



Subject: Pool Opening Date

Report to: Thorold City Council

Recommendations

1. That Council **RECEIVE** the motion from the Parks, Trails and Recreation Committee to request that Council **DIRECT** staff to open the Thorold Community Pool one week earlier than originally scheduled this year.
2. That Staff **BE DIRECTED** to investigate the budgetary requirements and feasibility of extending the pool schedule in 2024.

Key Facts

- Each year, the Thorold Community Pool offers a modified pool schedule during the last week of June and operates at full capacity in July and August.
- The City of Thorold operates five Splash Pads, which will open June 9th, 2023.
- The City of Thorold has the ability to open the Thorold Community Pool one week early pending a satisfactory pool inspection and successful completion of scheduled maintenance projects.

Budgetary Status

The Thorold Community Pool requires a minimum of six lifeguards to safely open the slide and host public swimming. To provide this level of service based on a modified pool schedule the total cost is \$6,000.

The Thorold Community Pool requires a minimum of four lifeguards to safely host public swimming without opening the slide. The total cost of a modified pool schedule with no slide is \$4,500.

Analysis

The City of Thorold offers a modified pool schedule the last week of June each year. Programs run in the evening and on weekends to accommodate the needs of families

with school-aged children. Last, year the City of Thorold welcomed 688 drop-in swimmers and 53 season pass holders between June 24th and July 1st, 2022.

City Staff are currently in the process of operationalizing Splash Pads and the Thorold Community Pool for the summer season. There are several maintenance projects scheduled for the pool between now and June 14th, 2023. Pending the successful completion of these projects, Niagara Public Health will inspect the Pool June 14th, 2023.

In the event that one or a combination of these targets are not achieved in the anticipated timeframe, the pool will open as originally scheduled on June 24th, 2023.

Alternatives Reviewed

As an alternative to opening the Pool one week early, residents have the ability to enjoy up to five Splash Pads located throughout Thorold. Splash Pads will be operational as of June 9th, 2023.

The opening of the Thorold Community Pool requires careful planning. To provide a greater understanding of the community benefit and resources required to achieve an extended pool season, staff will further evaluate key performance indicators, staffing, and budget impact for Council consideration.

Relationship to Strategic Plan

The recommendation is consistent with Council's Strategic Priorities;

- Vibrant, Inclusive Neighbourhoods

Other Pertinent Reports

Not Applicable.

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Approved and Submitted by:

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This report was prepared in consultation with Dave Baldoni, Acting Manager Community Services.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Modified Pool Opening Schedule