

Edmonton Public School Board

Pool Operation Cost Sharing

Recommendation

That the April 14, 2021, Citizen Services report CS00254, be received for information.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the December 9/11, 2020, City Council meeting, the following motion was passed:

That Administration work with the Edmonton Public School Board and return with possible cost sharing options for operations of adjacent pools, such as Scona Pool.

Executive Summary

Significant operating investment is required to operate City pools. Administration has engaged Edmonton Public School Board Administration to explore cost-sharing options for the operation of pools adjacent to highschoools, such as Scona Pool or the planned Rollie Miles Recreation Centre. At this time, no agreement has been made as there are limited funding streams available for Edmonton Public School Board to use toward this type of request. Ongoing work with City Administration and all school boards continues to identify future partner opportunities.

Report

Since December 2020, Administration has engaged with Edmonton Public Schools to review cost-sharing options for the operation of pools adjacent to school buildings. In response, Edmonton Public Schools has stated that it must ensure that all available educational funds are directed towards teaching and learning. There are no revenue streams available to publicly-funded school boards specific to partnering on operating costs of municipal recreation facilities.

Edmonton Public Schools welcomes continued discussions regarding Rollie Miles Recreation Centre adjacent or connected to Strathcona School. Ongoing capital and operating efficiencies could be achieved by sharing a limited site as well as servicing, access, and parking costs.

Administration will continue to work with all school boards to explore potential partnership opportunities and is engaging community groups on potential operations and maintenance strategies for aging recreation facilities. The work will include reviewing costs and revenues associated with the Joint Use Agreement and ensure alignment with Policy C624 Fiscal Policy For Revenue Generation.

Administration is also exploring options for alternative tools for funding recreation centres including naming rights, user and parking fees, and sponsorship.

Corporate Outcomes and Performance Management

Corporate Outcome: The City of Edmonton has a resilient financial position			
Outcome	Measures	Results	Targets
Providing health and recreation opportunities for Edmontonians in a cost effective manner	Percent cost recovery for recreation and leisure centres	2019: 44.4 percent	Increase over prior year
Corporate Outcome: Edmontonians use facilities and services that promote healthy living			
Outcome	Measures	Results	Targets
Edmontonians use recreation facilities to live healthier lives	Recreation and Leisure Centres Attendance	2019: 5,847,955	Increase over prior year

Others Reviewing this Report

- C. Owen, Deputy City Manager, Communications and Engagement
- M. Persson, Chief Financial Officer and Deputy City Manager, Financial and Corporate Services
- K. Fallis-Howell, Acting City Solicitor