



## Regional Recreation Facility Feasibility Study – Phase 1.5

Consultant's report presented to Councils, available online for public review

March 7, 2023

Phase 1 of a Regional Recreation Facility Feasibility Study commissioned by the Municipality of the County of Kings, Town of Kentville and Town of Wolfville is complete, and the partnering municipalities are continuing to explore the possibility of collaboratively building a multi-use recreation facility designed to address existing and forecasted service gaps in the Kings Region.

The Kings County Regional Recreational Centre Feasibility Study report was received by Councils representing the partnering municipalities in private sessions in late 2022 due to the contractual nature of matters relating to site selection. A public version of the report was recently presented to all three Councils in open session during a Joint Council meeting on March 7.

Consultants from Sierra Planning and Management prepared the report in collaboration with Perkins&Will (architects), CBCL Limited (engineering and environmental design) and Hanscomb Limited (cost consultants). The report provides a framework for ongoing information gathering and analysis that will help the Regional Recreation Facility Feasibility Study Working Group identify potential next steps beyond Phase 1.5 of the project and develop related recommendations for Councils to consider.

Based on a regional recreation needs assessment, the consulting team's Phase 1 report recommends starting with a design that includes a pool facility for community and competitive use, full court gymnasium designed to accommodate multiple sports, walking track and community space. The report proposed adding a twin-pad ice rink as a second phase of development if a business case can be made for this expansion in the future.

**More information and discussion is required before formal decisions can be made about a number of topics of interest, including:** site selection, potential tendering and construction timelines, prospective sources of non-municipal funding, proposed building design and recreational features, cost-sharing and operating agreements, business planning and funding formulas.

If a new regional recreation facility is determined to be a viable option following the in-depth analysis of community needs and potential opportunities, this substantial project will take years to plan and complete. There will be additional opportunities for public engagement as the feasibility assessment progresses.

Project updates will be published on the [Regional Recreation Facility Feasibility Study Engagement site](#), where the Kings County Regional Recreational Centre Feasibility Study report is available for public review and members of the public can submit comments to share feedback with the Regional Recreation Facility Feasibility Study Working Group.

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