

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA**

**REPORT RC-2014-0018**

**FOR CONSIDERATION OF  
COUNCIL  
MAY 14, 2014**

**SUBJECT: RECREATION FACILITY NEEDS STUDY – FINAL REPORT**

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. That Council receive Report No. RC-2014-0018 prepared by the Recreation and Culture Department dated May 14, 2014 respecting the Recreation Facility Needs Study – Final Report.**
- 2. That Council adopt the Recreation Facility Needs Study.**
- 3. That Council adopt the Parkland Standards Manual.**
- 4. That Council approve the establishment of a Multi-Use Recreation Centre Building Committee and direct staff to develop the Terms of Reference for approval.**

**2. PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council adoption of the Recreation Facility Needs Study and the Parkland Standards Manual.

**3. BACKGROUND:**

In May 2013, Council approved a consulting team lead by Monteith Brown Planning Consultants to complete the Recreation Facility Needs Study. This study also included the development of the Parkland Standards Manual (a technical manual used to guide staff in the specifications of parkland development and construction).

Following a thorough consultation process, two public meetings, and community research, the draft Recreation Facility Needs Study was circulated for final input.

**4. ANALYSIS**

Monteith Brown Planning Consultants completed their review and prepared final recommendations for Recreation Facility Needs following a two phase process:

- Phase 1 – Inventory and Analysis

- Review of the Town's 2004 Leisure Services Master Plan and related studies
- Examination of Georgina's socio-demographic profile and possible implications on facility needs
- Identification of trends and best practices in participation and facility provision
- Updating the inventory of existing facilities and examining past utilization
- Extensive public and stakeholder engagement to identify Georgina-specific issues and priorities
- Development of guiding principles for future facility provision
- Phase 2 – Facility Needs Assessment Study
  - Assessment of existing facilities, including their ability to meet current and future needs
  - Identification of recreation facility gaps and needs for additional facilities over time
  - Development of facility provision options and high level concept plans
  - Review of funding sources and partnership opportunities
  - Development of site evaluation criteria for significant recreation facilities
  - Preparation of order of magnitude cost estimates associated with major facility options
  - Development of an implementation plan identifying priorities, timing, and roles/responsibilities

As a result of the review, a total of 44 recommendations (Attachment #1) were provided including comments regarding the following recreational facilities:

- Ice Pads/Arena
- Curling Facilities
- Indoor Pool
- Youth Centres
- Seniors Facilities (Club 55)
- Gymnasiums & Multi-Use Program Spaces
- Indoor Walking Track
- Fitness Facilities
- Indoor Turf Facilities
- Community Halls
- Arts & Culture Facilities
- Other Indoor Facilities
- Civic Administration Building
- Library Branch
- Retail/Commercial Uses
- Soccer Fields
- Ball Diamonds
- Tennis Courts
- Basketball Courts
- Skateboard Parks
- Playgrounds
- Splash Pads
- Parkland Requirements
- New Multi-Use Recreation Centre

Upon Council's adoption of the Recreation Facility Needs Study, staff would begin the implementation process of the study, including but not limited to the development of the proposed Multi-Use Recreation Centre in south Keswick. This would include land acquisition, confirmation of project scope, sourcing of funding and partnership opportunities and overall project management. The initial step in this process would be to establish a Building Committee for the proposed Multi-Use Recreation Centre. The Building Committee would consist of key municipal staff, Council representation and community members. If the recommendation for the establishment of a Building Committee is approved, staff would develop the terms of reference and return to Council for approval.

In addition, Monteith Brown Planning Consultants (in conjunction with Cosburn Giberson Landscape Architects) also contracted the development of the Town of Georgina's Parkland Standards Manual. This manual would provide performance standards that are contemporary in the industry and would assist Council, staff, community representatives and development partners in the creation of a sustainable and diverse parkland and open space system. The manual is intended to be a guideline of technical details that would need to be tailored to the circumstances of individual sites, for example: geotechnical design for soil stability, etc. This manual includes:

- Policy directions and guidelines
- Performance standards and servicing requirements
- Construction details and facility layout requirements

Together, the Recreation Facility Needs Study and the Parkland Standards Manual would provide Council and the Recreation and Culture Department guidance on the provision of recreation and culture facilities for the next ten to twenty years.

## **5. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS AND BUDGET IMPACT**

Consultant fees are on target to be within budget at the time of this report.

With new infrastructure there would be a financial impact, therefore, as the different projects arise, staff would return to Council to obtain authorization.

## **6. PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND NOTICE REQUIREMENTS**

A thorough public consultation process was completed involving two public meetings, along with interviews from stakeholders, Council and staff. An online survey (and paper copy) was made available to the public to collect additional data from July 2013 to February 2014. A webpage was created for the Recreation Facility Needs Study and was updated throughout the process along with poster boards on display in Town facilities enabling the public to access information at their convenience.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

With the Recreation Facility Needs Study complete, staff are seeking Council adoption of the final report. Its recommendations would help guide Council and the Town in future recreation facility infrastructure needs for Georgina as we embark on a period of growth over the next ten to twenty years. The Parkland Standards Manual would complement the Recreation Facility Needs Study by providing staff with the standards for construction and development of future parkland needs for the Town of Georgina.

Recommended by:

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robin McDougall, B.A. KINE, DPA  
Director of Recreation and Culture

\_\_\_\_\_  
Winanne Grant, B.A., AMCT, CEMC  
Chief Administrative Officer

*Attachment 1 – Summary of Recommendations –2014 Recreation Facility Needs Study*