



Date: April 5, 2023
To: Council
cc: Kim Ramsay, CAO
From: Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
Re: PRC Quarterly Report - January 2023 - March 2023

OVERVIEW

This report brings forward deliverables from the Parks, Recreation and Culture workplan for the fourth quarter of the 2022/23 fiscal year.

PARKS & OPEN SPACES

- Completed the demolition of the washroom building at Shubenacadie River Park and installed a 10-foot fence to enclose the ballfield.
- Applied for multiple provincial grants and awaiting confirmation.
- Installed an additional stair railing at Burntcoat Head Park.
- Awarded new custodial contracts for Rawdon RCMP and Mount Uniacke Library/RCMP buildings.
- Installed new park signs at Dawson Dowell and Shubenacadie River Park.
- Continue to remove graffiti from the Mount Uniacke and Lantz skateparks.
- Signed a lease agreement with the Walton Fire Department for the future Walton playground.
- DAR Line Q&A developed, posted online and sent to adjacent property owners following ratification of land purchase.
- Nova Centre had a pipe break during extremely cold temperatures and remediation is complete.
- Back doors at the Nova Centre replaced.
- Tendered 2023-2024 playground projects following budget approval.
- Hired 2023 Parks seasonal staff.

Community Group Funding

- Nine Mile River Trails awarded parking lot work to Kel Greg.
- Hants North is completing signage and project work is significantly complete.

SPORTSPLEX

- Facility Condition Assessment is complete and future planning for capital and operational repairs are in progress.

TOURISM

- Opened bookings for Burntcoat Head Park guided tours and special events.
- Recruitment for summer Visitor Experience Staff with 6 returning staff for Burntcoat and Fundy Tidal.
- Continually answered questions via Burntcoat and Fundy Tidal email/social media about trip planning; prospective visitors from USA, Europe and local areas.
- Worked with groups including Shubenacadie Canal Commission, East Hants Historical Society, CHArt, MDDA and others to identify 2023 tourism initiatives/events within East Hants.
- Received, processed and presented to Council the 2023 Tourism Grants:
 - East Hants Historical Society - \$5,000
 - Maitland District Development Association - \$17,000
 - Walton Area Development Association - \$3,900
 - CHArt Society - \$8,000
- Placed orders with vendors to fill the Burntcoat gift shop.
- Booking cruise excursion tours for the season; to date the following agreements have been received

- Holland America: 24 dates
 - TUI Cruises: 2 Dates Viking: 3 dates
- Tourism marketing and promotion:
 - The main channels we will be focusing on this year include improving and adding listings to NovaScotia.com.
 - Driving traffic to our own Burntcoat and Fundy Tidal websites, using search engine optimization and keywords.
 - Google business listing: this is where tourists can leave us “reviews” and it’s how most people find us online. We have added a booking option to our Burntcoat Google listing to promote guided tours.
 - Social media pages (Facebook and a new Instagram account for Burntcoat). Planning to run some paid advertisements via social media.
 - Print: booked a key ad promoting Burntcoat and Fundy Tidal in the 2023 Saltscapes Food & Travel Guide, which includes both a print & online component.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Information and Statistics

The Community Development Coordinator continued to work with a variety of community groups. Assistance was offered in a number of areas including bylaw development, funding sources, grant application support, program creation, non-profit registry of joint stocks registration assistance, asset transfers, project planning, and volunteer recruitment.

- New Grant policy developed - Not-for-Profit Insurance Grant, effective April 2023.
- Community Development e-newsletters sent to over 120 subscribers.
 - Winter Issue, Early January with grant focus and volunteer nominations.
 - Spring Issue, Late March with focus on volunteer events and new Not-for-Profit Insurance Grant.
- Community Meeting was held in February at Rawdon District Fire Hall to discuss options for the former Centre Rawdon Hall site after severe damage from vehicle collision.

Grants Processed

General Government Grant

- Hants County Christmas Angels, \$1000

AQUATICS

The East Hants Aquatic Centre had a successful winter season. With 875 people registered in programming, the team worked hard to accommodate as many individuals as possible!

- The East Hants Aquatic Centre hosted and competed in the lifesaving sport competition series in February with both staff and youth participants.
- Started hosting daytime inservices that allow more flexibility for lifeguards to receive regular training while their children are at school.
- Eight (8) staff members took their Lifesaving Instructor and First Aid Instructor training course. This course allows them to teach Bronze Star, Medallion, and Cross courses along with First Aid.
- First session running Bubbles & Babies. This program is a 1-hour program where parents enjoy both instructor led activities and free play. Both sessions of Bubbles & Babies was fully booked.

Winter 2023 Lesson Totals	Total: 875
Parent & Tot	Total: 172
Parent & Tot 1	42
Parent & Tot 2	50
Parent & Tot 3	40
Bubbles & Babies	40
Preschool	Total: 163
Preschool 1	43
Preschool 2	44
Preschool 3	44
Preschool 4	20
Preschool 5	12
Swimmer	Total: 374
Swimmer 1 Beginner	65
Swimmer 1 Advanced	67
Swimmer 2	61
Swimmer 3	54
Swimmer 4	35
Swimmer 5	30
Swimmer 6	24
Swimmer 7	22
Swimmer 8 / 9	16
Privates	Total: 50
Privates	50
Adult Lessons	Total: 10
Adult Privates	3
Adult 1	3
Adult 2	4
Adult 3	0
Leadership Programming	Total: 24
Jr. Lifeguards	8
Bronze Star	5
Bronze Medallion	6
Bronze Cross	5
Swim Instructor	0
National Lifeguard	0
Sport Programming	Total: 25
Multisport Beginner	8
Multisport Advanced	7
Lifesaving Sport	10
Adult Fitness	Total: 38
Water Walking	19
Bootcamp Blast	17
Masters	2
Inclusion	Total: 19
Inclusion Group	5
Inclusion Private	14

RECREATION

- The Mount Uniacke Recreation Strategy work began in November when contract was awarded. In December, the Mount Uniacke Recreation Engagement Survey was launched online for resident feedback.
- Staff started discussions with CCRCE on community use of schools and developing a joint use agreement. Future meetings are set to occur to continue discussions on this topic in 2023.
- Learn to Skate: Partnered with Skate NS to find qualified skate instructors to run CanSkate@ School Program. Accommodated two (2) schools due to bus restriction, however, the program was very successful.

