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**Date:** August 10, 2020

**To:** Mayor and Council

**Author:** Dan Wolicki, Manager of Municipal Facilities and Property

**RE:** Reopening Plan for Kingsville Arena and Recreation Facilities

**Report No.:** MS-2020-32

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## **AIM**

To provide Council with initial information regarding the Town's tentative reopening plan for Kingsville Arena and indoor recreation facilities.

## **BACKGROUND**

On March 11, 2020, COVID-19 was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization and shortly thereafter, declarations of emergency were issued by the Province of Ontario and locally by Mayor Santos. Measures were taken to protect Town staff and the community including closing all municipal facilities on March 17. Protocols have been put in place as well as measures taken to implement Provincial Orders necessitating changes in service delivery and cancellation of events and activities.

On July 7, the Town formally entered Stage 2 of the Ontario government's plan to reopen the Province. As Public Health and Ontario Health have now issued guidance on how to safely return, plans are being developed to reopen the Kingsville Arena and Recreation Facilities provided that the Town is moved into Stage 3. The purpose of this report is to outline how these plans will unfold, barring any changes in circumstances locally and/or provincially with respect to the pandemic.

## **DISCUSSION**

Based on the province-wide discussions with other communities, the general consensus support tentative reopening dates of arenas, pools and community centres in the August to September timeframe. Additional time may be necessary to provide the ability for community groups, local sport organizations and local governments to navigate current uncertainties surrounding insurance and liability, COVID-19 Safety Plans, and Return-To-Play Plans.

Town staff have analyzed various scenarios to re-designing services in order to meet the new regulations. Considerations has been given to information provided in various guidance documents, advice from Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU), and understanding community expectations and demand. Financial viability and protecting the safety of staff and the public are other vigilant factors that contribute to formalizing the reopening plan of facilities and resumption of services.

With an increased emphasis and concentration on cleaning and disinfecting, other service delivery and obligations may become affected or delayed due to adjusting staffing levels in order to properly adhere to the cleaning requirements.

The following provincial guidelines are permitted under Stage 3 of the Provincial Reopening Framework:

- Games and scrimmages allowed for team sports, with a modified approach to prevent prolonged or deliberate physical contact.
- Indoor gathering limits will increase to a maximum of fifty (50) people.
- Outdoor gathering limits will increase to a maximum of one hundred (100) people.
- Amateur and recreational sport leagues may resume, avoiding physical contact and enabling physical distancing measures.

A Safety Plan has been developed through discussions with Town staff, senior administration and the Joint Health & Safety Committee, to provide guidance and establish expectations amongst all user groups and private renters along with understanding the necessary requirements that Town staff will follow in order ensure safety of all patrons within municipal facilities.

Attached in Appendix A of this report is a copy of the Safety Plan for Kingsville Arena and Recreation Facilities.

Included below is high-level information outlining the approximate reopening timelines for indoor recreation facilities, provided that it may be subject to change.

#### Kingsville Arena:

The Kingsville Arena is tentatively scheduled to reopen on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, under a modified schedule and operations provided that Windsor-Essex County including the Town of Kingsville proceeds into Stage 3 of the Province's Reopening Plan. Details will be publicly communicated in advance that outlines the specifics surrounding the reopening and protocols. It appears that Stage 3 allows for training to resume for indoor team sports and individual high-contact sports with measures to enable physical distancing.

Initial limitations will be applied for the amount of on-ice users for scheduled sessions, therefore, there is a general understanding that on-ice non-contact play will be permitted for minor hockey and recreational leagues given that guidelines and limitations as outlined are adhered to.

User groups have indicated interest in securing scheduled ice times as per the previous year in anticipation of the Town moving into Stage 3.

#### Unico Community Centre and Ridgeview Hall:

Unico Community and Ridgeview Hall are both tentatively scheduled to reopen in the month of August dependant on user group demand. Under provincial restrictions, gatherings will be limited to fifty (50) people, however, by enabling physical distancing, the amount of people within each space will be reduced due to its limited capacity.

#### Lakeside Park Pavilion and Grovedale Cultural & Arts Centre:

The Lakeside Park Pavilion and Grovedale Cultural & Arts Centre are both tentatively scheduled to reopen in the month of August given that the Town is moved into Stage 3. Under provincial restrictions, gatherings will be limited to fifty (50) people. Safety plans may be required for all users groups, in addition to further insurance requirements.

Prior to reopening the following measures will be put into effect:

- Installation of glass enclosures at front desk service counters to provide for a physical barrier between staff and the public.
- Provision of hand sanitizer at entry doors.
- Installation of appropriate signage and decals indicating entry rules.
- Continuation of twice daily cleaning of surfaces with common touch point areas.
- Prepare rooms for use by posting maximum capacity, ensuring two (2) metre separation distance.

The provincial-wide reopening process remains fluid with frequent changes to safety and return to play planning. The early consensus of municipalities around the province suggests most communities will reopen indoor rinks, pools and recreational centres in the August to September timeframe, or potentially even later. Based upon the Town's current planning process, we expect to reopen within this timeframe as well, provided the Town has moved into Stage 3 of the Province's Reopening Plan.

### **LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Improve recreational and cultural facilities and opportunities within the Town of Kingsville.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Revenue and cost-recovery rates are expected to be significantly reduced across all facilities. Cost containment measures were put in place in attempt to minimize the impact of the pandemic which may not completely offset any loss of revenue.

This report considers reopening Kingsville Arena in September based from a utilization rate of 70% in comparison to 2019. The adjusted revenue projections for Kingsville Arena in 2020 would see a budget shortfall of approximately \$72,450.

## **CONSULTATIONS**

Administration Management Group  
Parks and Recreation  
Municipal Services  
Financial Services  
User Groups

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive Report MS-2020-32 Reopening Plan for Kingsville Arena and Recreation Facilities;

And that the reopening timelines and Financial Implications as outlined in the report, be approved.

*Dan Wolicki*

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*G.A. Plancke*

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