



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: April 18, 2023

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Public input sought for Parks and Recreation Services Fees Assessment

The City of Vernon Parks Department and Greater Vernon Recreation Services are seeking public input to assist in assessing appropriate fee levels for facility rentals and usage, as well as identify a clear, consistent, and predictable way for setting fees and charges moving forward.

The City and Recreation Services have retained an independent consulting firm, Innovate Planning & Co., to do a comprehensive review of user fees for City of Vernon Parks (this does not include Greater Vernon Athletic Park) and all indoor recreation facilities operated by Greater Vernon Recreation Services.

A public survey is now open at www.engagevernon.ca/parksandrecreation. **The survey is open until May 19, 2023.**

Additionally, information booths will be set up at various locations and events in the community to give members of the public an opportunity to talk directly with the consultants and/or Recreation Services staff and learn more about the project.

Upcoming events and pop-up information booths

<u>Date</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>START</u>	<u>END</u>
• April 20	Vernon Farmers' Market	8:00 am	12:00 pm
• April 21	Village Green Shopping Centre	1:00 pm	3:00 pm
• April 22	Kal Tire Place North – Chamber of Commerce Community Expo	9:00 am	4:00 pm

The timing for the Recreation and Parks Fees Assessment is based on the recommendation from the [2018 Recreation Master Plan](#) that identified a review of the Recreation and Parks Fees and Charges be completed as a medium-term and medium priority. Like many municipalities, Vernon's fees process is without an explicit framework for establishing fees. Currently, fee increases are based on:

- CPI, August to August
- Staff wages
- Utilities, insurance, carbon tax
- Neighbouring communities' fees

The completion of the Recreation and Parks Fees assessment is to align with the budget process in August 2023 to set rates for 2024.

