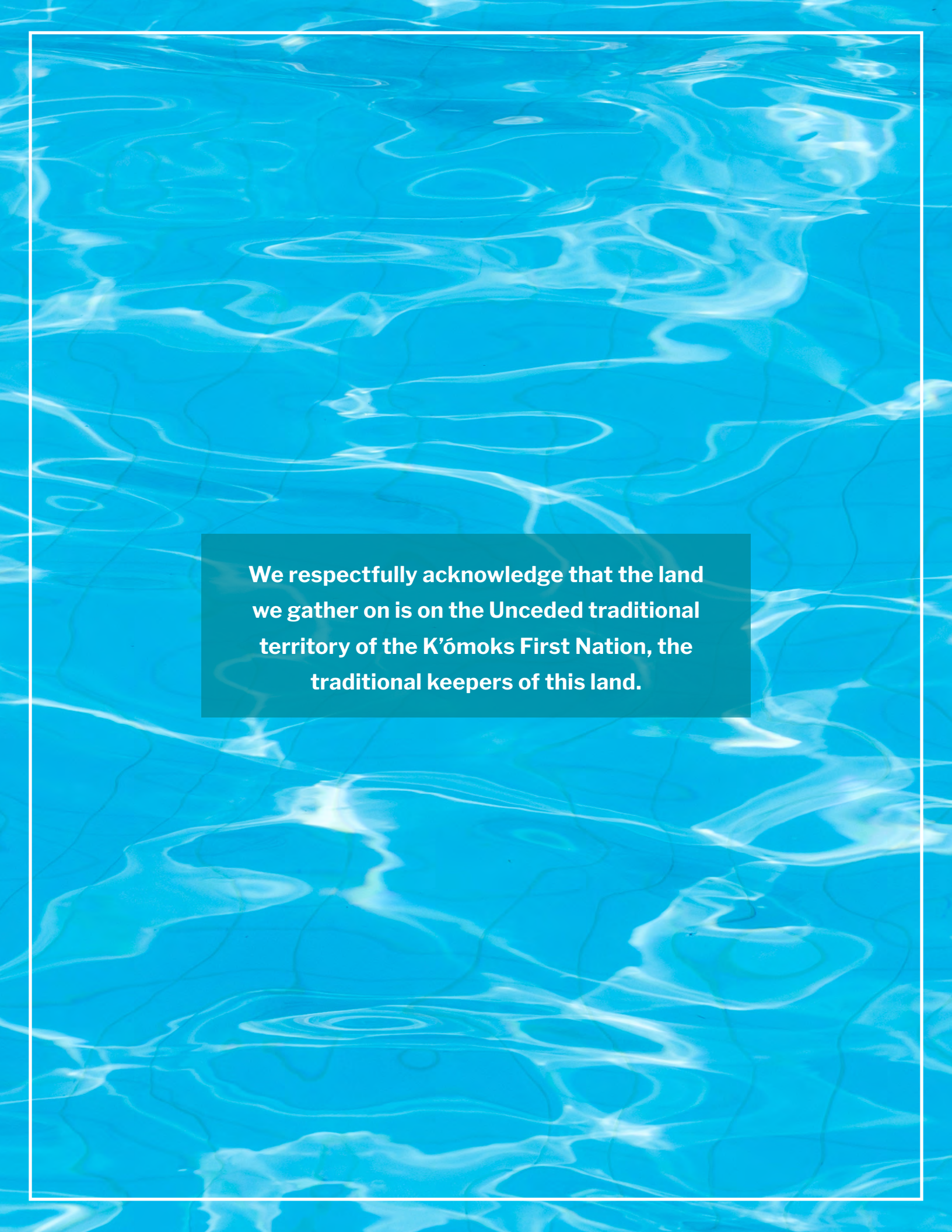


Comox Valley Regional District
Aquatics Strategy

Draft Strategy Review – Verbatim Comments Related to the Outdoor Pool

May 2023



The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of blue water with gentle ripples, creating a textured, wavy pattern. A thin white border frames the entire image.

**We respectfully acknowledge that the land
we gather on is on the Unceded traditional
territory of the K'ómoks First Nation, the
traditional keepers of this land.**

Feedback was gathered from February 6, 2023 through to March 6, 2023. In total 73 submissions were received. This is comprised of 70 responses to the online survey and an additional three comments submitted via Facebook and email. The points from the feedback collected **related to an outdoor pool** are presented below. Those points with * are specific the current outdoor pool and / or its location.

No Need For Outdoor Pool

- *Outdoor pool should be shut down.
- *Outdoor pool should be removed and another recreation facility installed.
- I do not feel there is a need for an outdoor pool that could not be used year round with there already being splash parks, beaches, etc.
- Do not support a new outdoor pool, would prefer a fenced splash park / wading pool or better river access.
- I don't feel like an outdoor pool is a high priority as we have a short and often unpredictable summer. We also have so much water surrounding us.
- The outdoor pool experience is unique and the CVRD should not consider closure unless absolutely necessary. Timetable of lessons at the outdoor pool offers availability unlike the offerings at the indoor pools.
- <with consolidation at one site> it appears that the proposed new outdoor pool will be primarily for recreation and some swim lessons with no ability for lane swimming outdoors. I would like some option for lane swimming outdoors.
- Relocate the outdoor pool, it should become a regional facility.

Other Comments

Support For An Outdoor Pool

- *I am saddened at the prospect of losing the outdoor pool. It is a gem and a good central location – walkable and bikeable from many areas of Courtenay. I have always believed that it was underused due to the poor change room facilities.
- *The loss of the outdoor pool (cooling facility) in the city centre is a loss of access for persons who are less able to access facilities that have less or zero cost.
- *The current location of the outdoor is good with easy access from west Courtenay.
- *Keep the outdoor pool at Lewis Park or find a new location on the west side of Courtenay.
- *Replace the outdoor pool in its current location.
- *The outdoor pool in its current location provides the best alternative for lower income families.
- *There are issues with the outdoor pool that prevent people from using it fully:
 - » Parking lot is ridiculously small
 - » Getting out of parking lot is a nightmare due to constant traffic coming both ways
 - » Having to pay cash is inconvenient
 - » The change rooms are way too small and uninviting
 - » The pool itself is also small
 - » Appreciate free access to life jackets but rest of equipment (incl. pool noodles) have seen better days.
- *The location of the outdoor pool needs to be in a co-location that is part of another or near other CVRD public sport infrastructure.
- I would like the outdoor pool to be shaped so swimmers can swim lengths and have sun shared over the area.
- Proposed location for the replacement outdoor pool is horrible – the noise of one of the business intersections in town will transmit to the pool. I'd rather have no outdoor pool than the central location.
- Any consideration of incorporating the natural river area around the current outdoor pool to create a natural beach or pool built into the river.