



AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

Thursday, June 11, 2020, 1:30 p.m.

Via Teleconference Hosted in the Council Chamber, City Hall

Pages

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**
Recommendation
That the agenda be confirmed as presented.
3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
4. **ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGISLATIVE REPORTS**
 - 4.1 **City of Saskatoon - Roadmap to Recovery (CK 270-7)** 3 - 14
An approval report from the Administration is attached.
Recommendation
That City Council approve the phased and scaled resumption plan for City services impacted by COVID 19.
 - 4.2 **Recreation Facilities – Roadmap to Recovery (CK 610-1 x 270-7)** 15 - 22
An approval report from the Administration is attached.
Recommendation
That City Council approve the phased in re-opening plan for recreation and sport facilities as outlined in the report of the General Manager,

5. ADJOURNMENT

City of Saskatoon: Roadmap to Recovery

ISSUE

When the impact of COVID 19 hit Saskatoon, many adjustments needed to be made to the delivery of City Services to ensure the health and safety of residents and staff. The vast majority of services were able to continue uninterrupted, although some services were more broadly impacted. The City of Saskatoon (the City) has begun the process of re-opening facilities and resuming in-person public services aligning with the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan; ensuring the safety of residents and staff.

RECOMMENDATION

Administration is recommending that City Council approve the phased and scaled resumption plan for City services impacted by COVID 19.

BACKGROUND

Since COVID 19 began to impact Saskatoon in January 2020, the City has taken steps to prioritize the health and safety of residents and employees. As required by the Provincial Public Health Orders, the appropriate municipal facilities were closed and programs and events were suspended and/or cancelled.

These changes were dynamic in nature, however, through all of these measures and impacts we continued to deliver core services, allowing our operations to continue wherever possible. This dynamic situation also generated the development of new and different ways to deliver municipal services. The COVID 19 pandemic is not over and this public health emergency will continue to impact our community for months to come. This new and more agile way of doing business has prepared us to be able to continue providing civic services to citizens in our new reality.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The City found innovated ways to deliver core services during a pandemic to allow operations and as many municipal services as possible, to continue. COVID 19 is not over and as such, this public health emergency will continue to impact our community for months to come.

The City is continuing to respond to the dynamic nature of the *Re-Open Saskatchewan* plan and is preparing to continue to adjust services and resume customer-facing services in accordance with the provincial guidelines.

The Government of Saskatchewan (the Government) has developed guidelines that include five phases to lift restrictions on businesses and services impacted by the initial impact of COVID 19.

The City's Roadmap to Recovery is meant to align generally with the Re-opening Saskatchewan framework. Like Saskatchewan, the City will use a phased and scaled approach, shown in Appendix 1, ensuring there are appropriate measures in place to resume operations safely, limit risks to public health, and take steps to reach the City's new reality. Guidance from the Government will be applied to move between customized phases.

The Provincial Re-Open plan is a guide to when services and facilities are able to resume services, but does not require the services to resume.

The City's Roadmap to Recovery is a dynamic and agile plan that will be revised regularly in response to public health orders or directions from the Government. It is expected that the Government will continue to make announcements related to re-opening on an ongoing basis.

Planning Assumptions

1. A COVID 19 vaccine is not available to Canadians and widespread vaccinations have not occurred.
2. Ensuring Public Health Orders are followed will reduce the degree of transmission of COVID 19.
3. Pandemics typically last 12 - 18 months and often have more than one wave of outbreak. Future waves may include pockets of epidemics rather than whole community pandemic.
4. We cannot eliminate the risk of a COVID 19 positive case in our facilities and workplaces. We can minimize the risk by managing the number of contacts, maximizing the mitigation strategies and minimizing the contact intensity.
5. Transmission is expected to be relatively lower in spring and summer than in fall and winter and may overlap with the flu season.
6. There will be continuous updates required to the plan.
7. Re-open planning is already underway in many areas of the City.
8. The Province's Phase 5, lifting of restrictions, may not occur until June 2021. Any process, procedures, plans that are put in place during Phase 4, by the City, could be in place for over one year.

Factors Influencing Decision Making

During the phases of recovery and into the new reality, there are several factors that will influence decision making:

- Availability of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Building back better and identifying new and improved methods of service delivery
- Workplace design requirements to respect physical distancing
- Implementation dates set in *Re-Open Saskatchewan*

- Time required to ensure resources are in place to re-open services. This could include staffing resources, equipment resources, or facilities resumption requirements.

