan services and activities of the CRD to prepare for future needs of residents and community stakeholders.
- ☐ **Economic Sustainability:** Foster an environment to ensure the economic sustainability of CRD communities and the region.
- ☒ **Governance:** Ensure that CRD governance policy and practices are intentional, transparent, and respectful.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

CAO Comments:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Options:

- 1) Endorsement of the recommendation;
- 2) Receipt and other action at the direction of the committee;
- 3) Receipt only;
- 4) Defer.

Recommendation:

That the Agenda Item Summary from Darron Campbell, Manager of Community Services, dated April 6, 2022, regarding options for the South Cariboo Recreation Fees and Charges bylaw with respect the Recreation Pass policy and the two-tiered rate system for residents and non-residents be received. Further that upon renewal of the bylaw, the non-resident rate for drop-

in activities, other than public skating, be set at a 100 percent premium to the resident rate, and that this rate also be applied to all activity programs requiring pre-registration, such as various gym sports and youth camps.