



**THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON**  
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## **Public Consultation and Open House for the Exeter Swimming Pool/Washroom Project**

**September 13, 2017 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the South Huron Recreation Centre**

### **1. Call to order**

The meeting commenced at 6:00 PM

### **2. Presentation**

Recreation Projects- A Path Forward 2.0 -Presented by Dan Best, CAO

### **3. Community Feedback**

- Why is the Indoor Pool not an option?
- What is Council's position on the indoor pool?
- There was previous work done including work of a committee regarding the opportunity to have an indoor pool where is that information?
- People are leaving the community to use outside facilities, we need these facilities to draw people to town
- What are our other constraints? Are there other structural costs to consider with growth?
- Is our current pool fully utilized? What can we do to further utilize our pool?
- Is it possible to capture credits for high school students to train them to be lifeguards.
- Looking for numbers to support utilization.
- Would make more use of an indoor facility as it would be open all year around.
- To use an indoor pool now requires a drive and everyone has a busy life to consider. Would rather see the money for the outdoor pool go towards an indoor facility.
- We need to build a community for young people. If we do it will also attract seniors.

- Spending money on an indoor pool makes more sense than spending money on an outdoor pool as it can only be used for 2 months of the year.
- Would like to represent young families in the community, we do use the pool and it is well used by young families now. An outdoor pool is a really important project in our community. Would like to increase the use of the pool for seniors. It is about supporting amenities for our children.
- Reviewed this project 15 years ago, was told at the time 40,000 in population was needed to support an indoor pool project. Recreation debt is supported by general taxation. The committee that looks into this who do they take their direction from? Can they even discuss an indoor pool without council direction? Has anyone done the budgetary impact numbers on this?
- The current outdoor pool is not senior friendly or accessible.
- Has any thought been given to a 2 or 3 season pool?
- Has any consideration been given to putting up a dome vs. a hard structure?
- What happens in the next election if the original council is not back? Can the new council change decisions of the old?
- There is a process within the procedural by-law to reconsider a decision of council.
- Has the municipality only researched large grand pool facilities? We only need a pool that is accessible. We do not need a grand facility. Has anything in-between ever been looked into?
- What types of grants/funding do we have access to?
- Is it reasonable to have this project green lighted by the end of September? Concerned about the current pool and about accessibility and capacity. Can it support future growth? Is the project plan setting the committee up for failure?
- How successful has Goderich and St. Marys been with there facilities? Are they operating in the red? Can they maintain their new facilities? Concerns with not being able to hear during this meeting.
- I spend a lot of time in several different facilities with smaller than 40,000 in population and they have an indoor pool. Very important to continue to consider this.
- The feasibility study would not include an indoor pool at this time as there has been no direction from council.
- Decisions have been made based on actual facts and must be supported by the people. Caution in using numbers and facts from surrounding facilities as they are or would become are competition. The only way to create comfort in our community it to remove the motion against an indoor pool.
- What are the merits to having an outdoor pool?

- Is there a possibility of exploring further partnership opportunities? High school, therapy, seniors centres etc. Seniors are not as active in the winter as we do not have indoor facilities to support.
- I have been to other facilities that had a dome to extend the time frame for use.
- Not all children are going to become hockey players. We need to have somewhere for children to go and to be safe and off the streets.
- When tendered not always the lowest price is the best.
- Consult with high school students for draft plans.

#### **4. Adjournment**

4.1. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM