

THE PATH AHEAD

2022 – Research Start ✓
Assessments and public engagements completed for aquatic, field and ice facilities.

APRIL 2023 – Map Out Plan ✓
Strategic planning process for Comox Valley Recreation Commission outlines priorities and required steps forward.

MAY 2023 – SD71 Support ✓
School District approval of GP Vanier location for field project.

JUNE 2023 – Public Engagement ✓
Public engagements informing of where we are and proposed steps ahead.

SUMMER 2023 – GHG Strategies ✓
CVRD began greenhouse gas emission reduction strategies for existing facilities in Fall 2023 and were completed in Spring 2024.

SPRING/SUMMER 2023 – Field Plan ✓
Assessments for new artificial turf field underway, including geotechnical, feasibility, design work environmental, parking and cost analysis.

FALL 2023 – Arena 3 Feasibility ✓
Ice studies are developed, including feasibility, design work, GHG emissions study, environmental, parking analysis, and costing.

SUMMER 2024 – Ice Decision and Update ✓
Comox Valley Recreation Commission considers options for ice facilities and defers decisions until a business case analysis is completed.

FALL 2025 – Pool Block Concept
Block conceptual plans are developed to determine if there is enough space to expand the Aquatic Centre prior to initiating a detailed feasibility study in 2026.

SPRING 2026 – Pool Plan
Aquatic facility options see further analysis including feasibility design work, parking analysis, environmental assessments, and costing.

SUMMER 2026 – Pool Decision and Update
Comox Valley Recreation Commission considers decision for aquatic facilities.

FALL 2023 – Field Decision and Update ✓
Comox Valley Recreation Commission considers options for field development and defers decision until more information on other elements of the Recreation Strategic Plan are available.

FALL 2024 – Arena 3 Business Case Development
A business case gets underway to assess the design options, operating costs, and market demand for the different arena options available.

New Artificial Turf Field

An 8,790m² artificial turf field will be built this year on the upper grass field at G.P. Vanier Secondary School to support the Comox Valley's recreation needs.

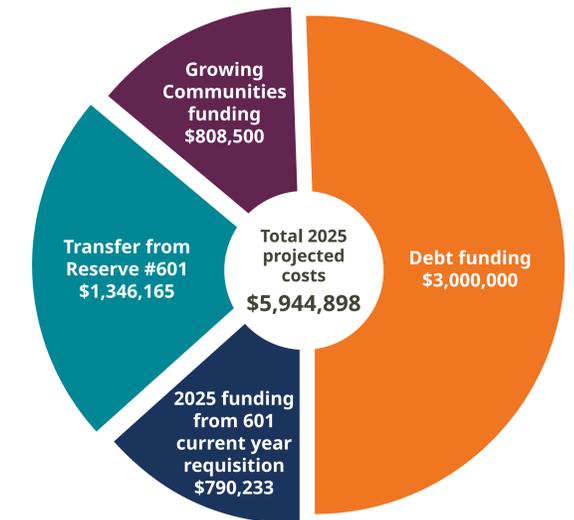


Sports	
Baseball	✓ 80ft basepath; 255ft home to outfield
Soccer	✓ Regulation and mini
Field Lacrosse	✓ Men's and women's Field Lacrosse
Field Hockey	Requires painted lines
Football	Practice only, requires painted lines
Rugby	Practice only, requires painted lines and mobile goals

Features			
2 Washrooms	✓	2 Dugouts	✓
2 Player shelters	✓	Lighting	6 poles
3 Boot brush stations	✓	Fencing	✓
2 Regulation soccer goals	✓	Spectator seating	seating pad only
4 Youth soccer goals	✓	Operations storage	✓

Costs

The field is expected to cost approximately \$5.94 million, paid in the following ways. The expected cost, for a house valued at \$800,000, is approximately **\$11 per year, for 10 years**



Timeline

2023

Plan Confirmed: The Recreation Commission prioritizes a second artificial turf field in its strategic plan and approves the design. The CVRD sets aside \$808,500 in provincial Growing Communities Funds.

2024

Planning & Preparing: The field's progress is paused while other projects move forward, and a long-range recreation capital plan is developed. The CVRD takes steps to pay for the field – including raising a tax levy to increase savings and approving an Alternative Approval Process.

Winter 2025

Public Consent: The Alternative Approval Process passes public consent and the CVRD Board adopts the borrowing bylaw.

Fall 2025

Construction: Work begins at Vanier's northern grass field.

Spring 2026

Estimated Completion: Playing fields open for sports' team use – date TBD weather dependent.