A Phased and Scaled Approach

Adaptive recovery must adopt a phased and scaled approach as a gradual return serves to keep the risk of infection low and manageable.

Scaling the approach means that not all departments, personnel, facilities and services need to be reactivated at the same time. Deliberate re-entry can be adjusted to avoid disruption as the pandemic goes through successive “waves”. It also allows time for personnel to adjust to new conditions, including returning to more restrictive measures.

This is a marathon, not a sprint. We must be deliberate about how we ramp up and do so in a way that is successful for citizens and staff. We cannot simply “flip the switch.”

City of Saskatoon Phases

As outlined in Appendix 2, the City of Saskatoon Phases of this plan are aligned with the Phases of the provincial plan. There will be specific sign-posts that will mark progress in our planning. They may also be points to move back to in the case of a COVID 19 outbreak in a City location or if there are new measures implemented by the Province of Saskatchewan in the case of subsequent COVID 19 waves.

Through each phase, the health and safety of City staff and residents will be the primary focus, continuing to balance the needs of the community, City Council and municipal business.

The City will follow the lead of the Government of Saskatchewan and Government of Canada and take direction from the provincial Chief Medical Officer of Canada, the Provincial Chief Medical Health Officer, our local Medical Health Officer and other public health officials. Advice from these professionals will determine the speed that we proceed through the steps to our new reality and will help to determine if health and safety measures need to be adjusted at any time. This could include returning to a previous step if necessary.

NOTE:

At this time, public access to the Council Chamber is not available. Council and Committee meetings continue to be conducted virtually and live-streamed on the City’s website. Public delegations have been accommodated via teleconference once registered and confirmed with the City Clerk’s Office. Administration is currently undertaking a review of options to accommodate in person attendance and public participation at meetings, keeping with restrictions on physical distancing and gatherings. A further report in this regard is forthcoming.

Information regarding recreation facilities including Leisure Centres, play structures and the Saskatoon Forestry Farm and Zoo will be provided in a separate report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications of the Roadmap to Recovery for the City are consistent with the high level estimates included in the April 27 report. Due to the significant number of unknown variables, additional financial projections are not provided.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no privacy, legal, social, environmental or CPTED implications of this report.

NEXT STEPS

Following City Council's approval of the City's Roadmap to Recovery, City staff will continue to plan for the re-opening and resumption of service delivery, keeping in mind that any improvement made to service delivery during the COVID 19 response will remain in place. These plans will be subject to available resources and further guidelines provided in Re-Open Saskatchewan as they become available.

APPENDICES

1. Phases of Re-Open Saskatchewan
2. City of Saskatoon Phases

Report Approval

Written by: Pamela Goulden-McLeod, Director of Emergency Management
Reviewed by: Sarah Cameron, Chief Human Resources Officer
Celene Anger, Chief Strategy and Transformation Officer
Morgan Hackl, Fire Chief
Approved by: Jeff Jorgenson, City Manager

Admin Report - City of Saskatoon: Roadmap to Recovery.docx

Phases of Re-Open Saskatchewan

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5
Dates	May 4, 2020 May 15, 2020 June 1, 2020	May 19, 2020	June 8, 2020 June 12, 2020	TBD	TBD (Possibly June 2021 – Dr. Shahab – stated on June 4, 2020)
Lifted restrictions	May 4, 2020 Previously restricted medical services, golf courses, parks and campgrounds Boat launches Fishing Community Gardens May 15, 2020 Golf Courses Drive-in Theatres Outfitting Camps Outdoor Individual recreation June 1, 2020 Parks and Campgrounds	Retail Shopping malls Farmer's markets Select personal care services Thrift stores	Places of worship Restaurants and licensed establishment Gyms and fitness facilities, childcare facilities and personal care services that did not re-open in Phase 2 June 12 th Playgrounds NOTE: increased access to school-based childcare facilities and childcare facilities can now have a maximum of 15 children/designated space	Part I: Child and youth day camps. Outdoor pools and spray parks Part II Indoor pools Indoor rinks Libraries Museums Galleries Movie Theatres Casinos Bingo Halls	Consider lifting long-term restrictions
Elementary & Secondary Education	Elementary and Secondary education is being offered through online supports. Prekindergarten to grade 12 schools will resume in-classroom learning in the fall of 2020.				
Physical Distancing	Maintain distance of 2 meters				
Precautionary measures	Programs and services interacting with the public required to follow guidance that essential businesses are currently following with respect to hand washing, intensive cleaning (particularly high-touch areas) and structuring stores/facilities to enable physical distancing. In order to meet these requirements, programs and services may need to limit the number of customers/clients/participants.				
Travel	Non-essential international travel is strongly discouraged. Anyone returning from International Travel is required to self-isolate for 14 days.				
Indoor Gatherings	Maximum 10	Maximum 10	Maximum 15	Maximum 30	TBD
Outdoor Gatherings	Maximum 10	Maximum 10	Maximum 30	Maximum 30	

