



MUNICIPALITY OF **West Elgin**

Staff Report

Report To: Council Meeting

From: Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services

Date: 2021-05-27

Subject: West Elgin Community Pool Update

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services regarding summer programming at the pool; and

That Council allow senior staff to adjust summer programming to meet operational needs and COVID restrictions, so long as net operating costs do not exceed the budgeted amount of \$61,903.20

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on plans for the West Elgin Community Pool.

Background:

During 2021 budget deliberations, and under the uncertainty of COVID-19, Council committed to a pool budget of \$61,903.20. Staff calculated this amount would provide approx. four operating days per week, based on eight hours per day. Programming would be limited to public/family swims and aquafit classes.

Since that time, new opportunities have risen in the form of 2 full season rental agreements totaling eight hours per week. These would run Monday – Friday during the early afternoon and would generate revenue of approx. \$3700.00. Additionally, ongoing talks with The Lifesaving Society have identified the possibility of offering swimming lessons this summer, provided provincial restrictions allow outdoor swimming facilities to be open. This would be done on a semi-private basis and be offered to the younger age categories to start.

As Council can appreciate, this is a very fluid situation which changes daily. Staff have worked hard to draft multiple schedules which may be used depending on operating restrictions during the pool season. As per the government's latest announcement, outdoor pools will be allowed to open in mid-June. In the event this takes place, staff would like to begin preparing now for a July 1 start date, keeping in mind that things may need to be adjusted if re-opening plans change over the next few weeks. Unfortunately, if we wait until mid-June, it will not allow enough time for scheduling the initial swimming lesson sessions.

The attached pool schedule is considered to be the best option given the time and resources available. Staff feel this can be accomplished without an increase to the overall operating budget and are seeking Council's support to offer the most programming possible for the funds available.

As mentioned previously, there are many factors which will need to be continually adjusted for, including the capital cost of liner repairs, swimming lesson registration numbers and additional revenue sources being explored including sponsored swims, rentals etc.

Financial Implications:

Staff have reviewed costs for the various options and understand what benchmarks need to be achieved in order to make this programming possible. With close financial oversight, creative thinking from our recreation staff and flexibility from our guards, we feel this is an achievable goal based on the original budget amount.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	West Elgin Community Pool Update - 2021-19-Operations Community Services.docx
Attachments:	- Draft Pool Schedule.pdf
Final Approval Date:	May 25, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Jana Nethercott