

QEP Community Centre Update

A unique multi-purpose recreation, arts and culture facility

July 30, 2010

Operating Plan Update

Rates Questionnaire

At the June 21st meeting, concerns were raised regarding the draft rate proposal that was presented. In an effort to inform all groups who were not in attendance of the draft rate proposal and provide a means of feedback to all groups, a QEP Community Centre Update summarizing the proposal as well as a questionnaire was sent to all groups on July 7.

We are grateful to the numerous groups who provided feedback at the meeting and through the questionnaire. The information collected will be very useful to the QE Park Working Group as they assist with the development of the operating plan.

One of the things that we heard clearly through the questionnaire is that an escalation of fees is not feasible, and we would like to assure all groups that we will work to develop an operating plan that does not rely on a steep escalation of fees over five years.

QE Park Working Group

We would like to thank all those individuals who put their names forward to sit on the QE Park Working Group. We look forward to working collaboratively to develop the vision, guiding principles and goals for the facility as well as addressing operating concerns. The working group includes representatives from the arts community as well as internal staff representing the different user groups and components of the building. The group will be meeting during August and September and our goal is to present to the larger group by the end of September or early October. The working group members include:

Sherry Fox, Oakville Suzuki Association
Tony Last, Sculptors and Carvers Guild
Britta Martini- Miles, CommUnity Arts Space
Dawne Rudman, Oakville Quilters
Bill Smith, Oakville Camera Club
Brenda Smith, Oakville Arts Society
Megan Whittington, Oakville Arts Council
Louise Holshausen, Circle of Harmony
Nancy Beddoe, Seniors Services, Town of Oakville
Sarah Douglas-Murray, Sponsorship and Marketing, Town of Oakville

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Susan Fanelli, Youth Services, Town of Oakville
Jen Fruscella, Aquatics, Town of Oakville
Louise Veres, Recreation Programs, Town of Oakville
Claire Loughheed, Cultural Services, Town of Oakville
Tricia May, Recreation Services, Town of Oakville

Construction Update

We are excited to announce that the bids for construction have been received. We will be awarding the contract for construction in the next weeks and construction is expected to begin at the facility by the end of the month of August or early September. At this time we still anticipate the completion of the construction phase late 2011/early 2012.

Communication

With both the construction on its way and the operating plan in development we will be stepping up our communication program so that all groups and interested residents will be kept up-to-date on all developments. We have met with Oakville Arts Council and Community Arts Space to review next steps and will be working cooperatively with both groups to make sure that information is flowing.

Next Steps

We recognize that every group has different needs in terms of programming, use of space etc. Therefore, in late August and September, each group will be contacted by town staff and invited to participate in an individual meeting to review how you plan to use the space, discuss the types of programming that your group plans to run, and explore possible areas of partnership in regards to programming. We are committed to working with all groups to create a programming mix that meets the needs of the individual organizations, the public and the town's goals, with a view to allow your groups to grow and develop new capacities and revenue streams.

Recognizing that this facility will be a multi-purpose recreation, arts and culture facility, we are also committed to communicating the developments at the centre to all Oakville residents so that we can all be part of the growing excitement.

Sincerely,
Nina de Vaal,
Director, Recreation and Culture

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