

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

1100 Patricia Blvd. | Prince George, BC, Canada V2L 3V9 | www.princegeorge.ca

DATE: May 9, 2022

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: Andy Beesley, Director of Recreation & Events

SUBJECT: New Downtown Pool Operations

ATTACHMENT(S): None

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated May 9, 2022 from the Director of Recreation and Events, titled "New Downtown Pool Operations."

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to review the operation plan of the new downtown pool.

OVERVIEW:

The new downtown pool will offer a six lane 25-metre pool, a NinjaCross obstacle course, a four lane 25-metre teaching/family pool, a leisure pool with beach entry and lazy river, children's water play features, a waterslide, dedicated male and female change rooms, and a large universal change room providing private accessible change spaces. Additionally there is a sauna, hot tub and steam room along with two multipurpose rooms which can be converted into one large meeting space.


The recruitment and selection for a minimum of 30 new employees including lifeguard, cashier and maintenance positions will occur over the months of May – August.

Upon the project completion and handover, two weeks will be allotted to train and orient aquatic staff, followed by a soft opening where customers may register online or book their swim by phone. Full operations including drop-in admissions, swimming lessons and aquafit etc. will be available on the City's website, and widely communicated to the public. A formal grand opening date and event will also be planned.


HOURS OF OPERATION:

The hours of operation for the new pool during the fall/winter and spring season are comparable to what the Four Seasons Leisure Pool hours had been. Everyone Welcome Swim will occur from 9am - 8:15pm Monday – Thursday and 9am - 9pm on Fridays. To accommodate the anticipated demand on the weekends, Everyone Welcome Swim will occur from 9am – 8:00pm adding an additional five hours on the weekend. To make up for the additional hours, the P.G. Aquatic Centre will close one hour earlier on weekdays (9pm). The NinjaCross obstacle course will be available Friday evenings from 6:30pm - 9pm and Saturday/Sunday from 1:30pm to 3:30pm and 6:30pm-8pm. The waterslide will be open from 4pm – 8pm Monday – Thursday, Friday from 4pm – 9pm and on weekends from 10am – 8pm.

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Fall/Winter/Spring Swim Schedule							
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Everyone Welcome Swim	9:00am-8:15pm	9:00am-8:15pm	9:00am-8:15pm	9:00am-8:15pm	9:00am-9:00pm	9:00am-8:00pm	9:00am-8:00pm
	Pool space is shared with programs & rentals Limited teach pool & main pool space Mon - Fri between 3pm-7pm and Sat/Sun between 9am-12pm						
 NINJACROSS	No lanes available when the NinjaCross equipment is out				6:30pm-9:00pm	1:30pm-3:30pm 6:30pm-8:00pm	1:30pm-3:30pm 6:30pm-8:00pm
Discount Swim	12:00pm-1:00pm 2:00pm-3:00pm	12:00pm-1:00pm 2:00pm-3:00pm	12:00pm-1:00pm 2:00pm-3:00pm	12:00pm-1:00pm 2:00pm-3:00pm	12:00pm-1:00pm 2:00pm-3:00pm		
	Discount Swims are not valid during special events, statutory holidays or school vacations Discount Swims are valid during all School District #57 Non-Instructional Days						
Waterslide	4:00pm-8:00pm	4:00pm-8:00pm	4:00pm-8:00pm	4:00pm-8:00pm	4:00pm-9:00pm	10:00am-8:00pm	10:00am-8:00pm
	Slide operates on intervals of 20 minutes on and 10 minutes off May be requested outside of the posted schedule						
Lanes	Two lanes available daily other than when the NinjaCross equipment is out						

Over the summer months (July/August) the hours at the new pool are also comparable to what the Four Seasons Leisure Pool hours had been. Everyone Welcome Swim will occur from 9am - 8pm Monday – Friday and 1pm - 7:30pm on weekends. To make up for the additional five hours on the weekends, the P.G. Aquatic Centre will continue to close one hour earlier on weekdays (9pm). The NinjaCross will be available weekdays from 1:30pm - 3:30pm and 6:30pm - 8pm and on weekends from 1:30 – 3:30pm and 6:30pm – 7:30pm. The waterslide will be open from 10am – 8pm Monday – Friday and on weekends from 1pm – 7:30pm.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Everyone Welcome	9:00am-8:00pm	9:00am-8:00pm	9:00am-8:00pm	9:00am-8:00pm	9:00am-8:00pm	1:00pm-7:30pm	1pm-7:30pm
	Pool space is shared with programs & rentals Limited teach pool & main pool space Mon - Fri between 9am-12pm						
 NINJACROSS	1:30pm-3:30pm 6:30pm-8:00pm	1:30pm-3:30pm 6:30pm-8:00pm	1:30pm-3:30pm 6:30pm-8:00pm	1:30pm-3:30pm 6:30pm-8:00pm	1:30pm-3:30pm 6:30pm-8:00pm	1:30pm-3:30pm 6:30pm-7:30pm	1:30pm-3:30pm 6:30pm-7:30pm
	No lanes available when the NinjaCross equipment is out						
Waterslide	10:00am-8:00pm	10:00am-8:00pm	10:00am-8:00pm	10:00am-8:00pm	10:00am-8:00pm	1:00pm-7:30pm	1pm-7:30pm
	Slide operates on intervals of 20 minutes on and 10 minutes off May be requested outside of the posted schedule						
Lanes	Two lanes available daily other than during when the Ninja Cross equipment is out						

AQUAFIT:

New aquafit programs will be offered at the new downtown pool which include; **Aqua Step** where participants are provided a submersible water step, **Aqua Shape** where participants use strength building equipment and **Aqua River Running**. These new programs being offered are in addition to popular classes which were previously held at Four Seasons.

