



Reimagining Recreation Services – Castlegar & District Complex

Community Meetings Workbook

Welcome

Please review the panels and share your thoughts at the end. Please feel free to ask any questions you have.

This workbook includes the same material as presented at the community meetings. The questions posed on the panel boards and the online survey are included here as well.

If you would like, please complete and leave with a project team member before you leave the community meeting. Alternatively, you can use this as a reference when you provide your responses online or drop it off at the Castlegar & District Community Complex. **Please submit your response by May 15, 2024.**

Thank you.

Vision of Recreation in Castlegar, Area I, and Area J*

A region in which everyone is engaged in meaningful, accessible recreation experiences that foster:

- **individual wellbeing;**
- **community wellbeing; and**
- **the wellbeing of our natural and built environments.**

Benefits of Recreation



Is essential to personal health and wellbeing



Is a significant economic generator



Provides a foundation for quality of life



Reduces health care and social service costs



Provides the key to balanced human development



Builds strong and healthy communities



Green spaces are essential to wellbeing



Supports positive mental health and social connections



Photo: skateparktour.ca/skateparks/castlegar-rotary-skatepark-castlegar-bc/



Photo: [facebook.com/TCCChoir](https://www.facebook.com/TCCChoir)



Photo: rdck.ca

The Project:

Reimaging Recreation Services – Castlegar & District Complex

Project Purpose:

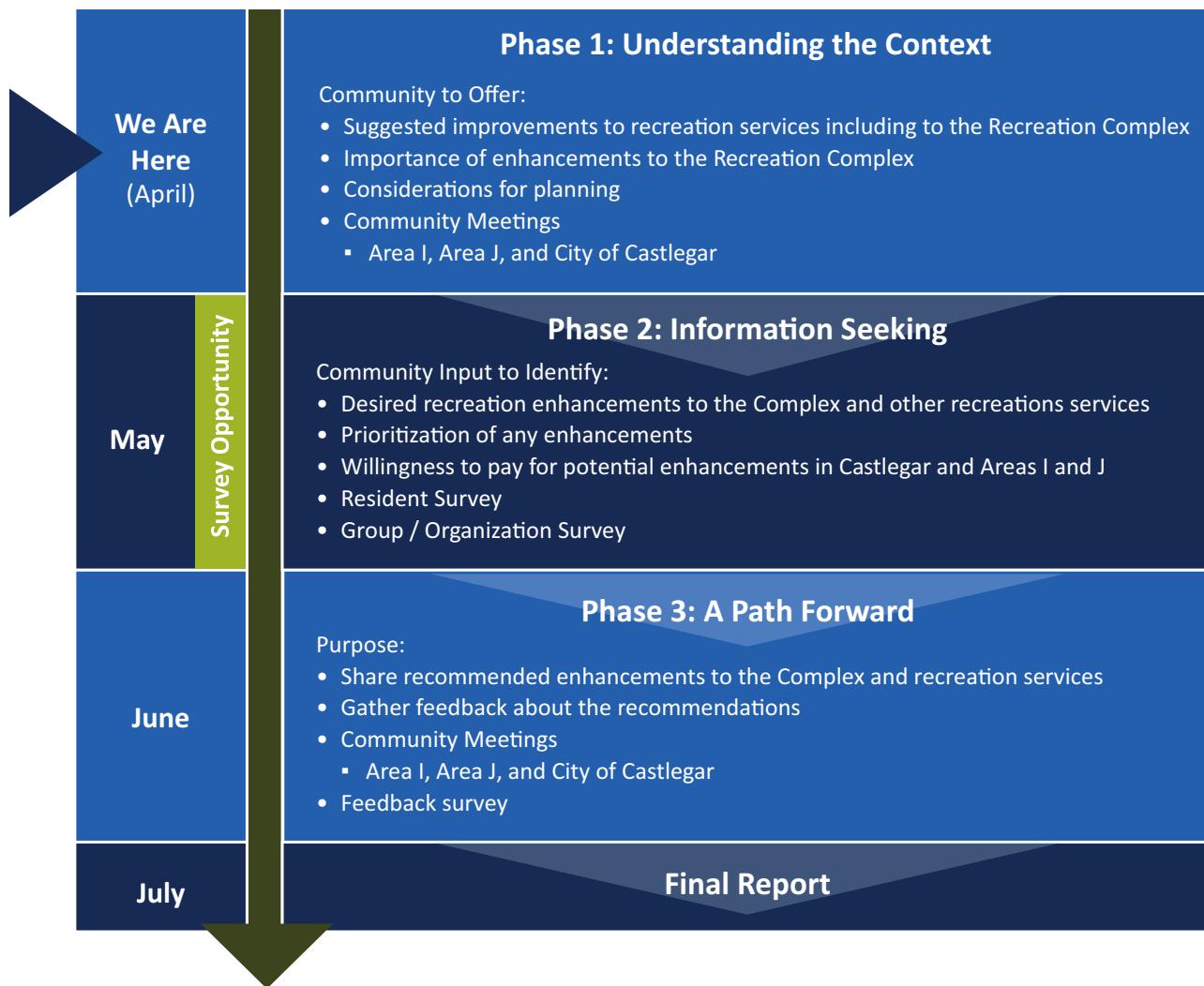
The Recreation Commission is seeking the public's input about current services offered and potential enhancements to recreation services in Castlegar and Area I and Area J.