<p>Vulnerable Groups</p>	<p>Vulnerable individuals, such as seniors and those with underlying health conditions, should continue to exercise caution and minimize high-risk exposures, such as public outings.</p>	<p>Vulnerable individuals, such as seniors and those with underlying health conditions, should continue to exercise caution and minimize high-risk exposures, such as public outings.</p>	<p>Clients over 40 years of age and those with underlying risk factors should use caution when considering visiting fitness facilities</p> <p>Protective measures for vulnerable populations</p>	<p>Clients over 40 years of age and those with underlying risk factors should use caution when considering visiting fitness facilities</p>	<p>TBD</p>
<p>Recommendations for all phases</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protective measures for vulnerable populations ▪ Individuals should continue working from home if they can do so effectively ▪ People must stay at home when they are sick. ▪ Vulnerable individuals, such as seniors and those with underlying health conditions, should continue to exercise caution and minimize high-risk exposures, such as public outings ▪ Personal hygiene will continue to be a key prevention measure. ▪ Enhanced cleaning and disinfection should take place in workplaces, public spaces and recreational facilities. ▪ Although the public health order regarding the size of gatherings does not apply to businesses and workplaces, they are expected to follow the recommended public health measures, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ physical distancing for staff and clients ○ regular cleaning and disinfection ○ frequent handwashing and sanitizing ○ use of PPE where available and appropriate ○ keeping staff who demonstrate or report COVID 19 symptoms out of the workplace 				

City of Saskatoon Phases

Phase 1 – The Initial Transition – (May 4, 2020 to May 19, 2020)

Phase One of Saskatoon’s Roadmap to Recovery is focused on the continued delivery of core municipal services while beginning the process of re-opening services closed under the Provincial Public Health Orders.

Provincial Government Re-Open SK Plan	Opening/ Lifted Restrictions	Restrictions in place	Impact for City of Saskatoon Services	Plan for City of Saskatoon Services
<p>Phase 1 May 4 – 18, 2020</p>	<p><u>May 4, 2020</u> Previously restricted medical services, golf courses, parks and campgrounds</p> <p>Boat launches Fishing Community Gardens</p> <p><u>May 15, 2020</u> Golf Courses Drive-in Theatres Outfitting Camps Outdoor Individual recreation</p> <p><u>June 1, 2020</u> Parks and Campgrounds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2m physical distancing • Work from home whenever possible • Elementary and Secondary Schools closed • Gathering sizes maximum – indoor 10, outdoor 10 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All municipal facilities and offices remain closed to the public • Recreation programs and events remain cancelled • Staff who can effectively work from home are directed to work from home • Restrictions on the number of people gathering to follow Provincial Orders • Staff may be in self-isolation due to international travel or symptoms of possible COVID 19 or close contact with someone with symptom or diagnosis of COVID 19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All core services continue, some were modified • Street sweeping and cleaning, road maintenance and snow and ice management services continued. • All connections services provided by Construction and Design continued. • All Saskatoon Light and Power Services continued. • Saskatoon Water Treatment Plant – no previous change to water quality or water supply services. Focus on preventative maintenance and repairs only as required. • Saskatoon Water Treatment Plant. No previous change to wastewater supply and wastewater capacity. Focus on preventative maintenance and repairs only as required. • Residential and commercial building permits – all programs converted to online. • Building and plumbing inspections – no physical onsite inspections, remote video inspections implemented. Reduced enforcement service levels. • Tree maintenance – non-safety service requests inspected within 20 days. Safety and asset preservation focus maintained. • Woodlawn cemetery administrative services can be achieved over the phone, email, or by appointment.

