

DATE: January 13, 2017

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: Kathleen Soltis, City Manager

SUBJECT: Aquatic Needs Assessment: Four Seasons Leisure Pool

ATTACHMENT(S): Four Seasons Leisure Pool Talktober 2016 Poster Overview

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. That the report dated January 13, 2017 from the City Manager titled “Aquatic Needs Assessment: Four Seasons Leisure Pool” be received for information

PURPOSE:

To provide Council with a recommended option to pursue further, from the Dialog Aquatic Needs Assessment (ANA) report presented to Council in September 2016, which addresses the need to replace the aging Four Seasons Leisure Pool (FSLP).

BACKGROUND:

The Aquatic Needs Assessment (ANA) was presented to Council September 12th 2016 (Agenda Item F3), to advise the City on how to best provide aquatic services to residents over the next five to fifteen years. This study included a review of how the two current aquatic facilities (Four Seasons Leisure Pool and Prince George Aquatic Centre) are performing. It further reviewed whether they are capable of continuing to provide the amenities and services City residents need, or if they need to be renovated/re-built to do so. This assessment also recommended potential siting options for the FSLP.

The ANA included the following recommended aquatic options (costs were estimated in 2016 and did not include demolition):

- Option 1 – Replacement of Four Seasons Leisure Pool (Est. Capital cost 33M)
- Option 2 – Replacement of Four Seasons Leisure Pool (Option 1) and Repair and Additions to Aquatic Centre (Est. Capital cost 63M)
- Option 3 – Leave Four Seasons Leisure Pool as-is and large expansion to Aquatic Centre (Est. Capital cost 37M)

For both Option 1 and 2 for the Four Seasons Leisure Pool replacement, potential siting options were identified in or near the downtown.

ANALYSIS:

The replacement of the FSLP has been identified as the minimum requirement to meet today’s aquatic needs, with pressing health and safety concerns to be addressed within the next couple years.

Community feedback indicated a preference to maintain two separate aquatic facilities, and that the FSLP replacement should be located in a similar vicinity to its current location in the downtown.

As the FSLP is nearing the end of its useful life (almost 50 years old) and demonstrates the greatest need, due to the extensive repairs necessary to meet the needs of users in the community, Administration recommends that Option 1 to replace the FSLP be pursued. Therefore, the FSLP demolition and replacement project costs have been included for Council's consideration within the funded portion of the proposed 2017-2021 Financial Plan.

The Four Seasons Leisure Pool is recommended to be replaced in the downtown. The FSLP replacement should have a similar design for its tanks, and have updated change rooms, accessibility from the front door through to entering the tanks, and public gathering spaces.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

This proposal supports Council's focus areas to "*Prioritize service, transportation, recreation, and facility infrastructure needs and investment*" to meet the aquatic needs of the community, as expressed through the Aquatic Needs Assessment and Community Recreation Services Plan.

Maintaining the location of the Four Seasons Leisure Pool within the downtown ensures continued alignment with the City of Prince George Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 8383, 2011 and Smart Growth on the Ground Downtown Concept Plan. The need to address the Four Season's Leisure Pool aging infrastructure was heard from City of Prince George residents again through Council's Talktober 2016 event.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:


Replacement of the Four Seasons Leisure Pool and demolition of the old facility are included within the funded portion of the proposed 2017-2021 Financial Plan for 35M (Capital Project No. 1504) to be considered by Council at the scheduled February 1st 2017 Budget meeting.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

Further to the options presented in the ANA report, Administration recommends that replacement of the Four Seasons Leisure Pool be pursued within the downtown and as such has been included within the funded portion of the proposed 2017-2021 Capital Plan to be considered by Council during the Budget Meeting on February 1st.

Subject to the budget meeting discussion and results, Administration's intent is to review siting options in the downtown that will allow the FSLP to remain open during proposed new construction to ensure aquatic needs continue to be met within the community. Administration will provide Council with updates at a later date should the proposed project budget be approved, and will recommend a public communication strategy to Council regarding this expenditure.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED AND APPROVED:



Kathleen Soltis, City Manager

PREPARED BY: Tiina Schaeffer, Manager of Sustainable Community Development

Meeting date: January 23, 2017