



# REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: CS-BRD-228

From: Trish Morgan, General Manager of Community Services

Date: May 4, 2023

**Subject: Authorization to Apply – Enabling Accessibility – North Peace Leisure Pool**

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## **RECOMMENDATION #1: [Corporate Unweighted]**

That the Regional Board authorize the City of Fort St John, on behalf of the North Peace Leisure Pool Civic Properties Commission and Peace River Regional District, to apply for funding of up to \$20,000 to improve the accessibility of the North Peace Leisure Pool.

## **RECOMMENDATION #2: [Corporate Unweighted]**

That the Regional Board provide a letter of support to the City of Fort St. John, on behalf of the North Peace Leisure Pool Civic Properties Commission, for funding applications made to improve accessibility at the North Peace Leisure Pool.

## **BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

The North Peace Leisure Pool is owned by the Peace River Regional District (PRRD), operated by the City of Fort St. John, with administrative duties the responsibility of the North Peace Leisure Pool Civic Properties Commission (the Commission). As the owner of the building, the Regional Board has final approval for improvements to the building and the funding of such.

The Commission is requesting that the Board authorize that grant funding be sought to improve the accessibility of the North Peace Leisure Pool by completing upgrades to the accessible change rooms and bathrooms, and by purchasing a new water wheelchair and removable ramp system.

On April 4, 2023, the Commission passed the following resolution:

*MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED*

*That the North Peace Leisure Pool Commission, recommend to the Peace River Regional District Board to authorize the Aquatics Manager to apply for funding to improve the accessibility of the North Peace Leisure Pool.*

## **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:**

☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):**

If approved, the upgrades will be funded through grant or sponsor funding. If grant/sponsorship funding is not successful, funding for the upgrades may be sought through the 2024 budget process.

**COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):**

If approved, the City of Fort St. John Aquatic Manager will be notified.

**OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):**

Contemplated accessibility upgrades for the change/bathrooms include;

- outwards opening doors for the accessible washrooms and accessible change rooms with power doors and operator buttons;
- supportive backrests for the toilets;
- directional braille signage;
- non-slip flooring in all three accessible change/bathrooms;
- touchless hand dryers in the accessible bathrooms;
- soap dispensers moved to appropriate height for wheelchair users;
- moving toilet paper dispensers in change/bathrooms as they are currently too high for wheelchair users;
- installation of vertical grab rails in accessible change/bathrooms rooms;
  - beside the seat, 3'4" minimum,
  - beside the showerhead, 16"-20" total; and
- Wall mounted fold down bench in the accessible change room.

Additional contemplated accessibility upgrade for the lap pool includes the replacement of the aging affixed stairs which occupy lane #6.