

Arena Needs Assessment Project, City of Peterborough, 2013

Project Outline

The City of Peterborough has embarked upon a study of arena facilities, with the objectives of assessing the use and functionality of existing facilities, and determining the current and future need for arena facilities. The study has been precipitated by the imminent closure of Northcrest Arena. This facility, which opened in 1967, has become dated and is in need of costly repairs and renovations. It has been estimated that by 2015, it will have reached its maximum lifespan.

Key Project Objectives and Outcomes

1. **For City arenas:** assess the characteristics/features, quality/condition, utilization, functional capabilities, financial efficiency, distribution relative to current and future population, level of provision, and relationship with area arenas
2. **Demand assessment:** research leisure trends; local and regional population growth and change predictions; user group registration and other use patterns; facility utilization and patterns; facility wait lists; the opinion of user groups, municipal staff, institutional customers and partners; and the use of area arenas by Peterborough groups.
3. **Determine the number of ice surfaces required to meet current ice and non-ice needs** – and establish the preferred provision level.
4. **Looking ahead 20 years, project the number of ice surfaces required to meet future needs** - use the recommended provision guideline to determine future facility requirements, based on projected population growth and change, as well as leisure trends.
5. Examine and evaluate **provision strategies**, and select the preferred option (including recommended characteristics/features of new facilities, improvements to existing arenas, potential partners, possible facility configurations and location possibilities)

Project Timing: Fall, 2013

Consultation Program

- ☐ City web site – project described, progress updated, on-line survey to solicit input www.peterborough.ca/arenaneedsassessment
- ☐ Ongoing call for submissions and briefs from groups and individuals
- ☐ User Group Survey - to collect information from all groups
- ☐ User Group Forum - to solicit initial input from main user groups and partners
- ☐ Meetings with groups as required throughout the project
- ☐ Three meetings with the Arenas, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
- ☐ Two meetings with City Council
- ☐ Community-wide Forum - to report on and solicit input re: findings, conclusions and emerging recommendations/strategies/options – all current and potential user groups, other interested groups and individual residents to be invited

The Consulting Team

- ☐ The Rethink Group, *Leisure Services Planning and Management*, Ennismore
- ☐ Lett Architects Inc., Peterborough

For more information, please email questions to: arenaneeds@peterborough.ca or contact Sue Warrington, Manager, Arena Division at:
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