



Town of Kindersley

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NEWS RELEASE

Survey Results Reveal Indoor Pool as Preferred Option

Eighty-three percent of respondents to the recent Aquatic Centre Survey support moving forward with the construction of an indoor aquatic centre in Kindersley.

A total of 708 respondents completed the survey in August, the latest component of the aquatic centre consultation process, which was intended to glean further insight from residents about the pool design options to date and the extent to which taxpayers are willing to financially contribute to the project.

The survey, released in late July and extended to August 17, asked respondents to indicate whether they supported moving forward with an indoor pool option, based on the estimated \$6.9 million option proposed by Group 2 Architects at the public consultation meeting held July 7 at the West Central Events Centre.

Respondents were then asked to indicate their level of financial support by means of tax revenue and whether additional cost components such as a waterslide, whirlpool, and the addition of two more swimming lanes, was supported, resulting in an increase to the overall capital cost of the project.

Of those who responded, 47 percent were willing to pay up to \$200 annually per property to fund a new pool. Forty-nine (49) percent of respondents were in favour of a flat rate base tax toward the pool as opposed to an increase in the mill rate for this purpose. Forty-six (46) percent of respondents opposed a mill rate increase to pay for the pool.

Other highlights of the survey are as follows:

- 56 percent of respondents said they would use the pool frequently; 30 percent occasionally
- 47 percent of respondents supported an additional \$600,000 cost to pay for a water slide and whirlpool
- 30 percent of respondents supported an extra \$1.6 million to have a 6-lane pool rather than a 4-lane pool

“We really appreciate everyone who has taken the time to attend the various community consultations, complete the survey, and offer feedback to Council and the Town in any way over the past several months and years since planning for a new pool began,” said Mayor John Enns-Wind. “What this survey does clearly indicate is that there is strong support for an indoor pool. We will continue to weigh the projected capital and operational costs for the new pool along with future capacity planning in order to arrive at a decision that we hope will benefit Kindersley the most for the coming 10-20 years.”

Since the survey, Group 2 Architects have been refining the pool designs to provide Council with indoor pool concepts, one of which will consist of six lanes, and all with space for a future water slide.

“With a 4-lane pool, Kindersley is still able to host regional events, but having a 6-lane pool would mean we could host two (occasionally three) additional Swim Sask meets per year,” the Mayor added. “The question is whether the return on our investment in having 6 lanes is worth three meets per year. We are awaiting more data that will help determine the economic impact these meets could bring to Kindersley.”

Group 2 will present its final report on Monday, September 28 during the Regular Meeting of Council. Residents are encouraged to attend this meeting or to watch the presentation online at www.kindersley.ca/counciltv.

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