				<p>Essential services such as internment preparation, funeral setup/takedown continue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Saskatoon Care Centre continues to have a higher volume of communications. • Business license renewal requirements remain suspended; businesses wishing to renew served through phone/email. • Planning and Development moved all applications to online submissions. • Saskatoon Fire Department resumed some enforcement of priority 2 and 3 concerns for property maintenance with modifications. • Meter Shop provides emergency meter work and work in new builds. • Bus fares continue to be suspended • Buses load at rear-door • Access Transit allowed one passenger at a time • Fixed route Transit on modified Saturday schedule • Silverwood Dog Park's south entrance moved to provide more opportunity for appropriate physical distancing (May 1) • 2020 Property Tax deadline extended (May 1) • Residents can begin booking tee times at City Golf courses (May 5) • All City Golf Courses re-open with modifications (May 15) • Park Ambassador Program begins • Residents able to make presentations to City Council and Committee Meetings via phone (May 11) • Face coverings recommended on Saskatoon Transit as a measure to reduce transmission of COVID 19 (May 19) • Gordie Howe Campground opens with restrictions (June 1)
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Phase 2 – Gradual Recovery (May 19, 2020 to June 7, 2020)

Phase 2 of Saskatoon is focused on safely expanding the municipal services available to residents and returning more staff to work (if required for the public-facing services).

Provincial Government Re-Open SK Plan	Opening/ Lifted Restrictions	Restrictions in place	Impact for City of Saskatoon Services	Plan for City of Saskatoon Services
Phase 2 May 19 to June 7 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retail • Shopping malls • Farmer's markets, • Select personal care services • Thrift stores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2m physical distancing • Work from home whenever possible • Elementary and Secondary Schools closed • Gathering sizes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All municipal facilities and offices remain closed to the public • Recreation programs and events remain cancelled • Staff who can effectively work from home are directed to work from home • Staff who were redeployed to support COVID 19 emergency response efforts will continue in their temporary positions • Restrictions on the number of people gathering to follow Provincial Orders • Staff may be in self-isolation due to international travel or symptoms of possible COVID 19 or close contact with someone with symptom or diagnosis of COVID 19 	<p>Continue of services resumed in Phase 1 with the addition of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-site residential building permit inspections and plumbing permits inspections for unoccupied construction resume (May 25) • On-site commercial building inspections for unoccupied construction resume (May 26) • City tennis and pickle ball courts re-open with restrictions (May 29) • Gordon Howe Campground re-opens with modifications (June 1) • Saskatoon Water Treatment Plant moves to normal maintenance and operations. • Saskatoon Wastewater Treatment Plant moves to normal maintenance and operations. • Meter Shop cross connection program fully functional with digital operation. • Hazardous Waste Events return with modifications • School-based environmental programs and Healthy Yards education delivered online. • Onsite building and plumbing inspections resume expect for occupied residential units (May 25). Remote video inspections continue to be available. • Building and plumbing enforcement resumes (May 25).

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased use of Transit ridership due re-opening of retail and other services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grooming of ball diamonds decreased to one time per week to maintain week growth and prevent deterioration of ball diamond infrastructure. • Enforcement of new business opening without license resumes. • Bylaw complaints processes fully reinstated including issuance of Order to Remedy Notices with some modifications. • New portable sign licenses process in place to accept payment/issue license by mail. • Signs on Right of Way – ticketing reinstated. • Pay parking requirements and enforcement of all parking infractions fully reinstated (May 25), Residential Parking Program and parking permits for people with a disability program reinstated with some modifications.
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Phase 3 – Continued Recovery (June 8th - TBD)

During Phase 3 there is continued expansion of municipal services for residents.