Fall/Winter/Spring Aquafit Schedule				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:05am-9:50am Aqua Step Main Pool	9:00am-9:30am River Running River	9:05am-9:50am Aqua Step Main Pool	9:00am-9:30am River Running River	9:05am-9:50am Aqua Step Main Pool
10:00am-10:45am ROM Teach Pool		10:00am-10:45am ROM Teach Pool	10:15am-11:00am Aqua Shape Teach Pool	10:00am-10:45am ROM Teach Pool
coffee & tea available after range of motion class - room 2				
12:10pm-12:45pm Deep Main Pool	12:10pm-12:45pm Deep Running Main Pool	12:10pm-12:45pm Deep Main Pool	12:10pm-12:45pm Deep Running Main Pool	12:10pm-12:45pm Deep Main Pool
5:30pm-6:20pm Shallow Main Pool	5:30pm-6:15pm Aqua Shape Main Pool	5:30pm-6:20pm Shallow Main Pool	5:30pm-6:15pm Aqua Shape Main Pool	5:30pm-6:20pm Shallow Main Pool
	7:30pm-8:10pm Aqua Step Main Pool		7:30pm-8:10pm Aqua Step Main Pool	

Summer Aquafit Schedule				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00am-9:45am ROM Teach Pool		9:00am-9:45am ROM Teach Pool		9:00am-9:45am ROM Teach Pool
12:10pm-12:45pm Deep Main Pool		12:10pm-12:45pm Deep Main Pool		12:10pm-12:45pm Deep Main Pool
	5:30pm-6:15pm Aqua Step Main Pool		5:30pm-6:15pm Aqua Step Main Pool	

SWIMMING LESSONS:

The new pool is ideal for swimming lessons with its 25 metre teaching pool, varying pool depths, warm water, and universal change rooms. The new pool will be the primary location for all swimming lessons. A variety of swimming lesson options are available seven days of the week including Monday/Wednesday lessons, Tuesday/Thursday lessons, Friday only lessons, Saturday and Sunday only lessons. Over the summer months five day a week lessons will be available.

It should be noted that the Canadian Red Cross has decided to wind down their Swimming and Water Safety Programs across Canada over the course of 2022. The City of P.G. has offered Red Cross swimming lessons to residents and neighboring communities over the past 50 years. The Aquatic Division is preparing to transition to the Lifesaving Society's "Swim for Life" lesson program beginning in January 2023. Red Cross swimming lessons will continue to be available for registration throughout 2022 and more information will be shared with residents over the duration of the year to ensure a smooth transition for customers to the new swimming lesson program.

Swimming Lessons		
Oct - June		
Days	Times	Levels
M/W	9am-11am	Preschool
M/W	4pm-7:30pm	All Levels
T/Th	9am-11am	Preschool
T/Th	4pm-7:30pm	All Levels
Friday	4-8pm	All Levels
Saturday	9-1pm	All Levels
Sunday	9-1pm	All Levels
Private Swimming Lessons Available		

Swimming Lessons		
July & August		
Days	Times	Levels
Mon-Fri	9am-1pm	All Levels
Tues/Thur	3:30pm-7:30pm	All Levels
Mon/Wed	3:30-7:30pm	All Levels
Private Swimming Lessons Available		

SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

School Bookings will be available at the new pool and consist of general recreation swimming and swimming lessons.

Birthday Parties will be offered on weekends at the new pool which include the use of both multipurpose rooms allowing two parties to occur at the same time.

Leadership programs such as Lifesaving, Lifeguarding and Water Safety Instructor courses will occur at both pools throughout the evenings and weekends.

Pool Rentals for swim clubs will continue to be offered primarily at the Aquatic Centre with the exception of the BC Special Olympics Swim Club which will occur at the new pool as was the practice at Four Seasons Pool. Lane rental and facility rental bookings are available for non-profit and commercial organizations. The Multipurpose rooms are available for recreation bookings.

Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation will occur at the new pool with agencies renting designated pool space, or entering into a third party billing arrangement for drop-in visits.

The **School Adaptive Program** is a partnership with School District #57, the Child Development Centre and the City of P.G. where students come to the pool with their educational assistants or a family member and work on swim skills and physiotherapy goals. A physiotherapist and therapy assistant works with the students and care givers to achieve their goals. This program will occur Tuesday mornings at the new pool.

Special Events at the pool are considered bookings which preempt the regular pool schedule. These events may be geared for families, children, adults or teens. It may include sporting events and private functions. Special events will evolve based upon pool demand and community interest.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

The new pool will distinguish itself from the Aquatic Centre by the pool amenities and programs being offered encouraging customers to use both pool facilities regularly. Review of pool visits and program usage will occur regularly allowing for operational adjustment to ensure the highest levels of service while operating in a cost efficient manner.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Andy Beesley, Director of Recreation & Events

PREPARED BY: Jim Worthington, Manager of Aquatics Division

APPROVED:

Walter Babicz, City Manager

Meeting Date: May 9, 2022