## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Embargoed until Thursday, April 6th at 1:30 pm



## **CITY OF SURREY WINS BCRPA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

Grandview Heights Aquatic Centre honoured with 2017 Facility Excellence Award

**Kelowna, BC (Thursday, April 6th, 2017)** - The BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) today presented its Facility Excellence Award for projects over \$1 million to the City of Surrey for Grandview Heights Aquatic Centre. The award recognizes excellence in facility concept, design development, maintenance or operation in a facility that demonstrates outstanding innovation and significant impact in the recreation and parks sector.

The City of Surrey has developed an iconic destination facility attracting athletes, international sporting events, and families alike. Grandview Heights Aquatic Centre's distinctive architectural elements such as an undulating roof and its multiple accessible features make it a favourite for everyone. This multi-use facility is able to meet the needs of all users. The 10 lane, LEED silver standard, and international competition level 50 metre pool has many moveable features, creating variations in competitive and programmable space. From birthday parties riding the water slide to elite athletes on the 10 metre diving platform, Grandview Heights Aquatic Centre has provided both a community space and competition hub in this fast-growing community of South Surrey.

"This ambitious project sets a new standard for the Province and though the capital costs are large, Surrey has proven that recreation facilities are effective economic drivers through Grandview Heights Aquatic Centre's impressive revenue generation at the turnstile and as a sport tourism destination," said BCRPA CEO Rebecca Tunnacliffe.

The Facility Excellence Award is one of four provincial awards presented at the BCRPA's annual Symposium today in Kelowna. The conference brings together members of the recreation and parks sector from across BC, including elected officials, volunteers, members of the business community and others interested in building and sustaining active, healthy lifestyles and communities in BC.

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Images available Background included

## BACKGROUND:

The British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association is a not for profit organization dedicated to building and sustaining active healthy lifestyles and communities in BC. Established in 1958, the Association is a central resource agency for members and stakeholders of the recreation, parks, physical activity and culture sector, providing leadership, training and support to help meet national, provincial and local priorities. Through a diverse network of partners and extensive programs and services, BCRPA actively advocates accessibility and inclusiveness to recreation and physical activity. http://www.bcrpa.bc.ca/

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