

## 2014 RECREATION FACILITY NEEDS STUDY

### SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Indoor Recreation Facilities *(Report Sections 4.3 to 4.15)*

1. ARENAS: The existing arena supply is sufficient to meet current needs. One additional ice pad will be required between 2021 and 2026 (for a total of 4).
2. ARENAS: As ice pads are best supplied in multiples of two and the Sutton Arena will be approaching its 50-year lifespan, consideration should be given to replacing the Sutton Arena with a twin pad in the 2021-2026 timeframe; this may take the form of a new development or twinning of the existing arena.
3. ARENAS: Conduct further study on the potential need and cost-benefit of offering year-round summer ice, as well as opportunities to enlarge the dedicated team room at the Georgina Ice Palace.
4. AQUATICS/MURC: As part of the proposed MURC in South Keswick, develop a multi-tank aquatics complex capable of accommodating competitive swimming (e.g., 25-metre, 6-lane), instructional swimming, recreational swimming, and wellness/therapeutic activities.
5. AQUATICS: Undertake further study regarding potential programmatic changes to the Georgina Leisure Pool in order to maintain its viability once the new MURC opens. This review may include options for reduced hours, alternate programming and pricing, enhanced marketing, etc. Over the longer-term (post-2021), the Town may consider redeveloping the Georgina Leisure Pool at the site of the Sutton Arena to create an efficient multi-use recreational facility in this community.
6. YOUTH SPACE/MURC: As part of the proposed MURC in South Keswick, develop a youth lounge (dedicated space).
7. YOUTH SPACE: Explore options for providing dedicated space for youth activities at the Pefferlaw Lions Community Centre, either through an internal reconfiguration or modest expansion (500 to 1,000 square feet).
8. OLDER ADULT SPACE: In order to provide additional program space, explore opportunities for a modest expansion to the Keswick Club 55 building, including the possibility of a second-floor addition. This project may result in the loss of adjacent parkland and should be coordinated with potential improvements to Stephen Leacock Theatre (including dedicated entrances for both the seniors' facility and the theatre).
9. OLDER ADULT SPACE/MURC: As part of the proposed MURC in South Keswick, develop a Club 55 lounge (dedicated space / satellite).
10. OLDER ADULT SPACE: When full accessibility is required, redirect Sutton Club 55 programming to the Sutton Arena Hall and/or future Sutton Community Hub.
11. GYMNASIUMS/MURC: As part of the proposed MURC in South Keswick, develop multi-use activity spaces including a double gymnasium, multi-purpose activity studio, multi-use program room, and meeting room.
12. INDOOR TRACK/MURC: As part of the proposed MURC in South Keswick, develop an indoor walking track, possibly elevated above the proposed gymnasium.
13. FITNESS/MURC: As part of the proposed MURC in South Keswick, explore third-party interest in the operation of an equipment-based fitness centre to complement the other proposed facility

components (e.g., aquatic centre, gymnasium, program rooms, etc.). Should a partnership not be possible, the Town should consider offering additional space for active living programming.

14. INDOOR TURF: Continue to monitor local demand for a multi-sport indoor turf facility and evaluate partnership opportunities should they arise. Such a facility is not recommended at this time.
15. COMMUNITY HALLS: As part of an asset management program, undertake building condition audits and accessibility audits of each community hall to identify their short- and long-term capital maintenance and barrier-free requirements.
16. COMMUNITY HALLS: Consider upgrades to the De La Salle Chapel to improve functionality and to strengthen its rental profile (e.g., expanded kitchen, electrical service, etc.).
17. COMMUNITY HALLS: Work with the Belhaven Hall Board to undertake barrier-free improvements to the Belhaven Hall, including the installation of an elevator/lift and/or accessible washrooms.
18. COMMUNITY HALLS: As opportunities arise, seek ways to improve the flexibility and multi-use nature of existing community halls to make them more conducive to a wider range of activities (e.g., fitness programs, etc.).
19. COMMUNITY HALLS: Continue to work with the Hall Boards and local community organizations to maximize the utilization of community halls through expanded program development and facility marketing efforts.
20. COMMUNITY HALLS: Consider the divestiture of vacant halls (Elmgrove Hall, Pefferlaw Youth Centre, and Virginia Hall), as well as Roches Point Memorial Hall (as per the terms of its agreement, the Town must offer Roches Point back to the Laidlaw Foundation).
21. COMMUNITY HALLS/MURC: The municipal provision of a banquet or conference centre facility is not recommended for the proposed MURC or any other site.
22. ARTS & CULTURE FACILITIES: Undertake accessibility and technical improvements to the Stephen Leacock Theatre, in coordination with the potential expansion to the Keswick Club 55 centre.
23. ARTS & CULTURE FACILITIES: Conduct a coordinated business plan for the Georgina Pioneer Village, Stephen Leacock Theatre, and local cultural programming in order to identify actionable strategies for many of the high level recommendations in the Municipal Cultural Plan.
24. OTHER INDOOR FACILITIES/MURC: Through further study, consider opportunities for the relocation of the Town's administrative offices, with the future site of the proposed South Keswick MURC being one possible location.
25. OTHER INDOOR FACILITIES.MURC: As part of the proposed MURC in South Keswick, explore options for developing an "express branch" library (approximately 5,000 square feet; to be confirmed through ongoing discussion with the Library Board).
26. OTHER INDOOR FACILITIES/MURC: As part of the proposed MURC in South Keswick, the Town may consider issuing an Expression of Interest to solicit interest in non-traditional partnership opportunities involving complementary uses.