Provincial Government Re-Open SK Plan	Opening/ Lifted Restrictions	Restrictions in place	Impact for City of Saskatoon Services	Plan for City of Saskatoon Services
<p>Phase 3</p> <p>June 8, 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Places of worship • Restaurants and licensed establishments • Gyms and fitness facilities • Childcare facilities • Personal care services that did not re-open in Phase 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2m physical distancing • Work from home whenever possible • School closures • Limited daycare capacity • Gathering sizes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work from home in place for employees of school aged children to accommodate school closures and summer programming cancellations • Staffing impact of childcare limitations 	<p>Continue of services resumed in Phase 1 and 2 with the addition of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transit Customer Service Centre re-opens with physical distancing requirements and capacity restrictions (June 5) • Bus fare and front door loading reinstated on Transit (June 8) • Resume mailing business license renewal notices (June 8 begin) • Vehicle seizure for scofflaw offences and operations at Impound Lot fully resume with some modifications. • City Hall Revenue open for walk-in service (June 15). This includes property tax and utility bill payments, bylaw and parking tickets. Residents are still encouraged to use the City's online services. • Woodlawn cemetery office opened to the public with modifications. (TBD)

Phase 4 – New Reality (TBD)

Phase 4 on our Roadmap to Recovery is our new reality. It is focused on continuing to deliver municipal services in a safe and responsible manner while the risk of COVID 19 infection remains in our community. This includes in some cases continuing with virtual meetings, online services and any other service improvements that were adapted to respond to COVID 19 emergency. Phase 4 will be lengthy. Dr. Shahab, Saskatchewan Chief Medical Health Officer has indicated this phase could last until June 2021. This aligns with our planning assumption that pandemics typically last 12- 18 months and often have more than one wave of outbreak.

Provincial Government Re-Open SK Plan	Opening/ Lifted Restrictions	Restrictions in place	Impact for City of Saskatoon Services	Plan for City of Saskatoon Services
Phase 4 Date TBD	<u>Part I:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child and youth day camps. • Outdoor pools and spray parks <u>Part II</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor pools • Indoor rinks • Libraries • Museums • Galleries • Movie Theatres • Casinos • Bingo Halls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2m physical distancing • Work from home • School closures • Limited daycare capacity • Gathering sizes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-opening of leisure facilities possible • Transit capacity can increase with physical distancing • Extended work from home plan • Work from home in place for employees of school aged children to accommodate school closures and summer programming cancellations • Staffing impact of childcare limitations 	Continue of services resumed in Phase 1, 2 and 3 with the addition of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-person public engagement to resume with modifications. • Parks service level increase as outdoor sports such as baseball, softball and soccer resume. • See separate Recreational Facilities report for Leisure Centres, spray parks, paddling pools,, outdoor swimming pools, indoor arenas and the Saskatoon Forestry Farm and Zoo. • Due to the current recommendations in Public Health Orders Transit capacity cannot increase, due to physical distancing implications unless masks are required by all passengers.

Recreation Facilities – Roadmap to Recovery

ISSUE

Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, all recreation facilities including Leisure Centres and play structures were closed to public use in mid-March. The Recreation and Community Development Division's plan for re-opening facilities is in alignment with Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan with an emphasis on safety of patrons and staff.

RECOMMENDATION

That City Council approve the phased in re-opening plan for recreation and sport facilities as outlined in this report.

BACKGROUND

Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, many of the City of Saskatoon's recreation facilities were closed to the general public in mid-March including: Leisure Centres, Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo (SFFPZ), indoor arenas and play structures.

At the April 27, 2020 meeting, City Council approved that Administration proceed with the recommended service levels for recreation facilities and programs based on a mid-July timeline for a phased opening of facilities and a gradual resumption of services.

In April 2020, the Province of Saskatchewan announced the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan. The Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan consists of five phases. The timing and order of the re-opening of businesses/workplaces included in each phase is subject to change based on a continuous assessment of transmission patterns and other factors. Phase 4 includes the re-opening of indoor and outdoor recreation facilities.

On June 4, 2020, the provincial government announced changes to Phase 4, to now include a two part plan:

- Part I includes re-opening of child and youth day camps, outdoor pools and spray parks, and seasonal/recreational outdoor sports and activities.
- Part II includes recreational facilities including indoor pools, indoor rinks, libraries, museums, galleries, movie theatres, casinos, and bingo halls.

No dates have been released for Phase 4 by the province at the time of this report, although Phase 3 proceeded earlier than the Administration initially anticipated and presented in the April report. As such, Administration has developed an updated approach to services as outlined in this report.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

Since closing recreation facilities in mid-March, Recreation and Community Development Division (RCD) has been monitoring the Provincial government's announcements regarding the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan and has been developing

plans for re-opening facilities. As further information is learned about the constantly changing guidelines/restrictions for re-opening recreation facilities, plans are being updated and refined.

