



REQUEST FOR DECISION

SUBJECT: Grande Cache Aquatics Facility Hours of Operation
SUBMISSION TO: REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION
MEETING DATE: April 8, 2025 CAO: MANAGER: KG
DEPARTMENT: RECREATION DIR: MH PRESENTER: KG
STRATEGIC PLAN: Culture, Social & Emergency Services LEG: SS

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite) – N/A

Council Bylaw/Policy (cite) – N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOTION: That Council accept the presentation on the Grande Cache Aquatics Facility Hours of Operation for information.

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Council has requested Administration review the current operational hours of the Aquatics Facility at the Grande Cache Recreation Centre. The Aquatics Facility houses a 6-lane, 25-metre competition pool, a leisure pool complete with a lazy river, wave generator, water features and a large whirlpool. In addition, a large water slide, steam room and sauna are also available.

When considering the Aquatics Facility's hours of operation, the organization must take into consideration many factors, including the amount of staff required to effectively offer a full public service in an inviting and safe manner.

In addition to competent and certified lifeguards, the unique design of each body of water and the layout of the Aquatics Facility plays a significant role in determining the staffing capacity required based on the number of users (bather load). Staff can be on deck for up to 2 hours, then require a 15min non-guarding break. The chart below shows the bather loads for the Greenview Aquatics Facilities:

	25 M Pool	Leisure Pool	Hot Tub	Steam Room	Sauna
Grande Cache	210	210	14	10	6
GRM	187	132	35	16	N/A

Aquatic facilities adhere to the pool ratios identified in the Aquatics Facility Operational Manual, relative to the bather loads above. These ratios were determined through the evaluation of the Aquatics Area and an active guarding strategy for safety and ease of rescue. Due to the size of the water bodies and the layout of the deck, challenges are blind spots, sightlines and glare. Below are the required ratios in Grande Cache:

Wave Pool (Leisure Pool)

# of bathers	# of lifeguards
1-30	1
31-80	2
81-140	3
141-200	4

Competition Pool

# of bathers	# of lifeguards
1-40	1
41-80	2
81-140	3
141-200	4

Here is an example when considering this ratio chart related to lifeguards and capacity:

- 1 person in the competition pool and 30 people in the wave pool require 1 guard at the competition pool and 2 guards at the leisure pool **this allows 3 guards on deck and one to rotate.**
- 10 people in the Competition pool and 82 people in the wave pool require 1 guard at the competition pool and 3 guards at the leisure pool **this would max out with our 4 guards on deck.**
- Any person on deck counts into the ratios, including sauna steam room, hot tub, slide and persons not intending to enter the water.

In the charts below, Administration has calculated the increase to the operational requirements to accommodate updated public offerings and the additional budget impact of these changes. Administration has also calculated the same considerations for the Greenview Regional Multiplex, should Council wish to consider changes to the hours of operation there as well. These numbers have all been calculated on an annual basis, and if implemented with a specific start date, they can be divided by the remaining time left in 2025 for budget impact.

Grande Cache Recreation Centre – Aquatics Facility

Aquatics Position	2025 Budget	Current equivalent	Hourly Increase	Budget Impact
Lifeguard 1 (P/T)	\$ 169,640.00	3.0 FTE (5850 Hrs)	1.2 FTE (2319 Hrs)	\$ 67,250.00
Lifeguard 2 (P/T)	\$ 114,640.00	1.6 FTE (3120 Hrs)	0.5 FTE (898 Hrs)	\$ 33,000.00
Total	\$ 284,280.00	4.6 FTE (8970 Hrs)	1.7 FTE (3217 Hrs)	\$ 100,250.00

Aquatics Facility Public Hours of Operation	Aquatics Facility Proposed Public Hours Increase
Monday – Friday 9:00AM – 8:00PM	Monday – Friday 9:00AM – 9:30PM
Saturday 1:00PM – 7:00PM	Saturday 10:00AM – 8:00PM
Sunday 1:00PM – 6:00PM	Sunday 10:00AM – 8:00PM
2024 Private Rentals (Not during public) 13	Potential loss of rentals \$ 2,600.00

Greenview Regional Multiplex – Aquatics Facility

Aquatics Position	2025 Budget	Current equivalent	Hourly Increase	Budget Impact
Lifeguard 1 (P/T)	\$ 141,330.00	2.5 FTE (4875 Hrs)	0.3 FTE (585 Hrs)	\$ 16,960.00
Lifeguard 2(P/T)	\$ 107,465.00	1.5 FTE (2925 Hrs)	0.5 FTE (950 Hrs)	\$ 30,765.00
Total	\$248,795.00	4.0 FTE (7800 Hrs)	0.8 FTE (1535 Hrs)	\$ 47,725.00

Aquatics Facility Public Hours of Operation	Aquatics Facility Proposed Public Hours Increase
Mon/Wed/Fri 6:00AM – 9:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri 6:00AM – 9:30PM
Tuesday & Thursday 10:00AM – 9:00PM	Tuesday & Thursday 10:00AM – 9:30PM
Saturday & Sunday 2:00PM – 7:00PM	Saturday & Sunday 10:00AM – 8:00PM
2024 Private Rentals (Not during public) 45	Loss of rentals \$ 9,000.00

Aquatics Facility Hourly Usage as tracked by the Customer Service Team in Grande Cache are provided below. This chart does not reflect private swimming lessons, school swimming lessons, fitness programming and specialized program services such as sensory swim (tracked separately). Tracking of patrons, as well who may use the fitness centre then move on to the Aquatics Facility, is only possible if the patrons inform staff, which many do not.



BENEFITS OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. The benefit of accepting the recommended motion is to provide Council with an overview of the Grande Cache Recreation Centre Aquatics Facility hours of operation, with changes for consideration.

DISADVANTAGES OF THE RECOMMENDED ACTION:

There are no perceived disadvantages to the recommended motion.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

ALTERNATE MOTION: That Council approve an Operational Funding increase to the 2025 Recreation Services Budget of \$147,975.00 to increase the Aquatics Facility Hours of Operation to the Grande Cache Recreation Centre and the Greenview Regional Multiplex to come from unrestricted reserves.

ALTERNATE MOTION: That Council approve an Operational Funding increase to the 2025 Recreation Services Budget of \$98,650.00 to increase the Aquatics Facility Hours of Operation to the Grande Cache Recreation Centre and the Greenview Regional Multiplex effective May 1st, 2025 funded from unrestricted reserves.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:

There are no financial implications to the recommended motion.

STAFFING IMPLICATION:

There are no staffing implications to the recommended motion.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT LEVEL:

Greenview has adopted the IAP2 Framework for public consultation.

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT

Inform

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL

Inform - To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC

Inform - We will keep you informed.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:

There are no follow-up actions to the recommended motion.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Northern Alberta Swimming Pools – Schedules
- Lifeguard positioning analysis 2013