The Recreation Commission wants to further position the Castlegar & District Recreation Complex as a vibrant community hub.

Recreation Commission:

- Guides the engagement process.
- Members include:
 - » Maria McFaddin
 - » Henny Hanegraaf
 - » Andy Davidoff
 - » Sue Heaton-Sherstobitoff
 - » Brian Bogle

Process:



Structure of Regional Recreation / Culture / Parks Services

The Regional provision and funding of recreation, culture, and parks services in Castlegar, Electoral Area I, and Electoral Area J is governed by service agreements. There are two that apply in this instance: Service 222 and Service 227.

S222 – Castlegar and District Community Facilities, Recreation, Parks and Leisure

- Participating Areas are the City of Castlegar, Electoral Areas I & J.
- 2007 Bylaw No. 1909 combined 3 services into 1:
 - » 1966 –Recreational Program –no assent
 - » 1966 -Regional Parks –no assent
 - » 1974 -Community Centre and Ice Arena –assent voting
- The service hereby amended may include, but is not limited, to the following powers and authorities:
 - » To provide and operate regional facilities and amenities for recreational, leisure, regional park, athletic fields and cultural purposes, including the acquisition, construction, renovation, or expansion of properties and facilities.
 - » To provide recreational, leisure, regional parks, athletic fields and cultural programming and associated planning services.
- This is the service that would allow the addition of new recreational, cultural, and park facilities and services.
- S222 taxation is \$3,138,218 in 2024. If your assessment was valued at \$500,000 you would pay \$335.46 for this service.

S227 – Castlegar and Area Indoor Aquatic Centre

- Participating Areas are the City of Castlegar, Electoral Areas J & Defined Area I.
- 1997 Bylaw No. 1221
 - » To construct, operate and maintain an Indoor Aquatic Centre within the City of Castlegar (limited scope)
- It is specific that the Indoor Aquatic Centre is to be located in the City of Castlegar
- A portion of Area I is not part of the service area
 - » S227 current taxation for 2024 is \$1,202,928. If your assessment was valued at \$500,000 you would pay \$137.31 for this service.

How Did We Get Here?

1956 Pioneer Arena was constructed- includes a mini ice surface and modified NHL surface.

1956

1976

1983 renovations were made in the Pioneer Arena in the change rooms, concession, storage, and viewing area.

1983

1990s

2006 Facility Review

- The Commission should, "...develop a long term facility plan to identify improvements as well as facility additions, including a second ice sheet, improvements to the aquatic centre, and the construction of a new gymnasium and multipurpose space."