Factors considered for the Phased-In Approach to Re-Opening Recreation Facilities

A variety of factors were considered in developing the phased-in approach for re-opening recreation facilities. Key factors considered are outlined below:

- **Service Level Principles/Guiding Principles for Adaptive Recovery Planning –** Consideration was given to the service level principles outlined in the April 27 2020, Financial and Operational Implications of COVID 19 report to City Council. The guiding principles outlined in the City of Saskatoon’s Adaptive Recovery Guide include balancing the safety and health of employees and the residents of Saskatoon, the need to maintain quality of life in the community, fiscal and social responsibility, basing decisions on data and evidence, focus on corporate values, collaboration with other levels of government, compliance with legislation and using a phased and scaled approach.
- **Staffing –** Following the closure of recreation facilities, the majority of RCD staff involved in providing programs at Leisure Centres were laid off or redeployed. Due to the timing of the closures, the normal summer staff recruitment and hiring did not happen for outdoor pools, SFFP&Z, and the summer play and youth program. Phasing in the re-opening of facilities is required to allow RCD and Human Resources to work through the recall process to determine staff availability and additional staffing resources that need to be recruited. The phased-in approach will also provide time to complete necessary qualification re-certifications for staff in aquatic related positions. The Facilities Division also requires time to ramp up their staffing resources to meet the new cleaning and maintenance protocols.
- **Facility Maintenance and Capital Projects –** During the COVID 19 shutdown period, the Facilities Division completed a deep clean of facilities, many maintenance projects were completed, and capital projects were advanced. Some capital projects will continue into the phased-in re-opening based on project timelines. The Facilities Division has reviewed and provided input into the phased-in re-opening plan described in this report.
- **Safety -** The health, safety and well-being of employees and the public are the City’s top priorities. The current pandemic presents several different challenges and changes in processes and systems. The City is adapting to a “new normal for now” system of operations and must prepare our staff and facilities accordingly. The phased-in approach to re-opening will allow time to implement new processes and systems in a manner that will maximize the likelihood of short and long term success.
- **Phase 3 Re-Opening –** Consideration was given to opening fitness rooms in Leisure Centres in Phase 3. However, significant work is still required to prepare Leisure Centres for re-opening, recalling staff is the largest undertaking and to

put new processes and systems in place. In addition, provincial restrictions significantly reduce the capacity of the fitness rooms.

Phased-In Approach to Re-Opening Recreation Facilities

The overall approach outlined in this report assumes that the province provides at least ten days of notice regarding Phase 4 dates, and that Phase 4 steps 1 and 2 can proceed in the first few days of July or earlier.

The approach and timelines presented are the most ambitious that can be achieved considering all factors. The overall approach is intended to convey what is possible and to ensure the Administration understands Council's expectations. The ability to achieve the accelerated approach is heavily dependent on the ability to call-back or hire staff. For example, the ability to open pools is fully dependent on the ability to recall or hire lifeguards. Saskatoon has never opened and operated our major recreation facilities in a COVID environment and provincial guidelines have not been developed as of yet.

Considering the many unknowns, the purpose of this report is to outline what the Administration would work towards should provincial announcements on Phase 4 be made in the coming weeks. Ongoing and comprehensive communications would be provided regularly to Council and the public as the plan proceeds and adapts to the changing environment.

Leisure Centres

Administration is planning a phased approach for the resumption of services at leisure centres. The approach involves opening Shaw Civic Centre and Lakewood Civic Centre first, then 1 to 2 weeks later opening Saskatoon Field House and Harry Baily Aquatic Centre, and then 1 to 2 weeks later opening Cosmo Civic Centre and Lawson Civic Centre.

The plan to start with opening two leisure centres, a "soft opening", will allow staff to test new safety practices and protocols as well as gauge public demand for recreational programs and facilities. The phased approach also supports the time required for Facilities Division, Human Resources Department and Finance Division to provide the necessary support for the resumption of services.

