

COUNCIL MEMBERS' MOTION

*For consideration at the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on
February 4, 2026*

1. A World Cup for Everyone: Exploring Free Public Viewing Opportunities at BC Place and the PNE Amphitheatre

Submitted by Mayor Sim

WHEREAS

1. BC Place is a provincially owned, multi-purpose stadium operated by BC Pavilion Corporation (PavCo), a Crown corporation of the Province of British Columbia; it is a key venue for major sporting, cultural and community events in Vancouver;
2. Vancouver is one of the host cities for FIFA World Cup 2026™, with seven scheduled matches taking place at BC Place from June 13 through July 7, 2026;
3. FIFA Fan Festivals — official public viewing spaces for World Cup matches — are designed to be accessible and free to the public in many host cities, providing live match broadcasts on large screens along with cultural and community activations;
4. Philadelphia, one of the FIFA 2026 host cities, has committed to a free, open-to-the-public Fan Festival showing live matches on giant screens in Fairmount Park, demonstrating a model for inclusive, accessible viewing experiences that do not require paid ticket purchases;
5. Major local sporting events have previously used BC Place as a venue for public viewing parties — for example, recent Whitecaps FC playoff and championship viewing parties featuring giant screen broadcasts — illustrating both public interest and the stadium's suitability for this type of event;
6. Public access to major sporting events fosters community engagement, supports tourism, and helps ensure that large-scale international events are accessible not only to affluent ticket holders but also to everyday residents; and
7. The City of Vancouver's original planning documents and agreements for FIFA 2026 host city activities reference fan experiences and public viewing elements as part of tournament activation (with free access provided at official Fan Festival sites).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Vancouver City Council request the Mayor write a letter to BC Pavilion Corporation (PavCo) and FIFA requesting that BC Place be made available on non-match days during the FIFA World Cup 2026 for public Jumbotron viewing events of matches being played in other host cities;

FURTHER THAT this request emphasize Council's expectation that any such viewing events be made free of charge or available at a nominal, low-cost admission, in order to ensure the FIFA World Cup experience in Vancouver is accessible to the broadest possible public, including residents who may not otherwise be able to attend ticketed matches.

- B. THAT Vancouver City Council request the Mayor write to the Province of British Columbia requesting that general admission to the PNE Amphitheatre be made free of charge for the public during FIFA World Cup 2026 match-day live screenings, to ensure families, youth, and residents of all incomes can participate in and enjoy the tournament through accessible community viewing events.

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