

From: [Corporate Services](#)
To: [Corporate Services](#)
Subject: FW: Comments in respect of Tom Woods letter re turf fields
Date: February-27-23 12:11:12 PM

Council & CAO – For Information
Steve, Director of Parks and Recreation Services – For information
Deb, Corporate Officer – Late Agenda Item Feb 27/23

From: Kelly Farish [REDACTED] >
Sent: February-27-23 11:40 AM
To: Corporate Services <Corporate.Services@esquimalt.ca>; Council <council@esquimalt.ca>
Cc: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments in respect of Tom Woods letter re turf fields

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Good morning,

I hope to make it for tonight's meeting to speak to this matter as well, but in the event that isn't possible, I wanted to write to ensure these comments were received.

I am a new resident of Esquimalt and the former board chair of the [Victoria Ultimate Players Society](#) ("VUPS"), a position I held for four years ending in June 2022.

I only learned of this item on the council's agenda late last week and while I sent an email to VUPS about it, I wasn't sure it was enough time for someone to write or attend the meeting. So, while I cannot speak on behalf of VUPS in an official capacity at this point, I want to provide you with some additional information about additional prospective community use of turf fields.

Ultimate is a field sport played with a frisbee where players compete to get the frisbee down the field and score a point by catching the frisbee in the opposing team's end zone. Ultimate, uniquely, offers the opportunity for people of all genders to play together in games and it is a self-referred sport governed by "spirit of the game" rules to promote fair play. You can read more [here](#), if you wish. Ultimate is played year-round, but runs into many of the issues with other field sports, which is that winter in Victoria can be a soggy affair and turf fields (with lights!) is really the only option for winter play to happen.

As such, VUPS is a frequent user of turf fields at the Oak Bay Rec Centre, with a longstanding booking and has a time slot as well in Langford at the newly built Pacific FC facility. VUPS also uses UVic turf fields for events and practices, when they are available. I am certain VUPS would be very supportive and interested in further discussion of involvement about development of a turf field at Esquimalt High. The VUPS board, in my time, talked several times about contributing to a turf field development in exchange for field time, so that may be another opportunity that could be explored if this project continues forwards. While Mr. Woods' letter points out that there are other turf

facilities in the area, my experience is that they are heavily used and it is nearly impossible to book time - unless you happen to get in at an early opportunity (as VUPS did with the Langford facility).

I think this is a very worthwhile endeavour and congratulate Mr. Woods' on the stamina to continue to push for this project for so long.

Thank you for your consideration and thanks for all of your efforts,

Kelly Farish