

**DATE:** March 13, 2023

**TO:** MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**NAME AND TITLE:** Andy Beesley, Director, Civic Facilities and Events

**SUBJECT:** Prince George Conference and Civic Centre Flooring Project

**ATTACHMENT(S):** None

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That Council APPROVES the change in scope for the Prince George Conference and Civic Centre flooring project as described in the report dated March 13, 2023 from the Director of Civic Facilities and Events titled “Prince George Conference and Civic Centre Flooring Project.”

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this report is to request Council’s approval to change the scope of the approved CC-Replace Flooring capital project from “Replace the flooring in the main auditorium of the Prince George Conference and Civic Centre (PGCCC)”, to “Refurbish the existing floor, purchase/upgrade related equipment, and purchase sections of removable carpet.”

**BACKGROUND:**

The PGCCC facility was established in 1994 as the City’s multi-purpose conference and special event centre for community gatherings and recreational use. The PGCCC building provides two levels of event space complete with an auditorium featuring maple wood-sprung flooring with gymnasium game lines that support court sports in addition to providing a space for various large events.

On May 28, 2018, Administration provided Council with a report indicating the need to replace the existing PGCCC auditorium floor with a non-sport flooring surface. The report identified that recreational use of the PGCCC auditorium space had declined with the opening of the 2007 Northern Sports Centre and the PGCCC auditorium use focused on special event, banquet, and conference bookings. The report proposed the installation of carpet tile over the existing hardwood floor to create a premiere meeting and convention space, although the new flooring would eliminate recreational court use of the auditorium space.

In 2020, Council approved a capital project to install new carpet over the PGCCC auditorium hardwood floor and replace flooring on the second level. In 2020, Administration installed new carpet tile flooring on the second level of the PGCCC. The facility remained closed for an extended period during the Covid-19 pandemic and reopened in late 2021.

The PGCCC is seeing an increasing demand of event bookings in 2023 for conferences, banquets, and special events, as well as for recreational use for tournaments and growing sports such as

pickleball. Administration is looking to meet the demands for multi-purpose use by retaining the existing auditorium space wood flooring and pursuing project works in 2023 that include:

- screening and refinishing the auditorium maple wood-sprung flooring,
- exploring options to purchase removable carpet tiles for events, and
- purchasing related recreation equipment and auditorium door thresholds.

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

This project will support the Social Health and Well-Being priority by maximizing the quality of life for residents and encouraging a more vibrant civic core.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

During the budget meetings in January 2020, Council approved a budget amount of \$296,885 for the CC-Replace Flooring capital project. A total of \$98,470 was used in 2020 to replace flooring on the PGCCC second level. The remaining \$198,415 budget would be used in 2023 to screen and refinish the auditorium floor, and purchase removable carpet tile, related recreation equipment, and auditorium door thresholds.

**SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:**

The Prince George Conference and Civic Centre capital project scope requires Council's approval for revision to meet community needs. The original project scope included the installation of a new carpet floor in the auditorium to support conference and meeting uses, while eliminating recreational court use. Administration is proposing a revised project scope in 2023 that would include refinishing of the auditorium floor and purchasing related recreation equipment, as well as removable carpet tiles to support an increasing facility demand for both special event and recreational court use.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

Andy Beesley, Director, Civic Facilities and Events

**PREPARED BY:** [Debbie Heywood, Manager, Event Services]

**APPROVED:**

Walter Babicz, City Manager

Meeting Date: 2023/03/27