From: "Levitt, Karen" <karen.levitt@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
Date: 6/5/2026 3:34:00 PM
Subject: FW: FIFA Water Bottle Stadium Ban

Hi –

Following up on the note I sent this morning concerning water bottles in the stadium during FWC26 matches, we have just learned that FIFA has updated their policy, per below.



Thanks,

Karen

Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
karen.levitt@vancouver.ca

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the traditional territories of the the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh nations

From: Levitt, Karen <karen.levitt@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2026 12:14 PM
To: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL
Cc: City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL ; Adcock, Jessie <Jessie.Adcock@vancouver.ca>
Subject: FIFA Water Bottle Stadium Ban

Dear Council,

Providing here the staff response to Councillor Maloney's recent question concerning FIFA's statement this week disallowing water bottles at stadium matches.

Q: What information has Vancouver received about the ban on FIFA fans bringing refillable water bottles into World Cup stadiums and when was it received please? Were City staff consulted with before the announcement and if so, what form did that take?

Staff response

We understand this change has been made on the basis of public safety, in that metal bottles and glass flasks could be used as projectiles or weapons. The FWC26 Host Committee team was notified by FIFA Canada earlier this week that they were disallowing water bottles inside the stadium during FIFA World Cup matches, and ticket holders were notified on Wednesday on June 3rd. While the FWC26 Host Committee team was not consulted prior to FIFA making this change, the PavCo team was aware it was being contemplated, and expressed their concerns to FIFA.

It is noted that water bottle restrictions are routinely enforced for largescale sporting events and marathons.

- The National Football League's Official Stadium Security Guide lists reusable metal or plastic bottles, thermoses and flasks as restricted items.
- SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles prohibits hard-sided water bottles and glass or metal containers of any type.
- The US Bank stadium in Minneapolis prohibits glass, cans, thermoses, or metal bottles of any kind, requiring all personal hydration containers to be entirely soft-sided and clear.

With respect to mitigations, PavCo management will ensure there are paper water cups available for use at water fountains throughout the stadium, and that, while FIFA sets the pricing for food and beverage, PavCo has worked with

them to ensure that water bottles are priced as they always are at standard BC Place events at $5.75 per bottle.

If FIFA reconsiders this policy, we will let you know.

Thanks,

Karen

Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
karen.levitt@vancouver.ca

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