The resumption of programs and services at leisure centres will be subject to the staffing and PPE resources needed to meet provincial restrictions and will include:

- Drop-in programs (public swimming, lane swimming, fitness rooms, etc.) will be available when the facilities re-open with restricted numbers to maintain physical distancing.
- Instructor led classes will be scheduled at a later date following the re-opening of the facilities and will be based on instructor availability.
- Registered Programs - The proposed start date for registered recreation and aquatic programs is September 1, 2020. It is anticipated that class sizes will have to be reduced and/or the number of classes in the pool at the same time will

need to be reduced to meet physical distancing requirements. These changes will need to be made once provincial guidelines for Phase 4 are available.

- Facility Rentals - It is anticipated the provincial guidelines/restrictions for Phase 4 will reduce the facility capacity and the capacity of various spaces for accommodating rentals. RCD will attempt to balance drop-in programming and rentals to meet the overall facility capacity and public demand.
- Leaseholders – Discussions are ongoing with third party organizations that lease space is Leisure Centres. Leaseholders will be allowed to return to leased spaces as facilities re-open provided they have the necessary return to work safety plans/exposure control plans in place.

Opening of outdoor pools is included in step 1 of Phase 4 while indoor pools are included in step 2. Should there be a significant time gap between steps 1 and 2 of Phase 4, such that opening of indoor pools is delayed past mid-July, the Administration would instead shift its efforts to opening outdoor pools as the priority.

Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo

Administration is planning a phased approach for the resumption of services at the SFFP&Z. The approach involves opening the Zoo and outdoor amenities/exhibits first, with the remaining indoor amenities one to two weeks later. The ability to re-open the indoor exhibits will be subject to available resources to address provincial restrictions, physical distancing and additional cleaning requirements.

Indoor Arenas

Administration is planning a phased re-opening of arenas. The approach involves the re-opening of ACT Arena with ice in Phase 4, part II. RCD staff have begun the process of installing the ice into ACT Arena on both the figure skating and hockey sides in preparation for re-opening. The remaining arenas, excluding Lions Arena (which is undergoing a capital project to replace the ice field), will re-open for dry land rentals, subject to the availability of staff and resources to address provincial restrictions and additional cleaning requirements.

Outdoor Sport Fields

The Parks Division has been maintaining outdoor sport fields at a base level and would require approximately two weeks to transition to the above basic level of maintenance to support use by outdoor sport groups. RCD staff have been in regular contact with outdoor sport user groups to determine their priorities. RCD sport field allocations staff are in place to process bookings when fields become available subject to the availability of resources to address provincial restrictions and additional requirements, for example signage.

Outdoor Pools

In the April 27, 2020 report to City Council on recommended service levels, City Council approved the service level recommendation that outdoor pools remain closed for the 2020 season. Outdoor pools are now listed in part 1 of Phase 4, and there is a possibility that this phase could proceed earlier than estimated in the April report. As

such, Administration will explore the possibility of opening one and potentially two outdoor pools. The ability to re-open any outdoor pools will be subject to the availability of staff and resources to address provincial restrictions and additional cleaning requirements. The priority would be to re-open all indoor pools, as they are able to be used all days of the summer. As such, staff recruitment and training for outdoor pools will take second priority to safely opening the indoor leisure centres. Unless otherwise directed by Council, the Administration intends to work to open one and potentially two outdoor pools by mid-July should the province provide direction before July 1 that outdoor pools can open by July 15 or earlier.

Nutrien Playland

In the April 27, 2020 report to City Council on recommended service levels, City Council approved the service level recommendation that Nutrien Playland remain closed for 2020 season. Based on the potentially accelerated timelines for Phase 4, Administration will explore the possibility of opening the Nutrien Playland in July. The Administration will contact the province to determine the requirements for re-opening Nutrien Playland as amusement type rides are not identified in the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan. The ability to re-open Nutrien Playland will be subject to the availability of staff and resources to address provincial restrictions and additional cleaning requirements.

Spray Parks

The Facilities Division has already prepared all 21 spray parks for operation. Dependent on provincial guidelines for the safe resumption of the operation of spray parks, they will re-open in Phase 4. See the map in Appendix 1 for the location of the spray parks.

