

Request for Decision

P6M Initiative - Repurposing of the Capreol Ski Hill to a Sliding Hill

Presented To: Finance and
Administration
Committee

Presented: Tuesday, Nov 17, 2015

Report Date Monday, Nov 09, 2015

Type: Referred & Deferred
Matters

Recommendation

THAT the City of Greater Sudbury re-purposes the Capreol Ski Hill as a Sliding Hill for the 2015-2016 season and beyond with an estimated operating budget savings of \$35,000.

Finance Implications

If approved, the savings will be reflected in the 2016 budget.

Background

As community recreation needs and interests change, there are opportunities to use facilities in new ways. One such opportunity exists in re-purposing the Capreol Ski to a Sliding Hill.

There has been a decline in attendance at the Capreol Ski Hill over recent years from a high of 19.7 average visits per day in each of the 2008/9 and 2010/11 seasons, to a low of 9.3 average visits per day in 2012/13. During the 2014/2015 winter season, the Capreol Ski Hill was open to skiers for 34 days and attracted an average of eleven users by day. Based on the activity levels and annual operating costs of \$49,708 in the 2014 budget, this equates to a cost of approximately \$130 per skier visit.

According to an item on the the website Discover Canadian Outdoors (outdoors.ca) regarding the popularity of sliding and tobogganing in Canada:

The popularity of this Canadian winter pastime can be witnessed by everyone who passes a small hill. There you will find children and adults racing down the hill and spilling over into the snow. You'll hear screams of laughter and maybe a few tears. Those tears are soon replaced with "Let's do it again".

Most Canadian adults remember their childhood adventures on the toboggan hills, playing until their frozen fingers and toes sent them home for a hot chocolate. They can't wait until their own children are old enough to take them for their first sled ride. Canadian tobogganing is a tradition handed down from generation to generation.

Along with ice skating, tobogganing in Canada is one of the least expensive of Canadian winter activities. All one needs is warm winter clothes and a cheap toboggan. Heck, even a piece of cardboard will perform nicely.

Signed By

Report Prepared By

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Recommended by the Department

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Recommended by the C.A.O.

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Converting the Ski Hill to a Sliding Hill would result in annual operating budget savings estimated to be in the amount of \$35,000 annually and would also avoid future capital costs associated with the ongoing maintenance and eventual upgrades to ski lift equipment. At the same time, it would open the hill to an affordable and popular winter activity.