

ADMINISTRATION UPDATES

NOVEMBER 28, 2022 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

File: 0550-05

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

New Daycare Access/Traffic Flow

At its Regular Meeting of November 14, 2022, Council inquired regarding the property at 2605 Lakeshore Road (currently used as temporary overflow parking), and its intended future use as a road connection. The parcel is owned by the City of Vernon, and according to Map 4 – Parks and Trails Plan and Map 7 – Transportation Network Plan within the [Waterfront Neighbourhood Centre Plan](#), is intended to become a road and active transportation connection between Lakeshore Road and Cummins Road (Figure 1). Cummins Road is also intended to connect further north and up to Lakeshore Road south of Vernon Creek (Figure 1). The final design, location, and timing of these connections are currently unknown, as they are dependent on development and consideration of additional regulations (e.g. flood plain and airport). Once built, the connections between Cummins Road and Lakeshore Road would provide additional connectivity to the new daycare site at 6990 Cummins Road (Figure 1), helping to alleviate associated traffic on Cummins Road between the daycare site and Okanagan Landing Road.



Figure 1: Future Road Connections between Cummins Road and Lakeshore Road

Advisory Planning Committee

At its Regular Meeting of October 11, 2022, Council was advised that both the Advisory Planning Committee (APC) and Climate Action Advisory Committee (CAAC) are up for re-appointment. APC vacancies were advertised from October 27 to November 3, 2022 but only seven applications were received. The APC vacancies will be advertised again, and applications will be brought forward to Council for consideration at its Regular Meeting of December 12, 2022. CAAC applications will also be brought forward at that time.

RECREATION SERVICES

Remembrance Day Ceremonies

Sharmon Massey, a representative with the Vernon Legion Branch #25, notified Administration that the Legion will revisit having two Remembrance Day Ceremonies in 2023, one at Kal Tire Place and one at the Cenotaph.

Being able to host two ceremonies requires a greater volunteer base, which they did not have for 2022, as well as additional policing and security requirements. The hosting of two ceremonies in 2023 will be dependent on these factors.

Vernon Aquatic Centre - Hours of Operation

In 2020 Recreation Services requested a service level adjustment to increase the number of lifeguards per patron on the pool deck at the Vernon Aquatic Centre. This change was made to follow the Lifesaving Society of Canada National Safety Standards. The service level adjustment was approved by the City of Vernon but not the Funding Partners. The response from the Funding Partners was, "we have just finished negotiating a new agreement with a set fee for service. The City is responsible for the governance, so the decision on how to make up the shortfall is yours. Use reserves."

On February 24, 2020, Council approved a recommendation to allow Recreation Services to recover the anticipated \$43,000 shortfall in the Aquatics operating budget. The Vernon Aquatic Centre reduced operating hours by closing the pool 30 minutes early each night Monday – Thursday and 1 hour earlier Fridays, as well as eliminating the afternoon swim on weekends during the summer. The remainder was made up with an approved 4% increase in admission fees for the aquatics area. On March 18, 2020 the Vernon Aquatic Centre closed to public due to the pandemic.

Like many other Aquatic Centres, Vernon has been increasing hours of operation throughout the year as staffing levels are rebuilt after the pandemic. The Vernon Aquatic Centre is currently open from 6:30am-9pm Monday – Friday and has programs, public swim or rentals from 6:30am-7pm Saturdays and 8am-7pm Sundays. Recreation Services has not yet been able to offer the 7-9pm public swim on weekends due to limited availability of lifeguards. However, Recreation Services has recruited eight (8) new lifeguards this fall and plans to increase service levels based on the availability of those new recruits. It is Recreation Services intention to operate at the hours approved by Council in 2020 for the 2023 season.

OPERATIONS

Fuel Update

Administration will provide Council a report on 2022 year-end fuel consumption in early January.

Deer Park

The project team has reviewed the conceptual design, and has reviewed the comments from the public session from 2 years ago and has incorporated the recommendation into the detailed design. Administration will bring forward a project update with a design drawing in January.

Holiday Lighting

Only half of the Highway 97 holiday decorations that were purchased in 2021 were received and installed last winter due to delays in delivery. The remaining decorations have been received and all of the decorations have now been installed on Highway 97 from 15th Avenue to 43rd Avenue. The electrical plugs on the ministry owned street lights at five of the locations are not working. Administration has made a request to repair these outlets. The Downtown Holiday decorations (stars) have been refitted with blue and white led bulbs and have also been installed for the holiday season.



Highway 97



30th Avenue