



All-Season Washroom Report

Date	November 17, 2021
To	Operations and Community Services Committee
From	City Planning & Community Development
Service Area	Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
Item No.	OCS21-35

RECOMMENDATION

The Operations and Community Services Committee recommends that City Council:

1. Remove CR21-79 from the List of Outstanding Items for City Council.

ISSUE

On April 29, 2021, while considering Report *CR21-79 Winter City Strategy Motion Response*, Council approved a recommendation that was added at the Operations and Community Services Committee directing Administration to:

- a) Coordinate with the Provincial Capital Commission to investigate additional year-round public washrooms in Wascana Park;
- b) Investigate washrooms in municipal parks that could be winterized for all-seasons use; and
- c) Report back to the Operations and Community Services Committee on the financial implications associated with the directives outlined in 6(a) and (b) by Q4 of 2021.

In response to this recommendation, the following report outlines the current and future state of public washroom facilities within Regina, specifically focusing on municipal parks, open spaces and Wascana Centre and details the financial implications of using or converting existing washrooms in these park spaces to provide all-season washroom access.

IMPACTS

There are no financial, environmental, risk/legal or other implications or considerations as this is an information report.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department (PRCS) will work with the City of Regina's (City) Communications & Engagement Department staff and the Provincial Capital Commission (PCC) to promote available washroom facilities for public use in the winter season.

DISCUSSION

Current State

The public can currently access numerous washroom facilities that are open year-round, near and/or adjacent to many recreational services and park spaces in the city. These include 11 library washrooms, four major recreation facility washrooms, four community center washrooms and two washroom facilities operated by the PCC. See Appendix A for the full list of year-round washroom facilities that are available to the public.

Administration has determined that four of these washrooms are instrumental to realizing the Winter City Strategy themes through the promotion and enhancement of winter amenities. These washrooms are:

- The Neil Balkwill Civic Arts Centre (NBCAC) within Les Sherman Park, where walking, cross country ski trails and winter arts & culture programming occur.
- The Douglas Park washroom, which is adjacent to recreation amenities such as a toboggan hill and cross-country ski trails.
- The Marina Playground and Wascana Place washrooms, both located within Wascana Centre, operated by the PCC.

The Douglas Park and Marina Playground washrooms are accessible directly from the outdoors and are both located in areas that offer winter activities such as cross-country skiing, tobogganing and walking paths. From November 1 to April 15, the Douglas Park washroom is open on weekends and Statutory Holidays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. to accommodate winter use. The Marina Playground washroom is open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. The public washrooms found in the NBCAC and Wascana Place are subject to the operating hours of the facilities and are accessed by entering the building.

Table 1: Current State Year-Round Washrooms in Parks & Open Spaces

Washroom	Location	Operated By	Type
NBCAC	Les Sherman Park	City of Regina	Within a facility
Douglas Park	Douglas Park	City of Regina & PCC	Stand Alone
Marina Playground	Wascana Centre	PCC	Outdoor Access, Within a facility
Wascana Place	Wascana Centre	PCC	Within a facility

Planned Future State

Goal #3 of the Recreation Master Plan directs the City to 'Provide Healthy Indoor and Outdoor Environments'. As Regina implements the Winter City Strategy, all-season planning and infrastructure will be a consideration when building new washroom facilities or upgrading existing ones.

The City has identified that the downtown and core neighbourhoods have an immediate need for an all-season public washroom. As a result, Administration has developed plans for two new washroom facilities. One washroom will be a permanent, year-round facility, located near Pat Fiacco Plaza. The other year-round facility will be in the new Wascana Pool support building further facilitating public engagement with Wascana Centre.

The City's approach has been to consider stand-alone washroom facilities only when a site experiences high use; otherwise the preferred approach is to utilize washrooms within an existing facility. This is to ensure cost effective use of resources and to help address safety and security concerns related to having a stand-alone facility. This will continue to be the approach moving forward however individual site conditions will be assessed as new facilities are built or opened. If deemed appropriate, additional staff and/or security checks may be put in place. Hours of operation and operating costs for these will be considered through operational planning and future budget processes.

In alignment with the City, the PCC is also looking to leverage winter as a competitive advantage for our community. The PCC will be installing an annual temporary, winter washroom beginning in 2022. This will accompany an NHL regulation-size hockey rink being built on Wascana Lake, located near the Legislative Landing. This rink and washroom hub will operate in the winter and run (weather dependent) from mid-December to the end of February.

