



REPORT

Recreation Programs, Culture and Tourism

TO: Mayor and Members of Council
FROM: Amanda Ferraro, Director of Community Services
DATE: December 9, 2024
REPORT: RC-14/24 **FILE NO.**

SUBJECT: New Pool and Grant application

BACKGROUND:

Uxpool is a 50-year-old pool that is near end of life and staff have currently been preparing to apply for an Ontario infrastructure grant (CSRIF).

The Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF) provides funding to municipalities, Indigenous communities, non-profit organizations and (for new builds only) for-profit organizations through two program streams for projects that:

- [repair or upgrade existing sport and recreation facilities \(Stream 1\)](#)
- [build new and transformative sport and recreation facilities \(Stream 2\)](#)

The CSRIF is a cost-shared program launched as part of the [2024 Budget: Building a Better Ontario](#) to:

- foster healthier and more active lifestyle for families
- make sport more accessible
- help more communities across the province host local, national and international sporting events and competitions

The grant would be a 50/50 partnership between the Government of Ontario and the municipality. The maximum grant per application is \$10M.

Staff have been investigating two options:

1. Repair / renovate the current facility and add a learn to swim & therapy tank as an addition.
2. Demolish the old building and build a Myrtha/Sprung structure with two tanks (8 x 25 metre/10 x 15 metre therapy /learn to swim tank)

Note: If successful with the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF), this project must be completed by March 2027.

DISCUSSION:

Option one (1) Renovating Uxpool with an addition that includes a therapy pool:

- The project would include a renovated change room and lobby, new roof, new mechanical, new therapy pool and a multi-court space.
- Our current structure will still be over 50 years old.
- The structure has been deemed by consultants as modest and concerns remain regarding the longevity of the structure and pool equipment.
- The structure is not insulated (cinder block) and does not have a high efficiency energy management system.
- The current pool would be shut down for 6 months to 1 year during the renovation and there are concerns with meeting grant timelines (March 2027) on the construction.
- Budget estimated at \$15 – \$16 million dollars.

Option two (2) Myrtha/Sprung structure

- A brand-new building that includes a 8 x 25 metre pool and a 10 x 15 metre therapy and teaching pool.
- A new building with a plug and display modular approach will realize completion within 12 months. This will require a 12 to 16 month shutdown.
- Modular sustainable construction strengthens our application for the CRSIF grant.
- The new structure has the potential to earn over 40 LEED credits and will be viewed as a sustainable building for the CSRIF grant application.
- New structure will produce 50% of embodied carbon that a traditional construction bricks & mortar construction
- The new structure will reduce operating costs by approximately 30% through:
 - Saving on heating (R 45 installation)
 - Saving on chemicals (superior filtration)
 - Savings on water consumption(regenerative media)
 - Savings on power requirements(High efficiency pumps)
- The new pool will have eight lanes. This will drive opportunities to develop incremental revenue from competitive swim meets, and enhanced programming and 3rd party rentals.
- No concerns with meeting grant deadlines of project completion by March 2027.
- Budget estimated at \$12 – \$14 million dollars.

Staff recommend the Myrtha/Sprung structure. Option 1 involves spending \$15M on a structure and associated pool equipment that is near end-of-life and is not in the best financial interest of the Township. Additionally, Option 2 will score more favourably as a high efficiency sustainable solution with Ontario Infrastructure grant (CSRIF) application.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Good Governance

- Identify opportunities to diversify funding sources (e.g., non-levy revenue, grants, partnerships).

Vibrant and Growing Economy

- Seek grants and alternative funding sources for the maintenance of key facilities.

Community Well-Being

- Maintain and plan for future investments in civic infrastructure.
- Identify opportunities to enhance community facilities.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Report RC-14/24 of Amanda Ferraro, Director of Community Services be received for information;

AND THAT Council direct staff to apply for the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF), stream two;

AND THAT the application for the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF), Stream two, focus on a Myrtha/Sprung structure that includes a 8 x 25 metre pool and a 10 x 15 metre therapy /teaching pool and a possible multi-sport space;

AND THAT the Township's contribution to the project receives consent from Treasury to ensure funds are available for this project.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda Ferraro, Director of Community Services.