

COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor & Council

From: Recreation Services

Date: May 24, 2024

Subject: NDIT – Community Places – Pool Upgrades

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council supports the District's application to the NDIT Recreation Infrastructure grant program to cover 50% of the estimated \$503,590 project cost for the pool upgrade project;

AND THAT Council commits to finance 28% of the project at an estimated cost of \$141,795 and any unanticipated cost overruns, ineligible expenses, and any ongoing maintenance and operating costs associated with the operations of the completed project;

AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the grant application and, if the application is successful, any related documentation.

BACKGROUND:

The District of Mackenzie's Council Strategic Priorities indicate a goal of "providing a high quality of life" which includes barriers to access and inclusion being removed and infrastructure and services being maintained to high standards.

The project being proposed includes:

- Replacing pool tiles (already approved in the 2024 capital budget)
- Updating main bathrooms (already approved in the 2024 capital budget)
- Replacing slide in pool

Refurbishing Pool Tiles

During the 2024 budget process Council approved a capital project to replace tiles in the pool area. When staff researched the options for replacing the pool tile, the recommended solution was to lay a product over the existing tiles. This new product is anti-fatigue, shock absorbing and slip resistant which would create a safer environment for patrons and staff. The cost for the project is \$119,630 from the allocated \$240,000 budget.

Update Main Bathrooms

This project includes upgrading the main lobby washrooms to make them fully accessible allowing them to eliminate a barrier to access and inclusion as per the District of Mackenzie Accessibility Committee. \$15,000 has been allocated to this project.

Replace Slide in Pool

The current slide in the pool is a residential slide, and there are safety concerns with the ladder being too steep and smaller kids falling off the back from slippery feet. Replacing the slide, which has currently been removed, will create another recreational opportunity in the pool for residents and visitors.

GRANT OVERVIEW:

The Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) Recreation Infrastructure program supports community efforts to create and support recreational infrastructure, such as arenas, gymnasiums, golf courses, fields, boat launches and others, to encourage resident attraction and retention while also increasing opportunities for sport tourism. This program is set up to support new construction projects or upgrades and repairs to existing facilities. Eligible projects must be community oriented and accessible to all members of the community (not limited to a private membership). Eligible applicants can receive 50% funding.

Estimated project budget:

Pool Flooring	\$119,628
Washroom Upgrades	\$ 13,827
Pool Slide	\$370,135
Total Project Cost	\$503,590

Estimated project funding:

- NDIT – 50%: \$251,795
- District of Mackenzie – 28%: \$141,795
- School District 57 Trust - 22%: \$110,000
 - o Staff are currently in discussions with School District (SD57) to use the money held in trust as part of the joint use agreement to help fund the replacement of the slide that can be used by students when visiting the facility as well as the general public.

NOTE: Smaller versions of the slide have been quoted in the \$150,000-\$225,000 range and staff plan to bring Council forward a couple options to select from with different price tags before moving forward with the project. If a smaller slide is selected, then the District's project contribution will be reduced.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

\$255,000 has already been allocated to this project during the 2024 capital budget discussions. If grant funding is approved, then the District of Mackenzie's funding will be reduced and any remaining funds will be reallocated to the Capital Renewal Reserve for use on other projects.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Community and Social Development

- Our investment in the municipality's services and infrastructure, our commitment to principles of social equity and well-being, and our belief in the value of resident engagement, creates a healthy community in which everyone feels valued and enjoys a high quality of life.

Strong Governance and Finances

- As the municipality's elected governing body, we serve all residents and businesses in the community. We engage residents and stakeholders on important issues and make our decisions through open and transparent processes. We are careful in our use of resources, mindful of the need to maintain programs and services, while also meeting the community's infrastructure needs.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Terry Gilmer, Director of Recreation Services

Reviewed By: Corporate and Financial Services

Approved By: Chief Administrative Officer