COUNCIL

Meghan Steele/Photo

Members of the aquafit program offered by local swim instructors at a local resort's swimming pool on May 29. If the private pool in Seguin Township wasn't available participants would have to travel into Huntsville or Bracebridge for an aquafit class.

Voting on a pool

Recreational complex advisory committee asking for support, urging councils to ask voters about a pool

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PARRY SOUND - The local pool committee wants a question added to the 2018 municipal election ballot.

In a call to action launched Sunday, Jan. 14, the recreational complex advisory committee is asking West Parry Sound residents to post prepared letters to their local councils urging them to add to the Oct. 22 ballot: "I support my municipality in appointing an elected representative to a Recreational Complex Advisory Committee to investigate and determine the feasibility of a recreational wellness and pool complex in the Parry Sound area. Yes or No."

"The upcoming election seems like a good opportunity to confirm the public's interest and, if it results in 50 per cent or more in favour, have an inter-municipal committee to investigate and make a decision together," the form letter reads in part.

The question doesn't commit the township financially, the letter states.

The committee is asking municipal councils to pass a bylaw to include the pool complex question on their election ballots by March 1.

The push for a local public pool has been ongoing for decades. Most recently, in 2015, the township passed resolutions in support of building a pool during construction of the new mega school to be built for the 2020-2021 year at the site of the current Parry Sound High School.

The project didn't include a pool when announced last June, but space for a pool was included in a conceptual design at a different location earlier in the process.

COMMUNITY

Community grieves the death of Katie Courtnage in snowmobile accident

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SOUTHERN GEORGIAN BAY - The Bracebridge community is mourning the loss of a young woman, Katie Courtnage, after a snowmobile accident on Saturday, Jan. 13 at the shoreline near Sugar Loaf Lane, Georgian Bay Township.

The beautiful young woman, with dark hair and green eyes, was a graduate of Bracebridge Muskoka Lakes Secondary School, studied civil engineering at Canadore College and worked with T.A. Bunker Surveying in Gravenhurst.

There has been an outpouring of grief and condolences on social media with comments such as, "I am so heartbroken ... for me and everyone that your beautiful soul touched by knowing you. The genuine kindness and happiness that you radiated was so obvious to everyone. Truly an amazing woman. Rest in peace, beautiful."

Members of the Southern Georgian Bay Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police were dispatched to a report of a snowmobile crash at the north end of Six Mile Lake at 9:42 p.m. Attending officers along with members of the Muskoka Paramedic Services and Georgian Bay Fire Service attended the shoreline scene located near Sugar Loaf Lane, Georgian Bay Township.

Emergency responders located a lone snowmobile and Courtnage near a tree along the shoreline that had been struck by the snowmobile. Courtnage succumbed to her injuries at the scene.

She was travelling with another snowmobile at the time of the crash, which is being investigated by members of the Central Region Technical Collision Investigators.

More details will be reported as they become available.

HOCKEY

Lee has represented Canada on international ice before

● Continued from page 1

Team members found out they'd made the cut, "a day or two before, so it was killing me to keep that a secret," said Lee, whose Olympic team bio lists the small Muskoka village of MacTier as his hometown.

While it's his first time to the Olympics, Lee has represented Canada on international ice before, including the 2017 Channel One Cup, 2017 IIHF World Championship, 2016 Deutchland Cup.

Canada's Olympic Team in years past has been made up of NHL players who brought back gold in both 2010 and 2014. The league opted not to have its players take part this year opening the field to other professional players.

"Obviously the pressure is there to perform," said Lee. "Playing for Canada there's an expectation, especially in hockey, to be the best, so the pressure will be on us for sure. But, I've seen it, especially in the tournaments I've played with these guys, we have a tremendous amount of heart, a tremendous amount of character, a lot of us either didn't make the NHL or have played the NHL and aren't there anymore but are still playing hockey for the fact that they love the game and if they didn't they wouldn't still be playing at this level. In those tournaments playing against the Fins, the Sweeds, the Russians, the playing field is pretty even this year and we know the medals are going to be up for grabs . its going to be exciting. Parody, I guess, is there more than anything. There isn't one dominant team like the Canada NHL team would be dominate, there isn't that one heavy favourite so I think it's going to make for an exciting tournament."

The bulk of the team's 25 players come from the KHL, all but three of the remainder play for Swiss, Sweden, Germany or Austria leagues with three playing for The American Hockey League, according to Sportnet.ca

"It changes the style a little bit," said Lee. "Playing on the bigger ice there's a lot more room for the skill and speed to take precedent, but it's still a physical game. We're going to have to establish our identify. Canadian hockey is fast and physical and we have a lot of guys that skate extremely well and I think we are tying to . play Canadian hockey, even though it is on bigger ice."

There wasn't a specific tryout, but over about the last year players were evaluated as they played during league and tournament play, he said.

The team starts training together at the end of January before heading to South Korea.

Don't be a LitterBug! Please help keep our community clean.

McKellar Agriculture Society

Annual general meeting will be held January 24th, 2018 at 7 PM in the McKellar Community Centre. Positions available for: director, secretary, and treasurer.

Everyone Welcome