



# REPORT

## Recreation Programs, Culture and Tourism

**TO:** Heritage Arts and Community Programs Committee

**FROM:** Carolyn Clementson, Aquatic Manager; Hunter Gardner, Arena and Recreation Manager

**DATE:** April 17, 2023

**REPORT: RC-02/23** **FILE NO.**

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**SUBJECT:** Grade Five Action Pass Program

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### BACKGROUND:

Prior to March 2020, the Township of Uxbridge Arena and Pool participated in the Durham Region Grade Five Action Pass Program. The program began in 2011, was well received and continued to grow each year. The Durham Region Health Department lead the program with all municipalities participating. Durham Region provided the technological support and utilized Public Health Nurses to distribute the information to the classes.

It has been suggested in many different studies that at the age of 10 to 11, many children stop participating in regular physical activities. The program was a fun way to encourage this age group to participate in physical activities.

Students could participate in free drop-in programs throughout the region. In Uxbridge, they participated in free skating and public swimming. The feedback from parents and students was always positive about the program.

The program was put aside during the years of the COVID pandemic and has been missed by families.

## **DISCUSSION:**

Representatives from each of the Durham Regional Municipal Recreation Departments met to discuss bringing the program back starting in the 2023 to 2024 school year.

The Region of Durham would again provide assistance with their graphics team and Public Health Nurses bringing the information to the classes. Information would also be sent to the grade five classes electronically since students have become accustomed to receiving information this way.

Uxbridge would offer free public skating and public swimming to grade five students as part of the program. Uxpool would act as the hub for registration for the Uxbridge Township residents. A special membership card would be distributed to those that register. This card could be used at other participating facilities within Durham Region.

The program would run based upon the school year and start at the beginning of the next school year. An example would be from September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024.

No additional staff resources would be required to offer this program. Registration would occur at the Uxpool front desk and all program maximum participant limits would remain in force.

**This initiative reflects and supports the priorities set out in the 2023-2026 Strategic Plan including, but not limited, to the following initiatives:**

Collaboration and Partnership – Enhancing and nurture existing partnerships.

- Continue to engage with partners that support critical community services such as affordable recreation.

Community Well-being – Enhance community health and well-being of residents.

- Advocate and support community health and social service programs.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Report RC-02/23 from Carolyn Clementson, Aquatic Manager, be received for information;

AND THAT, the Grade Five Action Pass program be resurrected for the Township of Uxbridge Grade Five students.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Carolyn Clementson  
Aquatic Manager

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Hunter Gardner  
Arena and Recreation Manager