

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – JUNE 3, 2008

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF HOURS OF OPERATION AT COMMUNITY CENTRES

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Community Services, in consultation with the Director of Building and Facilities and the Area Recreation Managers, recommends:

- 1) That this report be received for information; and,
- 2) That the hours of operation at Garnet A. Williams, Maple and Al Palladini Community Centres be extended by opening the centres at 5:30 am Monday to Friday, and 7:00 am on holiday weekends.

Economic Impact

The economic impact to the Recreation & Culture Department to extend hours of operation at the Garnet A. Williams, Maple and Al Palladini Community Centres would be, as follows:

- Operating hours commencing at 5:30 am Monday to Friday would be approximately \$1,800. The impact is minimized through adjustment of staff schedules and can be absorbed in the 2008 budget.
- Operating hours commencing at 7:00 am on holiday weekends would incur an additional cost of \$3,300 per year. This is to cover the additional hours for part-time fitness and administrative staff that cannot be achieved through adjustment of staff schedules.

The economic impact to the Building & Facilities Department would be minimal in both cases as Facilities staff would already be on duty. Any impact would be minimal and can be absorbed in the 2008 budget.

Increased utility costs are expected, due to the additional operating hours, but cannot be measured until completion of a trial period, however the impact is expected to be minimal.

Communications Plan

If approved, the extended hours would be communicated through signage at the centres, a posting on the website, updating of printed material and announcement in fitness centre renewal letters.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to report on the request to have access to community centres at an earlier hour than is currently permitted, received in a petition signed by eighty-eight (88) residents.

Background - Analysis and Options

On Saturday, March 22, a petition was circulated at Al Palladini Community Centre and signed by eighty-eight (88) residents requesting that community centres extend hours of operation to 5.30 am, Monday to Friday, and at 7.00 am, Saturday and Sunday.

The Garnet A. Williams, Maple and Al Palladini Community Centres are currently open for access to the fitness centres at 5:50 am, Monday to Friday, and 7:00 am, Saturday and Sunday. Exceptions to this only occur on Holiday weekends, which see the centres open at 8:00 am on Saturday and Sunday.

The petitioners request to extend hours of operation to 5:30 am, Monday to Friday, is feasible at the Garnet A. Williams, Maple and Al Palladini Community Centres with respect to available human resources for both Recreation & Culture and Building & Facilities Departments.

The Garnet A. Williams, Maple and Al Palladini Community Centres current hours of operation are 7:00 am for access to the fitness centres on non-holiday weekends. The petitioners request to extend hours of operation to 7.00 am, Saturday and Sunday, occurred on a holiday weekend, which was scheduled for a normal holiday weekend opening time of 8:00 am. Garnet A. Williams, Maple and Al Palladini Community Centres' hours of operation are 8:00 am - 4:00 pm on the following holiday weekends: Saturday on Easter weekend; Saturdays and Sundays on Victoria Day, Canada Day, Civic Holiday and Labour Day weekends (for a total of 9 days per year).

Extending hours of operation at the Garnet A. Williams, Maple and Al Palladini Community Centres for access to the fitness centres on the holiday weekends indicated above is feasible, but would incur additional costs to the Recreation & Culture Department as outlined in Economic Impact.

The petitioners request to extend hours of operation to 7:00 am, Saturdays and Sundays on the holiday weekends specified, is feasible at the Garnet A. Williams, Maple and Al Palladini Community Centres with respect to available human resources for both Recreation & Culture and Building & Facilities Departments.

Extending hours of operation at Rosemount, Dufferin & Clark, Chancellor, Woodbridge Pool & Arena, Vellore Village and Father Ermanno Community Centres is not recommended. The operating hours at these centres is considered to be appropriate for the programming provided and the utilization at these centres. The earlier opening recommended for Garnet A. Williams, Maple and Al Palladini Community Centres provides some additional operating hours in the early morning that will primarily service fitness members, which are the predominant user group at those times.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

This report recommends a change from the priorities previously set by Council and some of the necessary resources have not been allocated.

Regional Implications

There are no regional implications associated with this report.

Conclusion

The request to extend hours of operation to 5:30 am, Monday to Friday can be accommodated with minimal implications. Extending operating hours to 7:00 am on Saturday on Easter weekend and Saturdays and Sundays on Victoria Day, Canada Day, Civic Holiday and Labour Day weekends can be accommodated with respect to available human resources, but will require additional resources. It is recommended that these extended hours be implemented at Garnet A. Williams, Maple and Al Palladini Community Centres.

Attachments

None.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Commissioner of Community Services