



Date: July 4, 2023
To: Council
cc: Kim Ramsay, CAO
From: Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
Re: PRC Quarterly Report - April 2023 - June 2023

OVERVIEW

This report brings forward deliverables from the Parks, Recreation and Culture workplan for the first quarter of the 2023/24 fiscal year.

PARKS & OPEN SPACES

- Awarded three playgrounds for Walton, Maitland and Enfield with a fourth playground in Centre Rawdon out for tender
- Received a \$38,000 Provincial Recreation Facility Development grant
- The installation of the Shubenacadie River Park accessible spinner is ongoing
- Completed repairs on the swings at Logan Drive Park, hoping to extend the life by 15+years
- Entered into an agreement for the East Hants Minor Softball to use the Shubenacadie River Park ballfield
- Completed a basic inspection and warning signs installation on the former DAR line lands
- Cottage Country trail construction (open space contribution) is nearing completion
- Kiln Creek trail and bridge work are ongoing
- Acquired 14.3-acre property in Lakelands as part of an open space contribution and open space funds
- Community Projects at Walton Fire, Hants North and Nine Mile River Trails are ongoing

SPORTSPLEX

- East Hants Arena Association Board meeting on May 5
- Zamboni fire on May 5 resulting in minimal damage to the Zamboni and no injuries
- Provincial Rink Revitalization grant funding approved (\$22K) for planned capital repairs to the ice plant structure, further investigation required as ice plant may be leaking
- On-going discussion and multiple staff reports regarding proposed ice and turf rate increase and facility Management Agreement
- Business meeting on June 12 between EHAA Board and East Hants representatives (Warden Roulston, some members of Council and staff) to discuss the Facility Management Agreement, Quarterly Reporting and proposed rate increase
- Scott Forward, General Manager, presented the rate increase at the June 20 Executive Committee meeting resulting in a request for comparative financials from 2018/2023
- Dillon Consulting further investigated the refrigeration and condenser float at the Sportsplex, a gap from the condition assessment
- Lease agreement returned on June 9 for Rinkside Sports, a tenant leased space at the facility
- Under the Facility Management Agreement Articles 9.4 and 10.5, an OH & S audit was completed on June 29, awaiting response from the EHAA General Manager for requests for documentation and records & will attach the report to the quarterly reporting document to share with Council and EHAA Board in July
- Ongoing ventilation challenges throughout the building as noted in the OH & S audit

TOURISM

- Parks opened for the season on May 17, 2023
- Traffic at sites is on the rise compared to last year, on average 2.3 times busier at BHP and 1.7 times busier at FTIC.
 - May at FTIC: 741 visitors, June at FTIC: 2,447 visitors (compared to 1390 in 2022)
 - May at BHP: 5,131 (compared to 2,231 in 2022)
 - June at BHP: 10,889 (compared to 4734 in 2022)
- Full complement of Visitor Experience staff at BHP (5.5 positions) and FTIC (2.5 positions)
- Issued Tourism and Operating/Staffing Grants to the following organizations:
 - East Hants Historical Society - \$5,000
 - Maitland District Development Association - \$17,000
 - Walton Area Development Association - \$3,900 (Tourism), \$3,000 (Staffing), \$5,000 (Operating)
 - CHArt Society - \$8,000
 - East Hants Museum Society - \$13,000 (Operating Grant)
- Tourism marketing and promotion:
 - East Hants was accepted into Tourism Nova Scotia programs:
 - “Voice of the Visitor” program which enables us to take part in provincial visitor exit surveys;
 - “Community Digital Marketing and Travel Media programs” which will promote the Noel Shore in online ads throughout the Maritime provinces this summer and fall, and bring a digital influencer to tour the area this fall and provide the Municipality with at least 10 high-quality images/videos for the area.

