

## **COUNCIL REPORT**

**To:** Mayor and Council

**From:** Recreation Services

**Date:** July 23, 2025

**Subject:** Recreation Centre Upgrade – Pool Slide Contract Award

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council awards the purchase of an amusement pool slide from Aquatic Amusements Inc. for a price of \$290,352 plus GST;

THAT Council awards the purchase of mechanical, pump and install for the slide from Aquatic Amusements Inc. for a price of \$37,544 plus GST;

AND THAT Council authorizes the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the contract and any other related documentation.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The District of Mackenzie was successful in receiving a grant of up to \$238,147 through Northern Development Initiative Trust's (NDIT) Recreation Infrastructure Program for Recreation Centre Upgrades, which included upgrades to the pool deck flooring, lobby washroom accessibility and pool slide. Additionally, \$110,000 from a joint use agreement with School District 57 has been allocated for the pool slide upgrade portion of the project. To date, the accessible washroom project is 50% complete and the pool deck project has been completed.

Staff advertised a Request for Proposals on BC Bid, the District website, and on social media from November 12, 2024 to February 15, 2025. There were no proposals received. Therefore, staff approached multiple vendors to secure a quote with only one vendor, Aquatic Amusements Inc., providing all necessary information to move this project forward including a quote. The quote has been included in Centre Table File for further information.

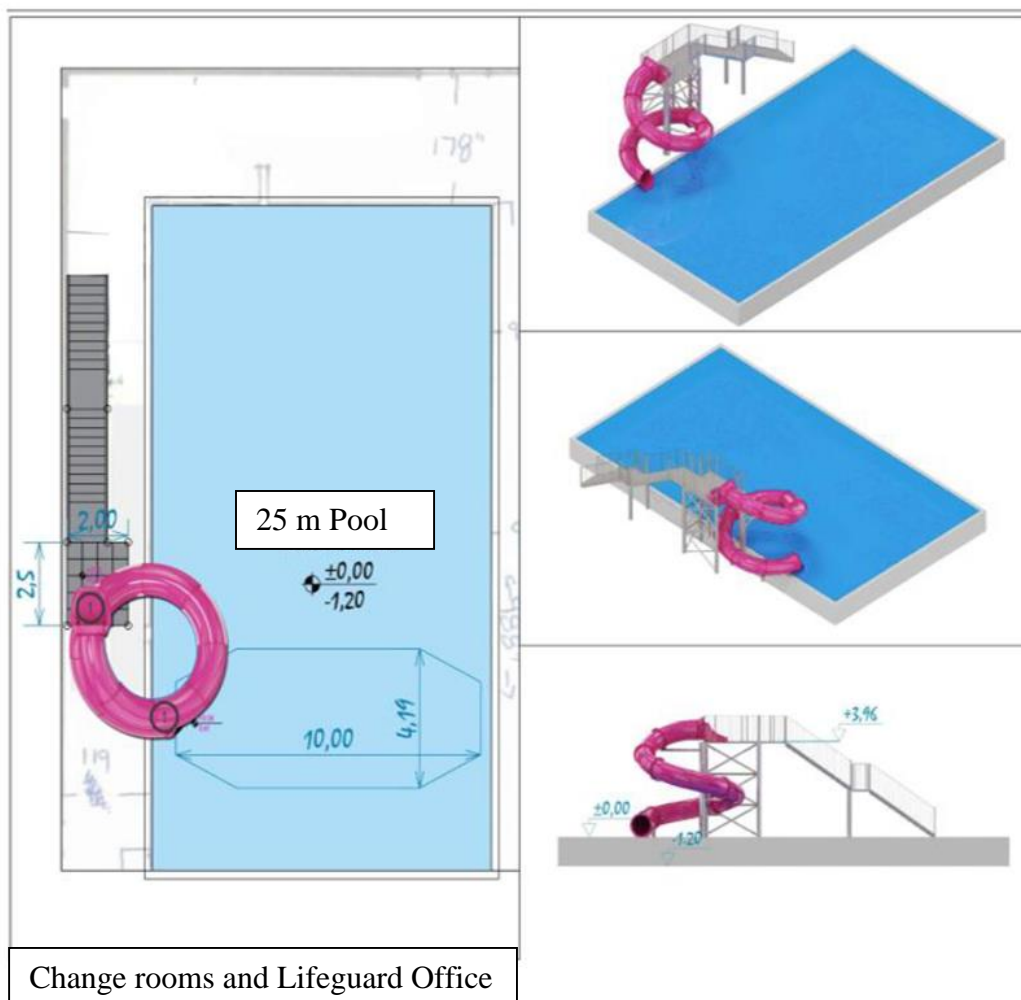
### **SUMMARY:**

Installing a waterslide at the Mackenzie Recreation Centre is more than just a fun addition, it's a strategic investment in our community's health, education, and future growth. Backed by SD57's support, this project is key to rejuvenating local recreation and extending the life of the aquatic centre.

We've seen strong engagement from SD57 students in the aquatic environment on class trips, and adding a slide directly complements their experience by making the facility more appealing and exciting. Not only would it enhance youth participation, but it could also help attract new visitors to Mackenzie by offering more dynamic recreational amenities.

Swimming offers lifelong benefits for children, from improved physical health and emotional well-being to essential life skills and future job opportunities. A slide encourages more frequent visits and interest from kids who might otherwise be reluctant to swim, helping them build confidence, stay active, and connect socially in a safe environment. By making the aquatic centre more vibrant and family-friendly, this project supports both community growth and youth development. Ultimately, it gives our kids another great reason to jump into the pool.

After exploring several design options, staff selected a layout that places the slide exit in the shallow end of the pool - maximizing safety, broadening access for younger swimmers, and reducing drowning risk. This placement also avoids interference with the diving blocks, though it may limit use of the outside swim lane during swim meets due to the slide's 20" overhang.



## BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Funding to support the recommendation will be covered through the NDIT Recreation Infrastructure Program grant and School District 57 contribution. Below is a chart to help illustrate how the funding works and how staff used it to cover the costs of a slide. The columns on the left show the project costs without the funding for the slide (NDIT not providing funding for the other components of the project), which totals \$143,493 cost to the District. The columns on the right show the additional funding for the project including the slide, which totals \$148,354.15 cost to the District. Misc. includes electrical and HVAC upgrades.

<b>District Cost</b>	<b>-\$143,493.00</b>	<b>District Cost</b>	<b>-\$148,354.15</b>
NDIT	\$ -	NDIT	\$ 233,034.85
Education Trust - Slide	\$ -	Education Trust - Slide	\$ 110,000.00
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>\$343,034.85</b>
Pool Upgrades	\$128,493.00	Pool Upgrades	\$128,493.00
Bathroom	\$15,000.00	Bathroom	\$15,000.00
NO Slide	\$0.00	Slide	\$290,352.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$143,493.00</b>	Pump	\$37,544.00
		MISC	\$20,000.00
		<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$491,389.00</b>

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## 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