



# REPORT

To: North Peace Leisure Pool Commission

From: Trish Morgan, General Manager of Community Services

Date: May 27, 2020

**Subject: North Peace Leisure Pool Replacement Update**

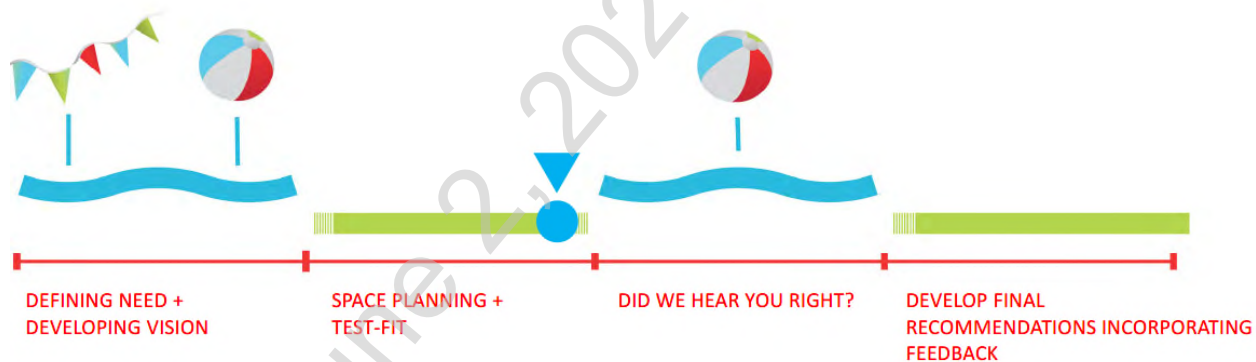
## RECOMMENDATION:

That the North Peace Leisure Pool Commission receive the following report entitled "North Peace Leisure Pool Replacement Project" dated May 27, 2020 for information.

## BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

At the beginning of March the Commission was provided with an update on the plans to move forward with North Peace Leisure Pool Replacement Project. Unfortunately due to COVID-19 plans have changed but progress is slowly being made.

On May 6, 2020 staff from the Regional District and City of Fort St John met to discuss the status of the project. The next steps in the project is to conduct a second round of public consultation. In the first round of the public engagement, a number of pop-up events were held around the North Peace to meet and talk with residents about the project.



As a result of COVID-19 the second round of public engagement will likely include more online or electronic participation. Staff are currently working to identify the different methods that could be used to engage the communities, such as:

- Host online public events to collect, feedback, build excitement, and gain support for the project. This could be done in a 'town hall' forum using social media.
- Creation of an online and in-person short-form survey focused on identifying community priorities for uses/spaces related to project costs.
- Create standalone displays and arrange to have them displayed in locations around the communities to drive people to the survey.

- Create a factual video that easily explains the project, what we've learned, the options on the table and that encourages people to take the survey.
- Reach out via email to the stakeholders engaged in the first round of the study, encouraging them to also take the survey or to provide written comments.
- Complete a statistically valid telephone survey for each jurisdiction that mirrors the survey to ensure geographic representation.
- Advertise the engagement using social media channels, PRRD Engage page, Energeticcity.ca web banner, radio and newspaper (if appropriate), webpages, etc.

It is important to note that a date has not yet been set for the second round of public engagement. Staff will work through the summer to ensure that materials, surveys, etc. are developed so that engagement activities are ready to be launched once there is more economic stability. It is important to consider that there many people currently out of work and that will affect how they feel about possibly raising taxes for a new facility. We need to be sensitive to our communities' economic situation as we move forward with public engagement.

### **Tentative Timeline**

#### **June/July 2020**

- Complete engagement plan with identified strategies and tactics
- Develop engagement materials

#### **August 2020**

- Review where communities are at with respect to economic recovery and determine if engagement can move forward in the fall of 2020

#### **TBD 2020/2021**

- Conduct public engagement
- Complete final report
- Present report to elected officials

### **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

1. That the North Peace Leisure Pool Commission provide further direction.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:**

- ☒ Partnerships
- ☒ Collaboration with Local and First Nations governments

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

In 2018, \$200,000 was requisitioned for the feasibility study. Approximately \$100,000 remains in that fund to complete the project.

### **COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):**

As described above.

**OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):**

none

Rec'd at the June 2, 2020 NPLP Commission Mtg