

July 31, 2015

**RE: Re-establishing a West Parry Sound Recreation Centre Advisory Committee**

Since the earlier 1980s, there have been many discussions around the possibility of a pool/recreation centre in Parry Sound. The most recent activity was in 2010, when the YMCA took over the management of the Optimist Centre. A planning study and other reports were completed, which can be found at [www.pscomplex.com](http://www.pscomplex.com)

The funding announcement of the new K-12 school by the Near North District School Board in Parry Sound, presents another possible opportunity for a pool/recreation centre in the area.

Finding the funding to build a pool/recreation centre has not been the problem, the “main issue” has always been determining how to sustain the operating costs.

At this time, there are more questions than answers, about the next steps of what, if anything is possible. However, because of different economic factors, different ideas, new voices, it seems like a good opportunity to have a committee re-visit the possibility of this concept.

Therefore, at this point, the request is simply for municipalities and First Nations to consider approving the following motion:

*That a West Parry Sound Recreation Centre Advisory Committee be established consisting of one elected representative of each of the seven West Parry Sound Area Municipalities, Wasauksing and Shawnaga First Nations, one citizen to be appointed by each of the seven municipalities and two First Nations and a member representing each of the Near North School Board (NNSB) and the West Parry Sound Health Centre, and,*

*That the committee develop terms of reference to be approved by each of the participating partners, and*

*That the committee develop an action plan with milestones, ultimately for the consideration of the participating partners.*

For those that can attend, and/or are interested, an initial meeting of the Advisory Committee has been scheduled for Sept 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm, at Canadore College. The main next steps of the Committee include:

- Develop a Terms of Reference
- Develop a high level operating action plan for the committee
- Review previous studies/information related to a recreation centre in Parry Sound
- Review current/new information related to recreation centres (e.g., Bracebridge, Gravenhurst)
- Develop preliminary financial scenario analyses and options
- Make recommendations to the participating partners

Best Regards,

Jamie McGarvey, Mayor