

To: Members of the Arenas, Parks and Recreation Advisory

Committee

From: Phil Jacobs, Supervisor Parks and Forestry

Meeting Date: January 19, 2016

Subject: Report APRAC16-004

Parks Information Report for 2015-16

## **Purpose**

A report to provide an update on parks projects and activities undertaken by Public Works for 2015 and 2016.

### Recommendation

That the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report APRAC16-004 dated January 19, 2016, of the Supervisor of Parks and Forestry, as follows:

That report APRAC16-004 be received for information.

# **Budget and Financial Implications**

There are no financial or budget implications resulting from the approval of the recommendation of this report.

## **Background**

The Parks and Forestry Supervisor presented a report to APRAC (Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee) in 2012, giving an overview of the services provided by the Public Works Division within City-owned parks. It is the Division's intent to provide an annual report of this nature, beginning in January 2016.

### **Installation of New Play Structures**

In 2015, the Public Works Division undertook the installation of new play structures at Stewart St. Park, Wedgewood Park, and Beavermead Park.

Through the City's Community Assistance program, the Stewart Street Neighbourhood Association was instrumental in raising funds toward the installation of a new play structure within Stewart Park. This new play structure compliments existing amenities such as a swing set, basketball court, and community garden.

Also through the Community Assistance Program, Wedgewood Park received a new play structure to compliment the two existing soccer fields. The St. Teresa School Council partnered financially with the City on this project. The play structure has colours that reflect St. Teresa's School colours.

Beavermead Park received a new play structure that replaces an existing playground. The play structure is accessible, and is twice the size of the play structure it replaced. The bonded wood carpet will be installed in the spring of 2016. This new play structure compliments the Regional Park that Beavermead has become, and adds to the amenities that make this park a destination point.

#### **Disc Golf Course in Hamilton Park**

Residents of the Hamilton Park neighbourhood spearheaded fundraising initiatives to allow the City to proceed with the installation of a new nine-hole disc golf course at Hamilton Park. The project was supported through the City's Community Assistance Program. All residents and visitors are welcome to sharpen their disc throwing skills playing a smaller but challenging course.

#### Maintenance of the Ice at the Trent Severn Canal

The Canal has been a favorite place for hockey players and skaters to enjoy recreation. Public Works is responsible for the daily maintenance and flooding of the ice on the Trent Severn Canal, to support public skating, hockey, and a major outdoor hockey tournament.

The ice conditions in the 2014-15 winter season were exceptional, with ice thickness averaging 16.5 inches. The Canal was suitable for public use as of January 8, 2015. The 2015 Under the Locks Hockey Tournament had another successful year, utilizing the Canal as its outdoor hockey facility.

The 2015/16 winter season began slowly with unseasonal warm temperatures through December and early January, but is now developing into another strong year for skating activities on the Canal. The ice surface was open for public use as of January 8, 2016. Although heavy rain was experienced for the next two days interrupting use of the ice surface, the long term weather forecast should produce enough ice depth to allow the Under the Locks Hockey Tournament to proceed in February.

Submitted by,

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