

NEWS RELEASE

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New amenities at Stadium District

Q'unq'inuqwstuxw Stadium Bleacher formally opened today

Summary

The City of Nanaimo continues to add amenities to the Stadium District as part of a multi-phased improvement plan for the area. The latest addition is a new fully accessible bleacher structure at Q'unq'inuqwstuxw Stadium (pronounced ki-KIN-ish-TOOK) that seats approximately 1,200 spectators. Construction began in Spring 2025 and was completed in May 2026.

The new bleachers were formally opened by Mayor Leonard Krog and members of Nanaimo City Council during a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, July 30, 2026. The event was also attended by MLA Sheila Malcolmson, MLA George Anderson, representatives from School District 68, local sport organizations and community partners.

The new bleachers are part of the continued evolution of the Stadium District which has grown through strategic partnerships, thoughtful planning and ongoing investment into community sport and recreation infrastructure. Today, the district serves athletes, families, volunteers, spectators and community organizations while supporting local, regional and provincial sporting events.

The new bleacher structure also includes a modern media booth which will support live streaming, broadcasting and enhanced event coverage.

Strategic Link: Providing enhancements to our play spaces supports a livable community.

Key Points

- Q'unq'inuqwstuxw Stadium was developed through a partnership between the City of Nanaimo and School District 68, with the artificial turf field constructed in 2017 under an innovative joint-use agreement that continues to benefit both students and the broader community.
- The Stadium District continues to evolve through phased improvements that support local sport organizations, school athletics, tournaments and community events while strengthening Nanaimo's reputation as a premier sport and recreation destination on Vancouver Island.
- The partnership between the City of Nanaimo and School District 68 maximizes public investment by creating facilities that serve students during the school day and the wider community during evenings, weekends and special events.
- Future investments throughout the district will continue to improve accessibility, enhance the visitor experience and support Nanaimo's growing role as a host community for regional, provincial and national sporting events.

Quotes

"Council is committed to improving Nanaimo's outdoor spaces. The City has been making improvements to the Stadium District as part of a phased plan in collaboration with community partners and user groups to enhance the already impressive amenities found along the Larry McNabb Sports Zone located on Third Street."

Leonard Krog
Mayor
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- The Stadium District consists of the Serauxmen Stadium, Q'unq'inuqwstuxw Stadium (artificial turf at NDSS), Rotary Bowl and a plaza and common area found along Third Street.
- The new bleacher structure is accessible and provides seating for approximately 1,200 spectators.
- The new bleacher structure includes improved accessibility features and a dedicated media booth to support live streaming, broadcasting and enhanced event coverage.
- Ongoing investments in the Stadium District support community recreation, regional tournaments, provincial championships and sport tourism opportunities.

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