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, launched in April has seen positive community response and strong uptake.
- Volunteer Networking Event held Thursday, April 13. Over 40 people in attendance representing at least 20 different community groups. Special guests and several staff in attendance to talk insurance, grants, volunteer recruitment and other ways we can assist groups.
- Volunteer Week celebrated April 16-22, with Volunteer Recognition Event held Friday, April 23rd in Mount Uniacke.
- Volunteers Opportunities Page developed for the Volunteer Opportunities page developed for website, will be promoted for volunteer week and updated regularly with community-based volunteer opportunities. Community groups can submit listings.
 - Community Development e-newsletters sent to 130 subscribers; Volunteer Week Issue, with focus on volunteer events and volunteer listing webpage
- Food Safety Course (volunteer level) held May 3. Course was full at 30 registrants including 5 staff (rec/aquatics) and 25 community volunteers (from 14 different organizations)

Grants Processed

General Government Grant

- Hants County Exhibition, \$500
- Safe Grad/EHAC rentals, \$1200
- Library Conference Sponsorship, \$2000

Community Partnership Fund

- East Hants Youth Links, \$6000
- East Hants Family Resource Centre, \$20,000

Not for Profit Insurance Grant

- Mount Uniacke Mustangs Fastball Association - \$925
- Enfield Heritage Centre Association - \$650
- Nine Mile River Trail - \$685
- Minasville Community Centre - \$603
- Milford Recreation Association \$1500
- Off Leash East Hants Society \$1500
- East Gore Community Club \$679

RECREATION

Summer Day Camps

- Various locations
- Inclusion Registration: April 26, 2023
 - 7 placements
- Summer Registration: May 10, 2023
- Summer Staff Hiring
 - 1 Summer Camp Supervisor (new)
 - 9 Recreation Program Leaders (2 specifically for Mount Uniacke)
 - Summer Staff Training: June 26 - 30
 - Junior Leader Training Day: June 29, 2023 at the Rawdon Fire Hall
 - 9 participants
 - All are scheduled to volunteer at camps

Art Exploration - 5 weeks

- Once a week May 3 - May 31, Ages 11-16
- Lead by Quentin Syliboy
- Location: Todd Hunter Room, East Hants Sportsplex
- 18 Participants
- More to be scheduled in the fall

Crochet Fundamentals through Granny Squares - 12 weeks

- Once a week April 6 - June 22, Ages 17+
- Locations: East Hants Aquatic Centre Community Room
- 12 Participants - full
- More to be scheduled in the fall

Drop in Programming

- **Zumba**
 - Tuesdays, April - May
 - Averaged 5 - 10 participants a week
- **Cultural Canvas - Painting and Storytelling with Quentin Syliboy**
 - Events to recognize Indigenous Day
 - June 9 at Uniacke Library - 12 participants
 - June 13 at High Tide Arts & Community Centre - 20 Participants
 - June 27 at East Hants Aquatic Centre - 25 Participants
- **Ball Hockey**
 - Staffed with Volunteers
 - Ages U9/U11 & U13/U15

- Mondays Starting May 22 - average 20-60 participants
- Thursdays Starting May 25 - low numbers, cancelled Thursdays
- Adults (New!)
 - Ages 17+
 - Thursdays starting June 8
 - Average 8-12 participants

Community Grants 2023-2024

Total Fund 2023-2024: \$33,000
 Funds Grants: \$14,662 (44%)
 Total Remaining: \$18,338 (56%)

Recreation Operating: \$12,000 (82%)
 Event Hosting: \$1,462 (10%)
 Rec Programming: \$1,200 (8%)

Organization	Approved	Grant	Grant Description
Bell Park Development Assoc.	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Trail Maintenance
Corridor Minor Baseball Assoc.	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Umbrellas/Bases & Sound System
East Walton Community Club	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Front Step Repair
Elmsdale Beautification Society	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Park Maintenance
Lions Memorial Park Society	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Park Maintenance
Milford Recreation Assoc	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Park & Trail Maintenance
Noel New Horizons Rising Tides	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Window Replacement
Off Leash East Hants Society	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Grounds Maintenance
Mawikuti'k Society	\$750	Event Hosting	Freedom March Event Insurance & event expenses
East Hants Mastodons U15	\$1,200	Rec Programming	Fastpitch Nationals - Alberta Aug 7-14
Shubenacadie Hay Days	\$712	Event Hosting	Canada Day Event Insurance & Event Expenses
TOTAL	\$14,662		

District Recreation Fund (DRF) - 2023-2024 Approved Applications

Organization	Project	Funding Awarded	In-take
Nine Mile River Community Hall	Solar	\$ 3,598	Jan 2023
Rainbow Community Club	Roof Replacement	\$ 7,603	Jan 2023
Enfield, Elmsdale & Dist. Lions Club	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	\$ 50,000	Jan 2023
Gore District Volunteer Fire Dept	Furnace Replacement	\$ 9,200	Jan 2023
Lions Memorial Park Society	Washroom	\$ 5,750	April 2023
Milford Recreation Association	Siding, Picnic Tables & Benches	\$ 19,800	April 2023
EH Horne School Preservation Soc.	Flooring & Painting	\$ 13,949	April 2023
East Gore Community Club	Roof Replacement	\$ 12,293	April 2023
Empire Trails Association	Bridge Replacements	\$ 15,558	April 2023
	TOTAL	\$137,751	

