

**NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
ACTION SHEET**

DATE: June 1, 2022  
TO: Board of Education  
FROM: Scott Saywell, Superintendent  
SUBJECT: NDSS Community Field Renaming

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**Recommendation**

**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”.**

**Background**

The Board 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. This Action Sheet outlines those discussions and proposes next steps. A consultation plan will be shared on the District’s website.

**Discussion**

Over the last year SFN, CON staff and District 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, artwork 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 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.

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 return land to its natural state where possible.