### **Outdoor Sports Fields and Park Facilities** *(Report Sections 4.16 & 4.17)*

27. **SOCCER FIELDS**: Work with the Soccer Club to reconfigure existing fields at sites beyond The ROC (including De La Salle and Highcastle Parks) to meet the needs of the long term player development model.
28. **SOCCER FIELDS**: Examine the feasibility of installing field lights to one additional full size soccer field at The ROC. Additional upgrades to the soccer fields and support amenities at The ROC should be discussed further with the Soccer Club, with consideration to cost-sharing arrangements for value-added upgrades.
29. **SOCCER FIELDS**: Should additional soccer field development be required in the future, priority should be given to the creation of larger fields (i.e., capable of accommodating 9v9 and above).
30. **BALL DIAMONDS**: Examine the feasibility of installing lights to one additional ball diamond at The ROC, as well as installing a batting cage in association with user groups.
31. **BALL DIAMONDS**: Should additional diamond development be required in the future, priority should be given to the creation of adult diamonds with lights.
32. **BALL DIAMONDS**: Confirm the viability of maintaining active recreational uses at West Park. Should the Town not deem the site to be viable, a minimum of three lit ball diamonds should be replaced at a new site (through land acquisition or dedication) and the public should be consulted to determine alternate municipal or private uses for the developable portion of the park.
33. **TENNIS COURTS**: Through future park development, consider the development of a two court complex capable of accommodating tennis and/or pickleball.
34. **BASKETBALL COURTS**: Where appropriate, continue to incorporate basketball hoops into community and/or larger neighbourhood parks within developing residential areas.
35. **SKATEBOARD PARKS**: Where park design allows, install smaller "introductory level" skateboard features in new parks within developing areas to improve accessibility to youth.
36. **PLAYGROUNDS**: Evaluate the need for playgrounds in newly developing residential areas based on the recommended target of one every 800-metres or less from all residential units in urban areas (without crossing a major physical barrier).
37. **SPLASH PADS**: Through future park development, provide one additional splash pad by 2021 in Sutton and another by 2031 in a location to be determined.

### **Parkland** *(Section 4.18)*

38. Maintain the current parkland classification system (Neighbourhood and Community Parks), but consider the addition of a new subset of Neighbourhood Parks – Village Greens – within the next Official Plan Review.
39. Strive to maintain a minimum Town-wide service level of 2.25 hectares of active parkland per 1,000 residents to provide the Town's future residents with a responsive and accessible supply of land for recreational purposes.
40. The parkland inventory database should be updated regularly for the purpose of keeping ongoing documenting on parks and open spaces in the Town of Georgina. Monitor active parkland supplies and put in place strategies to achieve the recommended target.

41. Seek to maximize *Planning Act* provisions in acquiring active parkland (or cash-in-lieu). The parkland policy considerations identified in this Study should be evaluated through the Town's next Official Plan review.
42. Prepare a Waterfront Parkland Strategy to identify opportunities for improving existing municipal assets (e.g., public beaches, shorelines, support infrastructure, etc.) and enhancing public access to the Town's waterfront.

**MURC Implementation** (*Report Sections 4.19, 5 & 6*)

43. The Town may entertain proposals from proponents wishing to develop, operate, or be a primary tenant in facilities not currently provided by the municipality, including the proposed South Keswick MURC. Proposals must be accompanied by a proper business plan and partnership agreement acceptable to the Town, with consideration being given to appropriate community access and financial sustainability.
44. The Town should form a Building Committee to oversee the MURC project. As a first task, the Building Committee should work to confirm the site, proposed space program, and cost estimates for the Multi-use Recreation Centre. The Town may wish to engage a Project Management Consultant to provide services throughout the remaining stages of the development of the MURC.