



**For Immediate Release**

June 23, 2021

## **Town moves forward with construction of Multi-use Recreation Complex**

**Georgina, ON** – The Town of Georgina is moving forward with the largest project in its history – construction of the Multi-use Recreation Complex (MURC). Council today approved the full build which will include a Discovery Library branch.

“After many years of planning, I am pleased we are moving forward with this important project that is essential for our growing community. It is a beautiful building destined to become a true community destination,” said Mayor Margaret Quirk. “The MURC will offer affordable, quality recreation and library services to our current residents as well as the growth that is coming to our community in the next few years. It will also be funded by development charges which means there will be no tax levy increase for residents.”

Construction of the MURC is anticipated to begin in September 2021 with anticipated completion and the facility open for use expected in the fall of 2023.

The anticipated project budget for the MURC is \$50.2 million. It will be 100 per cent funded by development charges due to legislative changes at the provincial level. There will be no tax levy increases relating to the MURC capital and operating costs. The anticipated annual net operating costs for the MURC will be approximately \$2 million. The entire amount will be funded through assessment growth, which is the new property taxes that will be collected from new development. As a result, there will be no tax levy increases relating to the MURC operating costs.

The project is designed with energy, environment, and occupant health and well-being in mind. It is being built to achieve a Gold level of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certification, one of the highest rankings available. Some of the green design components include improving water efficiency, optimizing energy performance of heating and cooling systems, using sustainable materials, improved indoor air quality, maximizing use of daylight and drought resistant plants.

The recreation complex will be located on west side of Woodbine Avenue between Glenwoods Avenue and Ravenshoe Road. It will be a community space for the whole family and will include –

- Six-lane 25-metre pool
- Therapy pool
- Double gymnasium
- Indoor walking track
- Multi-use meeting/activity rooms
- Active living space
- Discovery Library branch

The Discovery Library branch will offer one-stop services, expanded programs and new technology options. The goal is to create an inclusive environment that offers multi-purpose and multi-generational spaces to serve as a community living room and hub.

The design for the MURC was developed with public and stakeholder consultation that included public input sessions, surveys and outreach throughout the Town at various community events. Information was shared on social media, in print and online on the dedicated Building Georgina webpage. A video was also created that highlighted the community involvement in the project.

To learn more about the MURC and other Building Georgina projects, visit [georgina.ca/BuildingGeorgina](http://georgina.ca/BuildingGeorgina).

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