



Richmond Green Golf Course Closure Frequently Asked Questions

Why is The City closing the Richmond Green Golf Course at the end of the 2019 golf season?

On June 17, an official Notice of Motion was brought forward by Council to “Direct Administration, as part of its Golf Course Sustainability Strategy, to proceed to close the Richmond Green Golf Course after the end of the 2019 golf season”.

The motion passed by a vote of 12-1.

The decision to close Richmond Green Golf Course at the end of the 2019 golf season was based on a number of factors, including:

- The course has the lowest attendance and revenue of all City courses. In addition, the number of rounds played at Richmond continues to decline
- Richmond Green is the most challenging course to maintain to industry golf standards due to the requirements we must adhere to in order to protect the City infrastructure underneath the facility
- The infrastructure limitations of Richmond Green’s clubhouse, golf facilities, customer services and parking limit the possibility of expanding our golf service offerings
- The City has other viable golf facilities in the immediate area that can provide alternate opportunities for citizens

Will any other golf courses be closing as a result of Council’s vote on this Notice of Motion?

We want to clarify that yesterday’s decision had no impact on the other City golf courses – including the newly renovated McCall Lake 18. These courses remain fully open.

In addition, there will be no changes to our day-to-day operations at Richmond Green for the remainder of the 2019 golf season.

All City courses continue to remain open with normal operations activity for the 2019 golf season. It’s status quo.

Is The City getting out of the golf business? Will 2019 be the last season of municipal golf in Calgary?

No – The City and Council continue to work towards their goal of achieving a break-even budget and long-term sustainability to our golf course operations.

Work is underway as part of the Golf Sustainability Work Plan and the Golf Course Real Estate and Development Feasibility Assessment. Both projects aim to achieve a break-even budget for golf course operations.

The City is committed to providing a range of basic, affordable and publicly accessible opportunities to Calgarians of all ages and skill levels. This includes seniors, youth, families, schools and low income Calgarians.

Once Richmond Green ceases operations at the end of the 2019 golf season, what will happen to the land?

Future development and alternative use options are currently being investigated as part of the Golf Course Real Estate and Development Feasibility Assessment. A report back is scheduled for Q1 2020.

Once Richmond Green officially ceases operations at the end of the 2019 golf season, The City will maintain the site.

Richmond Green Golf Course has significant City infrastructure beneath the ground. That makes the options for redeveloping the site extremely limited.

I thought the recently announced Golf Course Real Estate and Development Assessment would determine whether The City should cease operations at specific golf courses. Has the assessment work already been completed?

The Golf Course Real Estate and Development Assessment is underway, and The City will report back with its findings by Q1 of 2020.

This Notice of Motion was separate from the Golf Course Real Estate and Development Assessment but both initiatives share the same goal of exploring ways that The City can achieve a break-even budget and long-term sustainability for its golf courses.

An interim update on the Golf Sustainability Work Plan and the Golf Course Real Estate and Development Feasibility Assessment will be presented to Council in October 2019.

Should I look at playing at other courses this season?

Not at all. It's business as usual for this golf season at all municipal courses.

There will be no changes to our golf courses or our offerings in 2019.

Can we expect prices to increase?

Green fees and golf pricing will not increase in 2019.

What are the next steps in the ongoing evaluation of municipal golf courses?

An interim update on the Golf Sustainability Work Plan and the Golf Course Real Estate and Development Feasibility Assessment will be presented to Council in October 2019.

The City has been asked to report back with recommendations on the Golf Course Real Estate and Development Assessment by Q1 2020.

From there, Council will determine the next steps.

Who can I contact with additional questions?

If you have specific questions about our golf courses, please contact 311.