



# REPORT

## Recreation Programs, Culture and Tourism

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

**FROM:** Hunter Gardner, Arena and Recreation Manager, Carolyn Clementson, Aquatic Manager, and Corrinne Morrison, Library Manager

**DATE:** June 16, 2025

**REPORT: RC-14/25** **FILE NO.**

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**SUBJECT:** Swim and Skate Pass Lending Program

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### BACKGROUND:

The Community Services Department, in partnership with the Uxbridge Public Library, is proposing to pilot a Swim & Skate Pass Lending Program. This collaborative initiative is intended to increase equitable access to drop-in recreation programs, particularly for families who may face financial or logistical barriers to participation.

### DISCUSSION:

Municipal recreation services are essential to promoting health, inclusion, and community engagement. However, for some families, the cost of participation may be a barrier. Recognizing this, staff are keen to introduce the Swim & Skate Pass Lending Program through the Uxbridge Public Library.

Similar pass lending models have been successfully implemented in other Durham municipalities, where families are able to borrow recreation passes through their local library. These passes provide free access to public skating and swimming programs for up to five individuals over a set loan period. Based on these successful regional examples, the proposed Uxbridge program will offer a similar experience tailored to local facilities.

The Uxbridge Public Library is well-positioned to support this program, with existing experience lending institutional passes for destinations such as the Royal Ontario Museum and Ontario Parks. This existing infrastructure and operational knowledge make them a strong partner for delivering the program efficiently and effectively.

Program Overview:

- **Pass Quantity:** Initially, 3 passes will be created for circulation.
- **Eligibility:** Available to Uxbridge Public Library adult cardholders in good standing. Limit of one loan per card, per programming year.
- **Usage Period:** Each pass can be borrowed for 7 consecutive days, covering up to 5 individuals per family.
- **Participating Programs:** Valid for drop-in public skating and swimming sessions at the Uxpool and Uxbridge Arena. Passes have an unlimited value within the borrowing period, for either facility. Facility admission policies must be followed.
- **Borrowing and Monitoring:** Library staff will manage checkouts and returns. If a pass is not returned within 14 days, they will notify the Community Services Department to deactivate the pass.
- **Activation:** Passes will be issued and tracked through the Township's recreation management software (ActiveNet) as "Library Pass #1", "#2", etc. and given to the library for circulation.
- **Expired or Misused Passes:** If a deactivated pass is scanned, it will show as expired. Staff will offer to return the pass to the library on the cardholder's behalf.

This initiative is expected to generate a range of positive outcomes for the community. In addition to removing cost as a barrier to participation, the pass lending system also enhances accessibility by using a familiar and trusted platform—the public library—to reach residents who may not typically engage with municipal recreation services. Additionally, the program supports interdepartmental collaboration between the Township's Community Services Department and the Uxbridge Public Library, creating a more integrated approach to serving the community. Because the program relies on existing systems such as ActiveNet and the Library's lending infrastructure (ILS), it can be implemented with minimal administrative burden and cost, making it an efficient and sustainable initiative.

Should Committee approve the program, staff recommend launching July 1st, providing an opportunity to take advantage of the Uxpool throughout the summer months. Access to the Arena would begin in September.

Throughout the pilot, staff will monitor usage, address any issues, and gather feedback from users and frontline staff. A formal evaluation of the program will be presented to Council after one (1) year, including usage data and recommendations for whether the program should be continued or modified.

## **ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

### Collaboration and Partnerships:

3.1.5 Continue to develop cross-functional collaboration

### Community Engagement:

4.2.1 Identify opportunities to enhance community and stakeholder engagement

### Community Well-Being:

5.2.1 Continue to identify opportunities to improve accessibility throughout the municipality

5.4.3 Continue to review community needs for recreational facilities, services and programs to provide recreational opportunities across the Township.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Report RC-14/25 of Hunter Gardner, Carolyn Clementson, and Corrinne Morrison be received for information;

AND THAT Heritage Arts and Community Programs Committee endorse the proposed partnership between the Community Services Department and the Uxbridge Public Library to implement a Swim & Skate Pass Lending Program;

AND THAT Staff report back to Committee following the completion of the pilot program with recommendations for future considerations.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Hunter Gardner, Arena and Recreation Manager  
Carolyn Clementson, Aquatic Manager  
Corrinne Morrison, Library Manager