Current Available DRF Funds

District	Carry Over for Report	2023-2024 Allocation	January 2023 (Intake 1)	April 2023 (Intake 2)	2023-2024 Available Funding
1 - Enfield	\$ 36,029	\$ 28,919	\$ (10,000)	\$ (7,648)	\$ 47,300
2 - Elmsdale/Belna	\$ 63,936	\$ 23,935	\$ (7,398)	\$ (7,400)	\$ 73,073
3 - Milford/Nine Mile River	\$ 2,408	\$ 19,135	\$ (3,598)	\$ (14,723)	\$ 3,222
4 - Shubenacadie	\$ 7,296	\$ 9,919			\$ 17,215
5 - Maitland/MacPhees Corner	\$ 39,485	\$ 11,702			\$ 51,187
6 - Walton/Noel/Kennetcook	\$ 8,445	\$ 9,431	\$ (7,603)		\$ 10,273
7 - Lantz/Milford	\$ 24,012	\$ 25,297		\$ (3,427)	\$ 45,882
8 - Mount Uniacke	\$ 60,124	\$ 23,792			\$ 83,916
9 - South/East Uniacke	\$ 63,241	\$ 23,839			\$ 87,080
10 - Enfield/Grand Lake	\$ 18,331	\$ 26,873	\$ (32,602)	\$ (6,301)	\$ 6,301
11 - Rawdon/Gore	\$ 55,335	\$ 14,328	\$ (8,544)	\$ (12,500)	\$ 48,619
3 - Milford/Nine Mile River - Gore \$0.01	\$ 8,351			\$ (8,351)	\$ -
5 - Maitland/MacPhees Corner - Gore \$0.01	\$ 3,875				\$ 3,875
11 - Rawdon/Gore - Gore \$0.01	\$ 7,656		\$ (656)	\$ (7,000)	\$ -
Shubenacadie Additional Funds	\$ 665				\$ 665
Mount Uniacke Additional Rate	\$ 81,325	\$ 35,335			\$ 116,660
	\$ 480,515	\$ 252,505	\$ (70,401)	\$ (67,350)	\$ 595,269

Aquatics

The Spring of 2023 was the busiest the East Hants Aquatic's Centre has been since opening.

There were 1230 participants in our spring programming and 70 birthday parties. There were visits from 10 schools for end of year trips, along with hosting Hants North for a graduation swim and Hants East Rural High for Safe Grad.

Working alongside with the Lifesaving Society swim to survive programming continued to be offered to grade 3 students.

One Assistant Lifeguard and one Assistant Lifeguard/Swim Instructor was hired. Of those that completed their National Lifeguarding course this spring, four are already employed as Assistant Lifeguards and will be transitioning to full lifeguards over the summer and into the fall.

Spring 2023 Lesson Totals	Total: 1230
Parent & Tot	Total: 229
Parent & Tot 1	50
Parent & Tot 2	70
Parent & Tot 3	69
Bubbles & Babies	40
Preschool	Total: 213
Preschool 1	58
Preschool 2	54
Preschool 3	56
Preschool 4	28
Preschool 5	17
Swimmer	Total: 528
Swimmer 1 Beginner	102
Swimmer 1 Advanced	95
Swimmer 2	68
Swimmer 3	86
Swimmer 4	54
Swimmer 5	40
Swimmer 6	30
Swimmer 7	22
Swimmer 8 / 9	31
Privates	Total: 79
Privates	79
Adult Lessons	Total: 20
Adult Privates	7
Adult 1	6
Adult 2	5
Adult 3	2
Leadership Programming	Total: 56
Jr. Lifeguards	9
Bronze Star	10
Bronze Medallion	9
Bronze Cross	12
Swim Instructor	7
National Lifeguard	9
Sport Programming	Total: 28
Multisport Beginner	6
Multisport Advanced	10
Lifesaving Sport	12
Adult Fitness	Total: 45
Water Walking	18
Bootcamp Blast	24
Masters	3
Inclusion	Total: 32
Inclusion Group	8
Inclusion Private	24