Playground Programs and Youth Centre Programs

Administration is proposing to operate 11 sites in priority areas of the City (see map in Appendix 1 for locations). Priority areas have been determined by using Saskatoon Food Bank usage (2018) and a neighbourhood's average household income (2015) as criteria. RCD staff are working with several third-party agencies to plan summer programming for children and youth. With provincial guidelines and restrictions unknown, the group does not have definitive plans on what the programs will look like for 2020 or how each partner will contribute. Planning continues with the goal to deliver summer recreation programs that reach the vulnerable sector (participants that need it the most) in the priority areas of the city. In addition, consultation with the Vulnerable Sector Working group identified water play as an important component for cooling off during summer months. Approximately 30 staff would need to be recruited to operate the program.

Further to this, due to the potential accelerated time lines for paddling pools as part of Phase 4, Administration will also explore the option to operate the paddling pools at the sites in priority areas subject to provincial requirements and availability of resources.

Play Structures

On June 8, 2020, the province announced that outdoor playgrounds could re-open on Friday June 12, 2020. The City is working to remove the closed signage and caution tape from all the play structures in time for the June 12 re-opening. New signage will be posted at outdoor play structures, as per provincial requirements, to caution about the risks of COVID-19, as well as educate users in following the guidelines. Signage will include the following reminders:

- Individuals who are sick should stay home. A physical distance of two metres should be maintained between people not from the same household or extended household;
- Individuals should wash their hands before and after using parks and playgrounds; and
- Avoid overcrowding. Individual groups must not exceed the restrictions on public gatherings

Resource Requirements

The phased re-opening of recreation facilities requires the operational support and continued collaboration of multiple civic departments and divisions. There are significant tasks and details currently underway by RCD and other civic partners. In order to meet the accelerated projected Phase 4 timelines for re-opening recreation facilities, support and resources are required in the following areas:

- Support is required from other divisions; Facilities, EMO, Supply Chain Management, Communications, Human Resources, Finance and IT to ensure facilities and services are ready for re-opening.
- Facilities Division resources, staff, PPE and cleaning/sanitizing supplies for all staff and patrons, need to be in place to clean, maintain and operate the facility, programs and services under the provincial guidelines. Staffing availability needs to be confirmed and additional resources will need to be hired.
- Safety processes, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), systems and signage must be in place to mitigate the risk of exposure to COVID 19.
- Provincial guidelines and restrictions are ever changing and details related to Phase 4 have not yet been released. The plan for re-opening of recreation facilities is phased in order to support the ability to adapt to the changing requirements during COVID, and in response to public demand and availability of resources.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications of the phased re-opening of recreation and sport facilities is mostly consistent with the high level estimates included in the April 27, 2020 report. Due to the significant number of unknown variables, such as the actual opening dates and the potential number of additional outdoor facilities that could open, additional financial projections are not able to be provided at this time.

Related to expenses, the resource implications previously identified include additional costs for staffing requirements, PPE supplies, training and cleaning requirements for facilities. On the revenue side, it is anticipated that public demand to use recreation facilities may be low, especially in the initial phases of re-opening due on the following:

- We are still in a pandemic situation with active cases of COVID 19 in Saskatchewan, leaving some people hesitant to go to public facilities;
- Current research by Inshtrix Research shows that only 34% of people surveyed are comfortable going to the gym;
- In a survey recently sent out by the City of Saskatoon, of the 3,000 people who responded to date, only 32% responded that they are likely to visit a Leisure Centre in the first month and 31% responded that they are likely to visit an Outdoor Pool in the first month.
- Physical distancing guidelines and other requirements in the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan will limit the number of people that can participate and access facilities at one time; and
- Provincial guidelines and requirements not yet released may impact service delivery and access to programs.

Administration expects participation at Leisure Centres and recreation facilities will be slow to recover to traditional numbers as people will continue to be hesitant to gather in groups. We also anticipate some potential challenges with summer recruitment in the sheer numbers of staff needed to open even the reduced number of programs and facilities recommended.

The Administration's plan for a phased resumption of services will allow RCD to gauge public demand for recreation facilities and adjust the plan accordingly.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no privacy, legal, social, environmental or CPTED implications of this report.

NEXT STEPS

Pending City Council's approval of the phased-in re-opening plan, RCD Division staff will continue to plan for the re-opening of recreation facilities as described in this report and subject to available resources and further guidelines provided in Re-Open Saskatchewan as they become available.

APPENDICES

1. Map of Spray Park and Summer Play Locations

REPORT APPROVAL

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Approved by: Lynne Lacroix, General Manager, Community Services

Map of Spray Park and Summer Play Locations