Stats:

	# Students	Equipment Borrowed		Experience Prior to Program			
		Helmets	Skates	No Experience	Leisure/No formal Lessons	Canskate	Hockey/Figure skating
Maple Ridge A	21	8	7	7	7	3	4
Maple Ridge B	20	11	9	8	6	5	1
L'nu Sip'uk Kino'moukoum	17	16	15	11	2	3	1

In-service Day Camps @ East Hants Aquatic Centre

- March 10, 2023 15 Participants
- March 31, 2023 16 Participants (full)

March Break Activities:

- Day Camp @ EHAC March 13-17 16 Participants (Full)
- Home Alone Safety Program @ Milford Rec March 13 25 Participants (Full)
- Art Afternoon w/ Quentin Syliboy @ Enfield Fire Hall March 15 27 Participants
- Babysitting Course @ Rawdon Fire Hall, March 16 12 Participants
- Drop-in Turf Time @ East Hants Sportsplex March 14 & 16 60 Participant Average/day
- Drop-in Gym Maple Ridge March 14 & 16 25-30 Participant Average/day
- Drop-in Gym Uniacke Dist. School March 15 & 17 22 Participants

Programs through CHB Wellness Funding:

- Badminton - Thursdays @ REC
- Pickle Ball - Wednesday @ Maple Ridge & Enfield School
- Senior Socials - EHAC Community Room first Tuesday of each month

Community Grants 2022-2023 Final

Total Fund 2022-2023:	\$33,000
Funds Granted:	\$29,993 (91%)
Total Remaining:	\$3,007 (9%)
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Recreation Operating:	\$23,050 (77%)
Event Hosting:	\$2,093 (7%)
Rec Programming:	\$4,850 (16%)

Group	Approved	Grant	Grant Description
Bell Park Development Assoc	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Trail Maintenance
Chart Society	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Insurance
Lions Memorial Park Society	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Park Maintenance
Milford Recreation Assoc	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Grounds Maintenance

Group	Approved	Grant	Grant Description
East Hants Youthlinks	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Insurance
Elmsdale Beautification Soc.	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Insurance & Park Maintenance
Lantz Recreation Society	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Insurance
Shubenacadie Hay Days Soc.	\$593	Event Hosting	Canada Day Event & Event Insurance
Enfield, Elmsdale & Dist. Lions Club	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Insurance
EH Horne School Preservation Society	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Insurance/ Repairs & Maintenance
Off Leash East Hants Society	\$ 1,500	Rec Operating	Insurance
Hants North U18AAA Jays	\$700	Rec Programming	Travel to Nationals in Alberta 7 EH Players
Nova Scotia Canada Games Men's Fastpitch	\$600	Rec Programming	Travel to Canada Games in Ontario, 6 EH Players
East Hants Family Resource Centre	\$1,488	Rec Operating	Insurance
Nova Scotia 4-H	\$250	Event Hosting	Shumil 4-H host Tug-o-war Provincials
East Hants Curling Assoc.	\$250	Event Hosting	Community Open House
Tri-County Basketball Assoc.	\$1,000	Rec Programming	Purchase Equipment for expansion
Canoe Kayak NS	\$575	Rec Operating	Insurance for Meek Rd Launch
East Hants Crime Prevention	\$500	Event Hosting	Christmas Parade Insurance
East Gore Community Hall	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Funding for Heat Pump install
Shubenacadie Fire	\$250	Event Hosting	Fireworks - Community Tree Lighting
Inner Strength TKD- Jonah Priddle	\$100	Rec Programming	TWD Nationals in Toronto
Shubenacadie Comm Development Assoc.	\$1,400	Rec Operating	Insurance
Milford Recreation Assoc/	\$250	Event Hosting	Milford Meltdown
Payton McDonald	\$100	Rec Programming	Travel to skating Atlantic in NFLD
East Hants Stingrays Swim Assoc.	\$1,000	Rec Programming	Swim Equipment - Electric Starter
Hardwoodlands Community Hall	\$811	Rec Operating	Insurance
Rawdon Goldmines Community Hall	\$826	Rec Operating	Insurance
3 rd Carter Guides & Pathfinders	\$350	Rec Programming	Fundy Geological Museum Overnight Trip
After Trauma Empowerment Network (ATEN)	\$1,000	Rec Programming	Equipment for Fitness/Movement Programming
Uniacke Mustangs Fast Pitch	1,450	Rec Operating	Maintenance - Field Drag & Screen Equipment
TOTAL	\$29,993		

District Recreation Funds 2023-2024:

Organization	Project	Funding Awarded	Intake
Nine Mile River Community Hall	Solar Install	\$ 3,598	January 2023
Rainbow Community Club	Roof Replacement	\$ 7,603	January 2023
Enfield, Elmsdale & Dist Lions Club	Outdoor Pickleball Court	\$ 50,000	January 2023
Gore District Volunteer Fire Dept	Furnace Replacement	\$ 9,200	January 2023
	Total Funds Awarded:	\$ 70,401	

Applications Moved to April 30, 2023 Deadline:

- Lions Memorial Park Society Washroom Project
- East Gore Community Hall Roof Replacement