Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – July 8, 2025

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – July 2, 2025

Item No. 3 Sherbrook Pool Fitness Facility Fees

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services and submitted the following to Council:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services in 90 days with options for review of fitness and weight room fees at the Sherbrook Pool.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Duncan,

That Rule 10(3) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 be suspended in order that the following item, which was received less than four business days preceding the committee meeting, be considered by Committee.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Santos,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On July 2, 2025, the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services considered the Council Motion of June 26, 2025, and recommended to the Executive Policy Committee and Council:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services in 90 days with options for review of fitness and weight room fees at the Sherbrook Pool.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing

COUNCIL DECISION:

On June 26, 2025, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services:

Moved by Councillor Gilroy,
Seconded by Councillor Rollins,

WHEREAS the Sherbrook Pool is experiencing a welcome increase in community use, particularly in its aquatic programs;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

AND WHEREAS the facility includes a weight room and fitness area that is currently underutilized due in part to comparatively higher user fees and older equipment;

AND WHEREAS the Freight House Recreation Centre offers similar fitness amenities at more affordable rates, making fitness more accessible to residents;

AND WHEREAS access to affordable fitness facilities supports healthy living, physical activity, and overall well-being for people of all ages and abilities;

AND WHEREAS reducing fitness area fees would make Sherbrook Pool a more inclusive and multi-purpose facility, welcoming individuals who may not wish to swim but still seek a place to exercise;

AND WHEREAS a more vibrant and active facility will benefit the surrounding community and support the City's goals of increasing recreational participation and equitable access;

AND WHEREAS the location of Sherbrook Pool makes it a conveniently accessible City-run facility for many residents, particularly in the inner city;

AND WHEREAS lower fees can encourage families to use the facility together — for example, a parent using the treadmill while a child participates in swim lessons — thereby increasing the overall value and utility of the space;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Public Service be directed to review the fitness and weight room fees at Sherbrook Pool and reduce them to be in line with those charged at the Freight House Recreation Centre;

2. That the Public Service monitor and report back on usage trends of the fitness area following the reduction of the fees, with the goal of promoting increased and sustained community engagement with all aspects of the Sherbrook Pool facility.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.