

For Information Only

Therapeutic Pool Update

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Recommendation

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Background

In November 2013, a consulting team led by Monteith Brown Planning Consultants was retained by the City of Greater Sudbury to prepare a Therapeutic Pool Feasibility Study to identify the potential need and viability for the development of an indoor aquatic facility at the Lionel E. Lalonde Centre in Azilda. The feasibility study explored two indoor aquatic facility types:

- Stand-alone Therapy Pool
- Multi-use Pool (Combination of Therapy Pool/Leisure Pool)

The creation of a new pool in the former Rayside-Balfour area has been a community vision for some time. The development of a Therapeutic Pool project plan was listed as a Healthy Community priority project in the City's 2012-2014 Strategic Plan. In recent years, the City has emphasized its interest in active living and healthy communities by promoting and providing easily accessible opportunities for all members of our community.

The feasibility study recommended a multi-use pool with an estimated project value of \$4.7 million and would accommodate similar activities to a stand-alone Therapeutic Pool but would also have the advantage of accommodating a wider range of opportunities, specifically for infants, toddlers, and young children to participate in swimming lessons and leisure swimming. The aquatic facility would be approximately 7,400 square feet, including pool tank, deck space, change room, studio, control desk, storage, and mechanical.

Subsequent to the feasibility report, community mobilization and high level discussions with provincial funders have occurred. This report will provide a status update and describe potential next steps in further exploring the construction of a therapeutic/leisure pool for the City of Greater Sudbury.

Signed By

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What Has Happened?

A meeting with Minister Michael Gravelle (Northern Development and Mines) occurred on March 27, 2014. The meeting was attended by Councillor Dutrisac, community representation and city staff. A subsequent meeting followed with NOHFC project officers, city staff, Councillor Dutrisac and community representatives, where details of an NOHFC grant application and requirements were discussed.

What's Next?

Regarding next steps, staff will proceed with Phase 1 of an application for the Strategic Infrastructure Program offered by the NOHFC, to provide a high level description of the project for further consideration by the NOHFC Board. It is anticipated that a decision to proceed will be rendered with a few weeks of the NOHFC Board Meeting (occurring in mid-April). Phase 2 (a more detailed business plan based application) would be required approximately 2-3 months after receiving approval for Phase 1. The full project cost (\$4.7M) will be requested.

Regarding community mobilization and local activities, Councillor Dutrisac will be coordinating a fundraising committee to seek local donations from individuals and organizations. A community survey will also be distributed (available electronically and via hard copy) and consultation will occur during the Parks, Open Space and Leisure Master Plan Community Consultation sessions.

Several other funding opportunities will also be explored to ascertain the viability of applying for additional grants. These opportunities include:

- New Building Canada Fund (administered through the Ministry of Infrastructure)
- Community Based Projects for Seniors (Employment and Social Development Canada)
- Seniors Community Grant Program (Ontario Seniors' Secretariat)
- New Horizons for Seniors (Employment and Social Development Canada)
- FedNor
- Other private grant sources (also being explored)

It will also be important for the project to demonstrate community partnerships and leveraging of funds from other sources. Potential community partnerships will be explored, to provide support and leverage potential contributions (cash or in-kind), to enhance the project.