Administration is exploring a new park maintenance and support facility in the south end of Mount Pleasant Sports Park with key stakeholders. The need for year-round public washrooms will be considered as a part of this project; however this project is in the early stages and the amenities of the facility remain uncertain. As the Mount Pleasant Sports Park is a large area, many factors need to be considered when determining a washroom location such as current fencing, wayfinding, the distance between activity hubs and seasonal variance in activities.

With these developments underway; existing plans could add up to three or four new year-round washroom facilities to the inventory that exists today in the next few years.

Table 2: Planned Future State Washrooms in Parks & Open Spaces

Washroom	Location	Operated By	Type	Status
Downtown	Near Pat Fiacco Plaza	City of Regina	Stand Alone	Design Stage
Wascana Centre (North side)	Wascana Pool	City of Regina	Outdoor Access, Within a Facility	Under Construction
Wascana Centre (South side)	Legislative Landing	PCC	Stand Alone	Underway; in place for 2021/2022 winter
Mount Pleasant Maintenance and Support Facility	Mount Pleasant Sports Park	City of Regina	TBD	Exploratory

Jurisdictional Research

As is illustrated in Table 3 below, in comparison to the municipalities of Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Calgary and Edmonton, Regina has the highest number of public washrooms in parks and open spaces per capita, based on the 2016 census population data.

Saskatoon has a strong public mandate for more public washrooms in their city. As a result, they have applied for \$250,000 of federal grant funding in hopes to construct new, year-round washroom facilities potentially on a quicker timeline than Saskatoon's current budget allows. The City of Regina also applied in the same funding call for the Pat Fiacco Plaza washrooms. Saskatoon currently has four year-round, park washroom facilities.

Winnipeg has a total of seven year-round washrooms in park spaces. Three of which are within other park facilities and four of which are stand-alone washrooms. The hours vary but all are open seven days a week, for an average of 14 hours a day. Calgary has aging infrastructure problems with many of its park washroom facilities, making winterizing inefficient. Calgary currently has 10 all-season, public washrooms available in its park spaces. Increasing the number of washrooms is not currently a major priority for them.

The City of Edmonton recognizes that year-round park washrooms are important to getting people to use park spaces in the winter. Recently, they have built two new all-season washrooms, that also act as multi-purpose park "Pavilions". Edmonton has 11 stand-alone, year-round washroom facilities and nine additional washrooms within other park facilities.

Table 3: Jurisdictional Comparison of Year-Round Washrooms in Parks & Open Spaces

	Total Washrooms	Stand Alone Washrooms	Washrooms Within Facilities	Population	Washroom Per Capita	Per Capita Ranking
Regina	4	2	2	236,481	59,120	1
Saskatoon	4	N/A	N/A	295,095	73,773	3
Winnipeg	7	4	3	708,823	101,260	5

Edmonton	20	11	9	1,366,050	68,303	2
Calgary	10	N/A	N/A	1,498,778	149,878	6

Capital & Operating Costs Required to Convert Existing Seasonal Washrooms to Operate Year-Round

Administration has identified two seasonal park washroom facilities that could currently be converted to all-season with minimal effort as they already have natural gas lines. These are the Mount Pleasant Soccer Washroom and the Rick Hansen washroom buildings.

- The Mount Pleasant Soccer Washroom is located on the North-East side of the park, near the toboggan hill. Winter activities currently hosted within the Mount Pleasant site are the Regina Speedskating Oval, Mount Pleasant Toboggan Hill, walking/running trails, and the Mount Pleasant Dog Park.
- The Rick Hansen Washroom Building is located near the accessible playground at AE Wilson Park. Winter recreation activities found at this park include a fully accessible playground walking/running trails, cross country ski trails, fat bike trails, tobogganing and picnic sites.

The incremental costs of operating the Mount Pleasant and Rick Hansen washroom facilities for an added seven months of the year are estimated to be \$44,664 annually.

