



## HELLO!

This update has been created by the Strathcona Regional District to keep user groups, residents, businesses and the public informed about RECREATE – the proposed revitalization of the Strathcona Gardens Recreation Complex.

*If you have questions or concerns please get in touch with the project team via email: [recreate@strathconard.ca](mailto:recreate@strathconard.ca) or phone: (250) 830-6700. We will aim to answer your questions in upcoming issues!*

## INTRODUCING – RECREATE: A Plan to Revitalize the Strathcona Gardens Recreation Complex

Strathcona Gardens Recreation Complex is more than just a building. It is a well-used recreational hub that contributes to the health and well being of residents within the City of Campbell River, Electoral Area D and surrounding areas. But it's also getting older! The original facility was constructed in the 1970s and parts of it are now in need of renovation. The Strathcona Regional District (SRD) owns and operates Strathcona Gardens. To keep the facility in good shape now and into the future, the SRD has embarked on the first steps of a revitalization project called RECREATE Strathcona Gardens. The goal of RECREATE is to renew the facility to address aging components and to meet the diverse and changing recreational needs of the community. The aim is for the facility to deliver recreational services in an exciting, sustainable, safe and inclusive environment. RECREATE is about ensuring Strathcona Gardens can continue to provide the recreation services desired by the community it serves. Read on to find out more...

## WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW

### Community Advisory Group

Establishing a group to share/gather info during the planning process.

### Project Planning

Project team is looking at the proposed concept to ensure it's feasible and the best option.

### Launch Project Microsite

Visit the new project pages at [www.recreateSG.ca](http://www.recreateSG.ca)

## PROJECT PHASES



Strathcona Gardens is a well-used facility. 71% of households in the area used the facility in the past year. (Based on results in the 2015 Household Survey - Campbell River and Electoral Area D respondents.)

## SETTING A PATH FORWARD WITH COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

RECREATE grew out of recommendations from a 2015 needs assessment study that looked at the state of the aging facility. The SRD also asked the public how to better meet their recreational needs and expectations. Through surveys of Area D and Campbell River residents as well as public open houses and user group meetings, the SRD heard that more can be done. A number of potential actions were identified, including operational enhancements, business planning, and redevelopment of the building. High level concept plans and cost estimates for the facility were prepared and the Strathcona Gardens Commission supported further investigation and the establishment of a reserve fund based on a concept with a preliminary budget of \$21.8M.

## MORE ZUMBA OR MORE CHANGE ROOMS?

### COMMUNITY FEEDBACK SO FAR

A major goal of the project team is to involve the community in sharing their views on what should be improved. Themes that have emerged are: change room improvements, building layout, Rink 1 seating, and demand for main pool use. A summary of community survey results can be viewed in the needs assessment report online at: [www.recreateSG.ca](http://www.recreateSG.ca)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?

The project is currently in Phase 2, the project planning phase. The objectives are to test and refine the preferred concept plan to ensure that it is technically feasible, makes financial sense, enables efficient operations and meets the needs of the community. Between 2016 and the end of 2017, the project team will be involved in the following tasks:

- Updating the building condition assessment as part of best practice asset management and to understand the current state of key facility components
- Doing additional tests such as sounding the pool basin, seismic and geotechnical investigations
- Identifying opportunities to incorporate green technology and increase energy efficiency
- Investigating and learning from other comparable facilities in the area and on the Island
- Continuing to inform and engage with the community, by setting up a community advisory group, and meeting with user groups/stakeholders
- Identifying and approaching potential project partners and investigating funding sources
- Modeling the opportunities for increased and diverse programming and looking at financial returns
- Refining the proposed concept and creating illustrations to help visualize improvements
- Revising/updating cost information as the proposed concept is refined

## DATES TO NOTE

### MID-DECEMBER 2016

Launch of RECREATE SG website: Updates available at [www.recreateSG.ca](http://www.recreateSG.ca)

### JANUARY 2017

Summary of December Community Engagement Forums and an update for the Strathcona Gardens Commission

### MARCH 2017

Draft feasibility report from HCMA Architecture + Design (consultants)