

**From:** Sandra Hobson [<mailto:shobson>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 14, 2018 2:01 PM  
**To:** Banman, Dean  
**Subject:** Thank You to District 69 Recreation Commission

Thank you for providing Accessible Oceanside Association and Universal Access Qualicum Beach the opportunity to make a presentation to the District 69 Recreation Commission at your meeting last month. We were extremely pleased with the follow-up article published in the PQBNews October 2, 2018 regarding this event. Please find attached a copy of a letter of appreciation we forwarded to the News that we hope you will share with the Recreation Commissioners at your next meeting. Thank you for your support to help us create awareness and work together towards a solution to a unique fitness facility needs for those in Oceanside with different abilities.

Sandra Hobson,  
Chair, Accessible Oceanside Association

Letter to the Editor:

Many thanks to Michael Briones and the PQB News for the excellent coverage of the presentation to the District 69 Recreation Commission about the urgent need for a Universally Accessible Fitness and Wellness Facility in Oceanside. Recreation activities are both enjoyable and important for promoting fitness. Opportunities to engage in these activities should be available to all members of our community. Unfortunately, the current fitness facilities in Oceanside do not meet the needs of all. Those living with disabilities face many barriers in trying to live a fulfilling life, including access to fitness opportunities. Lack of understanding about their unique needs is a barrier that your article helped address. We are hopeful that the passage of the motion identifying the need for a Universally Accessible Fitness and Wellness Facility as a high priority in the RDN will generate some traction to address this unmet need in District 69. We remain committed to working collaboratively with any owner/operator of a fitness facility that is in an accessible location and has appropriate space and staff. We offer expertise and contacts related to the unique needs of those with different abilities and will raise funds for the specialized exercise equipment needed.

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