Table 4: Annual Operating Costs Incurred by Conversion of Existing Seasonal Washrooms

Incremental Costs	Mount Pleasant or Rick Hansen	Mount Pleasant & Rick Hansen
Annual Operating Costs	\$28,000	\$35,000
Annual Utilities	\$1,500	\$3,000
Annual Maintenance	\$800	\$1,600
Locking requirements (211 days)	\$2,532	\$5,064
Total Incremental Cost	\$32,832	\$44,664

Administration has further identified three washroom facilities that could be retrofitted for winter use. The washrooms are located in Grassick Park, Kinsmen Park South and Kiwanis Waterfall Park. Grassick Park has very few winter activities. Kinsmen Park South has a cleared multi-use pathway and ski-trails. The washroom building currently functions as a year-round storage space for the Ski Club. The Ski Club has inquired about renovating the facility to include an all-seasons washroom and renovated storage space. This request would be considered as part of normal asset management discussions. Kiwanis Waterfall Park is located along the cleared multi-use pathway.

Table 5: Capital Costs Incurred by Retrofitting Existing Seasonal Washrooms

Retrofit Locations	One Time Capital Cost
Grassick Park Washroom Building	\$142,000
Kinsmen Park South Washroom Building	\$154,000
Kiwanis Waterfall Park Washroom Building	\$101,000

The cost to retrofit all three of the above-listed washrooms would be a one-time capital expense of \$399,500. Ongoing annual costs would be similar to Table 4 previously listed though specific site costs will vary.

The operational and capital costs to winterize and retrofit existing public washrooms are not within existing budgets. These costs are a result of increased service levels and would need to be considered through the annual budget process.

Summary

The City and PCC have existing plans to expand access to washrooms in the winter. The current and planned future state of public washroom facilities within Regina's parks and open spaces (Appendix B) will help to facilitate winter leisure activities. In alignment with the Recreation Master Plan and Winter City Strategy the need for a winter washroom facility, as defined by the amount of winter activity in the park space, will be considered through the development of new washrooms, renovations of existing washrooms and the addition of winter amenities to park spaces.

DECISION HISTORY

On April 21, 2021, the Operations and Community Services Committee approved the recommendations contained within *OCS21-12 Winter City Strategy Motion Response* and moved the response to be added to the council report on April 29, 2021.

On April 29, 2021, Council approved the recommendations within *CR21-79 Winter City Strategy Motion Response*. This includes winter city strategy, budget requests and an additional recommendation to provide information on bathroom services.

Respectfully Submitted,

Respectfully Submitted,



Laurie Shalley, Director, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

10/29/2021



Diana Hawryluk, Executive Director, City Planning & Community Dev.

11/10/2021

Prepared by: Robyn Barclay, Coordinator, Winter City Strategy

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A - All-Season Washroom Report Final

