



City of Maple Ridge News Release

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Council Moves Leisure Centre Upgrade Project Forward

Maple Ridge, BC: On Tuesday, July 25, Council approved the recommendations for staff to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the construction of the Leisure Centre Pool Systems Upgrade.

“While the replacement and upgrades to the 37 year old mechanical systems have driven the need for this project, the ‘wow factor’ will be the new layout and amenities of the aquatic centre and a much improved customer experience from the front counter to the pool deck,” said Mayor Read. “Customers won’t really see the modern chlorination and mechanical systems. What they will immediately enjoy is the accessibility for all citizens, the beach access, the new lazy river as well as some old favourites like the slide and waterfall. This is a great investment in the community’s most visited facility. The need for this work has driven the discussions around new aquatic facilities for our community.”

“We will be back before Council in the fall with a report that outlines the proposals, pricing and timing that flows from this stage of the process. As we move toward the award of contract we continue our planning to minimize the impacts of the renovations to our users. Balancing the need for upgrades and impacts of the construction window has always been an important aspect of our project planning,” said Kelly Swift, General Manager: Parks, Recreation & Culture.

The rest of the Leisure Centre will remain open during while the construction of the estimated \$9 million upgrade is completed.

In addition to planning around helping users access other facilities, the Parks, Recreation & Culture team will collaborate with the Communications department to deliver regular updates on the project construction and take citizens behind the scenes. “The Maple Ridge Leisure Centre has over half a million customer visits a year. We want to create updates that allow citizens to see what’s happening in the ‘hard hat zone’ as their new aquatic centre emerges,” said Danielle Pope, Manager of Business Operations.

Michael Millward, Facilities Operations Manager will be overseeing the execution of the project for the City of Maple Ridge. He notes, “We are grateful for the input from citizens and pool users as this project has developed. All stakeholders are invested in delivering a finished project that people will be proud of and one that serves Maple Ridge long into the future. We appreciate the patience of the community in allowing us to do the work in the most efficient and cost-effective way.”

For more information on the Leisure Centre upgrade project please contact Michael Millward by email at mmlward@mapleridge.ca or by phone at 604-463-5221.