

Report to Council

Report Title:	COVID-19 Centennial Park Pool Closure		
Prepared By:	Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services		
Department:	Parks and Recreation		
Date:	May 12, 2020		
Report Number:	REC2020-02	File Number:	C11REC
Attachments:	n/a		

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2020-02 – COVID-19 Centennial Park Pool Closure, prepared by Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services and in doing so approves the closure of the Centennial Park Pool for the 2020 season due to anticipated operating restrictions and delayed timelines to complete capital repairs resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Report:

Background:

On March 23rd and 30th, 2020 the Ontario government extended the Emergency Declaration to Stop the Spread of COVID-19 to include the closure of non-essential workplaces including all indoor and outdoor recreation facilities and amenities including Community Pools and Splash Pads. The Municipality immediately implemented the closure of all noted parks amenities throughout the Municipality of Brockton to become compliant with the provincial orders. These orders have been extended to at least May 19, 2020.

Analysis:

Due to the additional management activities of responding to the COVID-19 Emergency and working only on essential business, staff have been delayed in getting the Request for Proposal (RFP) drafted and out for the capital repairs and maintenance of the Pool which was approved in the 2020 budget. Aquatics Staff start dates have been delayed and are pending the assessment of COVID-19 restrictions and physical distancing guidelines impacting our ability to open and operate the Pool and the continuing provincial orders regarding facility closures.

The Pool facility requires about 2-3 weeks of preparation time to open. To be ready for a July 1st delayed opening, capital work and pool maintenance would need to be completed by June 5th. Any later start dates in July would have a more negative financial impact on the pool budget and the ability to offer the various pool programs through the remainder of the season to the end of August. As well, considering the facility space

design of doorways and change rooms, it will not likely be possible to satisfy the maximum group size restrictions and physical distancing guidelines.

Unfortunately, the closure of the outdoor pool for 2020 is recommended and would further provide staff the time to receive competitive bids and complete the capital repairs and refurbishment of the facility to be ready to fully open in the summer of 2021. Several area communities are having to make the same considerations and decisions regarding their outdoor and indoor aquatics facilities.

Pending the discontinuation of provincial orders for closure of recreation facilities/amenities and the relaxing of the physical distancing guidelines, it may be possible to least open the Splash Pad and washrooms at some point this summer.

Sustainability Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? Yes
- Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy? No
- Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? Yes
- Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity? No

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

The closure of the pool for the 2020 season will provide about \$80,000 in net operational savings to help offset the overall revenue losses forecasted within the Parks and Recreation Department resulting from the impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic. There are limited operating areas within the Parks and Recreation Department where significant savings can be realized.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services

Reviewed By:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer