

January 28th, 2019 Councillor Moslin's Report

I had the pleasure of attending my first ever Recreation Commission meeting on January 17th. This volunteer committee generally meets once a month and makes recommendations to Council and the Area D Director for the administration of our recreational facilities and activities. And the facilities need some major improvements over the next 5 to 10 years. The first upgrade will be the tiling around the Aquatic Center pool. This will involve the grinding away of the current surface and the application of new ceramic tile. IHA is requiring this upgrade for health reasons as the old surface was too porous. The project has been posted on BC Bid. Although there is no deadline for this project the pool will probably be closed for the last two weeks of August and the first 2 weeks of September. Another upgrade that has been completed in the Jack Goddard Arena is the installation of the new clock. Incidentally the old one works and is for sale if anyone is interested. Over the next 5 years major architectural, mechanical and electrical improvements planned for this 60 year-old building could cost over 3 million dollars.

Meanwhile these facilities remain well used and appreciated by the public. Any drops in attendance in younger programs have been taken up by those that involve older clientele. Family Day activities are being planned at the pool and the arena and a new co-ed drop-in hockey program is being developed.

There was some concern raised at the meeting about responses to recent emergency caused by the propane leak. The power to the arena were cut off and could not warm those folks evacuated to those sites. Although the emergency was handled well, it pointed to the need for a written and rehearsed emergency response plan for the Highway 3 corridor.

Once last difficult item was the discussion of the lease renewal for the Learning Garden. This volunteer development on the south side of the pool has been stalled in recent years and has become unsightly. Hopefully, this can be remedied in the near future.

I also attended a meeting with the Library Board along with the Mayor and Councillor Thompson. This facility is also in need of some important repairs and upgrades. A new HVAC has been promised for a couple of years and there is a leak in the roof. Their public washrooms also need to be upgraded for accessibility. The basement of this central facility was flooded in May. The 6000 sq foot basement has been cleaned out, the gyproc removed and stands ready for some transformation. Utilizing this civic space must be considered against the costs of bringing the basement up to current codes of accessibility and fire-proofing. Plans for these repairs and upgrades will be part of the budget discussions this winter.