2006

2009

2010 Recreation Complex Expansion Referendum defeated. It considered expansion to include a new ice arena, expanded fitness, aquatics, and senior's space.

2010

2016

2017 Feasibility Analysis and Concept Design for enhancements to the Recreation Complex. A program of community engagement was implemented to identify desired enhancements to the Complex (based on findings from the Master Plan). Based on this engagement, two options for facility enhancements were developed and tested with the public. The public was consulted again but only about the option that received the highest level of support. Residents were asked if they would support the development of the option in a referendum.

2017

2018

2023 Castlegar and District Recreation Commission Strategic Planning directed Staff to initiate this engagement project.

2023

2023 City of Castlegar announced the planned closure of Pioneer Arena.

About the Recreation & Culture Master Plan

Master Plan Recommendations:

- The RDCK and the CDRC should proceed with the enhancements and expansion at the CDCC as the outlined priorities.
 - » Fitness / wellness upgrades
 - » Multipurpose / seniors addition / arts
 - » Aquatics upgrades
 - » Field house and walking / jogging track
 - » Arena and walking / jogging track
- Initiated in the fall of 2014 and completed late in 2015
- Significant public and stakeholder engagement
 - » Household survey (792 responses)
 - » Stakeholder meetings (45 participants)
 - » Community group survey (17 groups provided a response)
- Also engaged staff and elected officials

About Arena Utilization

Assumptions

- Prime Time (PT) hours are from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. on weeknights and 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. on weekends
- Figures consider booking information for February 2024

Pioneer Arena

- 76% PT utilization (226 hours of PT ice booked out of 298 available PT hours)

Complex Arena

- 73% PT utilization (232.5 hours of PT ice booked out of 318 available PT hours)

Including Prime Time and Non-Prime Time hours, the Complex Arena had 562 available hours (assuming operating hours of 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. weekends)

Understanding POTENTIAL Costs and Funding

Taxation

- Property taxes from Castlegar and Area I, and Area J of the RDCK could fund the majority of the capital and operating costs of the enhancements.

S222 - Castlegar and District Community Facilities, Recreation, Parks and Leisure

- If the improvements were to build or improve an arena, park amenities/sport fields/trails or indoor multipurpose spaces:
 - » In 2024, a taxation increase of \$71.20 per \$500,000 of assessed property value would fund \$10 million of capital borrowing amortized over 25 years.

S227 - Castlegar and Area Indoor Aquatic Centre

- If the improvements were to build or improve an aquatic and or fitness centre
 - » In 2024, a taxation increase of \$82.40 per \$500,000 of assessed property value would fund \$10 million of capital borrowing amortized over 25 years.

Borrowing

- » Short term borrowing (5 years or less) – This does not require voter approval.
- » Long term borrowing (Any term longer than 5 years) - This requires voter approval (Referendum).

What Do You Think?

Take a moment and share some of your initial thoughts with us about the future of recreation in Castlegar and Area I and J. **Please submit your response by May 15, 2024.**

- Use the QR code to provide your responses to the online survey.
- Visit engage.rdck.ca and complete the feedback form.
- You can return your completed workbook to the Castlegar & District Community Complex.
- You can mail your completed workbook to the Castlegar & District Community Complex. The address is: 2101 6 Ave, Castlegar, BC V1N 3B2



1. Are there improvements needed to recreation services in Castlegar and District that you think should be a priority for the Recreation Commission? If so, what are they?

2. How important is it that enhancements are made to the Castlegar & District Recreation Complex?

- Very Important
- Somewhat Important
- Neither
- Somewhat Unimportant
- Very Unimportant

3. Please use the space below to explain why you answered as you did in Q2.

4. What enhancements, if any, are needed to the Complex?

5. Please use this space to share any other comments you have about recreation in your community.

6. Where do you live?

- Electoral Area I
- Electoral Area J
- City of Castlegar
- Other