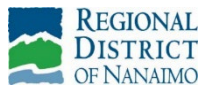




QUALICUM SCHOOL DISTRICT
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JOINT NEWS RELEASE

TOWN OF QUALICUM BEACH



September 12, 2025

Official Opening of the Oceanside Community Track

The official opening of the Oceanside Community Track was celebrated by Oceanside community members on September 12. Located at École Ballenas Secondary School, 135 Pym Street, Parksville, the \$1.7 million track features a six-lane oval track (8 lane, 100 metres) and turf infield which will serve as a focal point for recreation, health and community events in the Oceanside region. The Oceanside Community Track will become a gathering place where families, children and seniors will benefit from being active, and where athletes will come to train.

The Oceanside Community Track was successfully funded through a partnership between the Qualicum School District, the City of Parksville, the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) and the Town of Qualicum Beach, along with generous support from the community. The Qualicum School Board was the project manager, contributing \$500,000 to the project, \$300,000 of which was to upgrade the field.

Local government sources are recognized here:

Partner	Contribution Source	
City of Parksville	Canada Community-Building Fund	\$500,000
City of Parksville		\$250,000
Regional District of Nanaimo	Northern Recreation Services Reserves	\$408,800
RDN Electoral Area E	Community Works Funds	\$ 30,000
RDN Electoral Area G	Community Works Funds	\$ 32,000
RDN Electoral Area H	Community Works Funds	\$ 21,000
Town of Qualicum Beach		\$ 75,000

The track is now open to the public outside of school hours and group bookings which can be made through the RDN sports field and court bookings (rdn.bc.ca/fields-and-courts). The facility will be maintained by the Qualicum School District.

Quotes

"Today's opening of the Oceanside Community Track at Ballenas Secondary School is a celebration of vision, collaboration, and community spirit. This project reflects the dedication of the school district, local partners, and the broader community who came together to create a vibrant, inclusive space for health, recreation, and connection. The track will serve not only our students but residents of all ages, becoming a lasting asset that supports active living and community well-being for many years to come."

Eve Flynn, Board Chair, Qualicum School District

"This opening and celebration reflect the dedication, collaboration, and vision of the Oceanside Community Track Association, local partners, and the broader Oceanside community that the Regional District of Nanaimo is proud to be a part of. The collective efforts of many over the past 20 years have transformed a shared goal into a lasting benefit for students, athletes, and residents."

Vanessa Craig, Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo

“I’m excited to be part of the official opening of the Oceanside Community Track which will serve as a hub for health, recreation and connection for not only students but residents of all ages. The City of Parksville’s investment of \$750,000 which includes \$500,000 from the Canada Community-Building Fund, reflects our commitment to creating vibrant, accessible spaces which support active living and community well-being. This project is a celebration of community collaboration, and the power of shared investment in our future.”

Doug O’Brien, Mayor, City of Parksville

“The Town of Qualicum Beach is proud to have partnered in bringing this new track to life, where people of all ages can stay active, connect, and enjoy the benefits of a healthy community for years to come.”

Teunis Westbroek, Mayor, Town of Qualicum Beach

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