Air Handler Replacements

New air handlers, a heat pump, and two condensing boilers have replaced aging air handlers. In addition, a new hybrid heat pump was installed at the Comox Valley Sports Centre to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Aquatic Centre Air Handler Replacement

What was done?

The Aquatic Centre pool change rooms and lobby were serviced by inefficient air handlers that need replacement. The project went to public tender. Modern, more energy efficient air handlers, heat pump and condensing boilers were placed on the roof in November for easier access.

Why is it important?

- Replaces an air handler and evaporator, near the end of their lifespan
- Reduces the building's carbon footprint

Status: Underway



The air handlers are in a hard-to-reach area of the Aquatic Centre making them tough to replace.

Sport Centre Air Handler Replacement

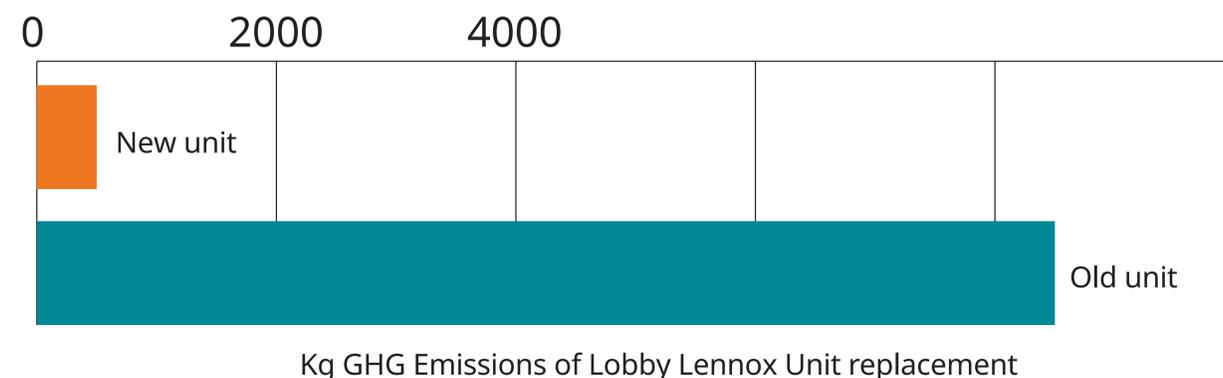
What was done?

The Sports Centre main pool lobby air handler was replaced by a hybrid heat pump this summer. The project went to public tender and was completed in summer 2024.

Why is it important?

- Replaces an aging unit
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 8 tonnes
- Provides back up heat source (natural gas) only when the air temperature is too low
- Provides energy efficient air conditioning, when required

The hybrid heat public uses natural gas only as a backup, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by almost 8 tonnes.



Pool Filtration System Upgrade

The Comox Valley Aquatic Centre main and leisure pools now have improved water quality and are more efficient, thanks to a new regenerative media filtration system installed this summer.

New Filtration System

- The CVRD purchased a new regenerative media filtration system to replace the main and leisure pool's filtration system.
- The system required extensive engineering and design, as well as Island Health approval, before the old sand filters could be removed and the site was prepared for the new system.
- Once all the new components - including filters, pumps, pipes, compressor, wiring and controllers - were installed, the pools were filled. The system was tested and seismically secured.
- Staff were trained on the new system operations, while engineers worked on a field report, and pool data sheets were sent to Island Health for construction permit compliance.

Why is it important?

- Improves water quality
- Reduces need for chemical treatment
- Increase the efficiency of water filtration
- Uses less water and saves energy
- Replaces 25-year-old sand filter system
- Reduces maintenance costs and extends lifecycle
- Manages assets effectively



Old filters

Status: Complete



New filters

Program Highlights

Aquatic Programs at a Glance

The Aquatic Centre is home to weekly classes, training, clubs, rehab therapy special events, and much more. We host:

168

Swim Classes:

Serving up to 1,100 students in swim lessons each week

7

Aquatic Clubs:

Annually hosting up to 188 members each week

200

Lifeguard Training Participants:

Preparing future lifeguards each year

25

Special Pool Events:

Including six pizza parties with up to 100 youth at each event

15

Hours Public Skate Time:

Offering a time for the community to enjoy skating

25

Arena Special Events:

Including two pizza parties and three movie nights

17

Aquafit Classes:

Bringing in around 700 participants each week

34

Hours Weekly:

Hosting Everyone Welcome Swims

38

Hours Weekly:

Wave pool access for rehab and therapy

100

Hours Weekly:

Steam room and sauna access for relaxation and recovery

24

Skate Lessons:

Teaching 150 students on the ice each week

10

Drop-in Hockey Slots Weekly:

Casual games for hockey enthusiasts