Appendix B - Final Washroom Location Map

Location Description Current State	Type of Location	Type of Facility	Address	Holding Department	Operating Hours Vary	Winter Operationa	Zone
Al Ritchie Memorial Arena	Arena	Within a building/facility	2230 Lindsay Street	PRCS	N	Y	Central
Balfour Arena (Murray)	Arena	Within a building/facility	70 Massey Road	PRCS	N	Y	South
Hamilton Arena (Jack)	Arena	Within a building/facility	1010 McCarthy Boulevard	PRCS	N	Y	West
Kinsmen Arena (Wheat City)	Arena	Within a building/facility	560 Elphinstone Street	PRCS	N	Y	North
Mahon Arena (Clarence)	Arena	Within a building/facility	130 Brotherton Avenue	PRCS	N	Y	East
Optimist Arena	Arena	Within a building/facility	222 Sunset Drive	PRCS	N	Y	South
Staples Arena (Jack)	Arena	Within a building/facility	444 Broad Street North	PRCS	N	Y	North
Wickenheiser Arena (Doug)	Arena	Within a building/facility	1127 North Arnason Street	PRCS	N	Y	West
Albert Branch-mâdawêyatitân center *	Library	Within a building/facility	3355 6th Ave	RPL	N	Y	Central
Central Branch	Library	Within a building/facility	2311 12th Ave.	RPL	N	Y	Central
Connaught Branch	Library	Within a building/facility	3435 13th Ave.	RPL	N	Y	Central
Prince of Wales Branch- Core Ritchie*	Library	Within a building/facility	445 14th Ave.	RPL	N	Y	Central
Glen Elm Branch	Library	Within a building/facility	1601 Dewdney Ave. E.	RPL	N	Y	East
Sunrise Branch - Sandra Schmirler Leisure Centre*	Library	Within a building/facility	3130 E. Woodhams Dr.	RPL	N	Y	East
Regent Place Branch	Library	Within a building/facility	Northeast - 331 Albert St.	RPL	N	Y	North
George Bothwell Branch	Library	Within a building/facility	Southland Mall - 2965 Gordon Road	RPL	N	Y	South
Sherwood Village Branch	Library	Within a building/facility	6121 Rochdale Blvd.	RPL	N	Y	West
MacKenzie Art Gallery	Museum	Within a building/facility	3475 Albert St.	MAG	N	Y	Central
Royal Saskatchewan Museum	Museum	Within a building/facility	2445 Albert St.	RSM	N	Y	Central
Saskatchewan Science Centre	Museum	Within a building/facility	2903 Powerhouse Dr.	SSC	N	Y	Central
Government House	Museum	Within a building/facility	4607 Dewdney Ave.	PCC	N	Y	West
Douglas Park Washroom Building	Parks	Outdoor Washrooms	3025 Mcdonald St	PRCS	Y	Y	East
Sport Plex	Recreation/ leisure centre	Within a building/facility	1717 Elphinstone St.	PRCS	N	Y	Central
Neil Balkwill Civic Arts Centre	Recreation/ leisure centre	Within a building/facility	2420 Elphinstone St.	PRCS	N	Y	Central
Co-operators Centre	Recreation/ leisure centre	Within a building/facility	1700 Elphinstone St.	PRCS	N	Y	Central
Cathedral Neighborhood Centre	Recreation/ leisure centre	Within a building/facility	2900- 13th Ave.	PRCS	N	Y	Central
Core Ritchie Neighborhood Centre	Recreation/ leisure centre	Within a building/facility	445-14th Ave.	PRCS	N	Y	Central
mâdawêyatitân centre	Recreation/ leisure centre	Within a building/facility	3355 6th Ave.	PRCS	N	Y	Central
Sandra Schmirler Leisure Centre	Recreation/ leisure centre	Within a building/facility	3130 East Woodhams Dr.	PRCS	N	Y	East
Glencarin Recreation Centre	Recreation/ leisure centre	Within a building/facility	2626 Dewdney Ave.	PRCS	N	Y	East
North West Leisure Centre	Recreation/ leisure centre	Within a building/facility	1127 Arnason St.	PRCS	N	Y	West
South Leisure Centre	Recreation/ leisure centre	Within a building/facility	170 Sunset Dr.	PRCS	N	Y	South
Wascana Place	Wascana Park	Within a building/facility	2900 Wascana Dr	PCC	Y	Y	Central
Marina Playground - Wascana Centre	Wascana Park	Within a building/facility	2900 Wascana Dr	PCC	N	Y	Central

Location Description	Type of Location	Type of Facility	Address	Holding Department	Operating Hours Vary	Winter Operationa	Zone
Planned Future State							
Legistaltive Landing	Wascana Park	Outdoor Washrooms	2405 Legislative Dr	PCC	Y	Y	Central
Wascana Pool	Wascana Park	Outdoor Washrooms	2211 College Ave	PRCS	Y	Y	Central
Pat Fiacco Plaza	Victoria Park	Outdoor Washrooms	1955 Smith St.	PRCS	N	Y	Central
Parks & Maintenance Building (Exploraroty Stage)	Parks	Outdoor Washrooms	TBC	PRCS	TBC	TBC	North
Winterize Options							
Kaplan Field Washroom Building	Parks	Outdoor Washrooms	750 Winnipeg Street North	PRCS	Y	N, Gas line	North
Mount Pleasant Soccer Washroom Building	Parks	Outdoor Washrooms	750 Winnipeg Street North	PRCS	Y	N, Gas line	North
Rick Hanson House Washroom Building	Parks	Outdoor Washrooms	1010 Mccarthy Boulevard	PRCS	Y	N, Gas line	West
Retrofit Options							
Kinsmen Park South Washroom Building	Parks	Outdoor Washrooms	3310 Lakeview Avenue	PRCS	Y	N	South
Grassick Park Washroom Building	Parks	Outdoor Washrooms	5325 Dewdney Avenue	PRCS	Y	N	West
Kiwanis Waterfall Park Washroom Building	Parks	Outdoor Washrooms	2755 Elphinstone Street	PRCS	Y	N	South

* Duplicate Washroom within a shared facility

Appendix B

