

**Priorities Committee Meeting\_Mar12\_2019**

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**REPORT FOR INFORMATION****Emerald Hills Leisure Centre and Regional Park Usage Update****Report Purpose**

To provide information on the usage and maintenance of the Emerald Hills Leisure Centre and Emerald Hills Regional Park.

**Our Prioritized Strategic Goals**

Goal 6 - Provide facilities and services that are available and accessible to residents

Goal 1 - Build strong communities to support the diverse needs of residents

**Report**

The Aquatic Strategy, as one of the initiatives in the Open Spaces and Recreation Facility Strategy (OSRFS), was approved by Council in 2012. It identified construction of a new aquatic facility. The OSRFS also identified the need for an artificial turf and regional park development. Council approved funding for these two projects in 2013 resulting in the Emerald Hills Leisure Centre and Regional Park opening in October 2016. Both projects were built to address existing demand with room for growth to meet changing community needs. Public art has also been integrated with each featuring an art installation.

**Emerald Hills Leisure Centre**

Five priority needs were identified in the Aquatic Strategy (Enclosure 1). Many positive community benefits have been realized including improved accessibility with ramp/automated lift access to pools, and universal change rooms. The facility was designed to deliver an improved aquatic experience that can accommodate a wide range of needs. Flexible program space for swim lessons features varying water temperatures and depths, and enhanced sound for better learning.

**Emerald Hills Regional Park**

The Emerald Hills Regional Park features the County's only artificial turf field and serves a popular four-season community-gathering place and sport hub. The County has been able to extend the season for outdoor turf sports and offer a variety of outdoor activities to residents including skating, fitness, bubble soccer, special events, multi-use trails and more. A balance of spontaneous and school use, programming and bookings provide recreation opportunities to a wide variety of users (Enclosure 2).

**Council and Committee History**

December 6, 2018 Council requested that administration provide an update by the first quarter of 2019 on the usage and maintenance of Emerald Hills Leisure Centre (Fields and Pool). CB66

**Other Impacts**

**Policy:** N/A

**Legislative/Legal:** N/A

**Interdepartmental:** N/A

**Master Plan/Framework:** Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy, Sports Field Strategy, Aquatic Strategy

**Enclosures**

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- 1 Emerald Hills Leisure Centre Usage
- 2 Emerald Hills Regional Park Usage