

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CVRD seeks proposals to take ownership of the World's Largest Hockey Stick

DUNCAN, BC – The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) will be seeking proposals to take ownership of the World's Largest Hockey Stick that is currently fixed to the east side of the Cowichan Community Centre (CCC).

The World's Largest Hockey Stick (WLHS) has reached the end of its serviceable life. First constructed for Expo 1986 in Vancouver, then brought to the island and affixed to the CCC building in 1988, the structure has resided as a prominent landmark of the Cowichan region for the past 35 years. Ongoing maintenance and extensive repairs in the early 2000s have extended its life, but the glulam Douglas-fir structure of the stick and puck have decayed to point that the structure must now be replaced or removed in order to ensure public safety.

Through CVRD Board direction, staff ran a public engagement survey regarding future direction of the WLHS from June 19 to September 30, 2023. The results of this survey found that the majority of respondents indicated:

- it is not important to maintain the world record for the largest hockey stick and puck
- the WLHS does not provide significant importance to the region
- they do not support replacing the WLHS

Considering the survey results, along with the high cost of replacement, on November 30, 2023 the Cowichan Core Recreation Commission directed staff to move ahead with decommissioning the WLHS in 2024. Knowing there is likely public interest in taking ownership of the WLHS structure in its current form, the CVRD will be accepting proposals from community organizations or individuals wishing to take and make use of the structure, through a formal Expression of Interest process.

"We are so fortunate to have had the opportunity to have the WLHS as part of the Cowichan Community Centre for so many years," said Tom Duncan, Acting Chair of the Cowichan Core Recreation Commission. "It's been a community icon and many will be sad to see it go. However, we are really excited to see what proposals come forward on possible future uses for the WLHS."

More information on how to submit proposals to take ownership of the WLHS as part of the Expression of Interest process will soon be available at <https://www.cvrld.ca/3018/Procurement>.

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