

Background

On June 1, 2022, the Board of Education passed the following motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) direct staff to commence a 30 day consultation period as per Policy 2.17 Public Participation to change the name of the NDSS Community Field to “q’unq’inuqwstuxw”.

The Board of Education has been aware of ongoing discussions with Snuneymuxw First Nation (“SFN”) and the City of Nanaimo (“CON”) regarding the naming of the jointly operated sport facilities adjacent to NDSS.

Discussion

Over the last year, SD68, SFN and City Staff have been working towards opportunities to work closer as well as provide meaningful reconciliation projects where possible. One opportunity is working together on the Stadium District improvements. The goal is to find ways that in addition to developing high end sport and spectator facilities, the land provides natural areas by use of indigenous plantings, art work and other natural features. In addition, provide opportunities through education to further Truth and Reconciliation objectives.

One exciting opportunity is to formally name the NDSS Community Field (which the school district and City Council have now designated to be a medium sized stadium) a SFN determined name. Working with SFN CAO Joan Brown, Chief Michael Wyse and the SFN Elders Committee, the name decided on was: ***q’unq’inuqwstuxw***. Listen to pronunciation here: <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/qunqinuqwstuxw.mp3>

q’unq’inuqwstuxw is a Coast Salish term meaning “pass it back” or “return”. This was a saying SFN athletes would say to each other when playing soccer. Using q’unq’inuqwstuxw would not only honour the great legacy of SFN athletes in the community but also the concept of sharing and returning land natural state where possible.

Community Engagement Plan

Utilize the community engagement webpage and include background information with instructions on how to participate during the consultation period: <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/board/community-engagement/>

Information on the community engagement period will be:

- Emailed to all district staff via district email
- Emailed to all families via School Messenger platform
- Posted on weekly district news
- Shared on social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram)

The 30-day notice of motion consultation period began on June 1, 2022. The community will have until July 1, 2022 to provide feedback in two ways:

1. *Email* sent to consultation@sd68.bc.ca
2. *Online survey*

Timeline

- Thursday, June 2, 2022
 - Email to staff and families
 - Social media posts
- Thursday, June 9, 2022
 - District news
- Thursday, June 16, 2022
 - Reminder email to staff and families
 - District news
- Thursday, June 23, 2022
 - District news
 - Social media reminder

Messaging

Email to staff and families:

The Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools' Board of Education is seeking feedback on the renaming of the:

- NDSS Community Field; and
- Coal Tye Elementary

We invite you to first read the background information on the district's [community engagement webpage](#). From there, you may provide feedback via a brief online survey or email consultation@sd68.bc.ca. The consultation period will end on July 1, 2022. The Board will discuss the results at a special meeting held in July.

Thank you/Hay ch q'a

Social media:

Facebook/Instagram

- We want to hear from you on the renaming of the NDSS community field and Coal Tye Elementary. First, read the background information and then participate in two ways: online survey or email. Participate on or before July 1, 2022.

Information can be found on the district's community engagement webpage:

<https://www.sd68.bc.ca/board/community-engagement/>

Twitter

- It's time to provide feedback on the renaming of the NDSS field and Coal Tye Elementary. Background info and how to participate can be found at <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/board/community-engagement/>