



ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE & PERSONNEL REPORT

To: Council

Meeting Date: April 9, 2024

Prepared by: Amy Harron
Deputy Clerk

Date Prepared: March 27, 2024

Subject: Township of Wellesley Recreation Complex Grand Opening Update

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Township of Wellesley accept this report for information, and further

THAT the Council of the Township of Wellesley recognize the Township of Wellesley Recreation Complex Grand Opening Event on Saturday, June 22nd, 2024 as a Municipally Significant Event.

Summary:

Planning is underway for the Township of Wellesley Recreation Complex Grand Opening event on Saturday, June 22nd, 2024 from 2:00p.m. to 11:00p.m. at 1401 Queen Bush Road, Wellesley. This report is provided to Council as an update and opportunity to provide direction and comment on events scheduled for the Grand Opening.

Report:

On November 28, 2023 Council provided staff direction to commence planning for the 2024 Backyard BBQ community event in conjunction with the Township of Wellesley Recreation Complex Grand Opening. In early 2024 staff formed an internal committee to begin planning the event which included contacting local groups and vendors for the event.

The grand opening event will be host to facility tours, kid's activities and a community information forum. A cash BBQ serving hamburgers, sausage, hot dogs, chips and pop for a reasonably low price will be available during the afternoon. A complete price list will be prepared once all food items have been secured however it is the goal of the committee to offer a 'meal' including a hamburger, sausage or hot dog with a pop and chips for \$5.00.

Once again, the community forum will allow local groups to reach a large audience at the event to display their impact on the community. These groups have an opportunity to engage with potential new members or provide information on their organization. Some of the groups invited include service clubs, user groups, and health care practitioners.

Entertainment for the event includes Lulu's Roadhouse Band as the headliner with opportunities for a variety of groups to perform earlier in the day. Kids activities will include the new onsite playground, access to the multi-use sports court and a fire department activity. The committee is in communication with local organizations to partner during the event. There will be opportunities for local community groups to BBQ, provide food service and staff the bar.

Staff have contacted local dignitaries, and many are available to attend and speak at the event including MPP Mike Harris, MP Tim Louis and Regional Chair Karen Redman among other notable speakers that day. Opening ceremonies including speeches, a ribbon cutting, and a ceremonial tree planting will begin at 3:00p.m. on the main stage.

Staff are working on a parking plan and a transportation alternative to reduce the number of vehicles parked at the complex. Once this plan is in place it will be communicated through our social media and other advertising methods for the event.

A main theme of this event is to showcase the facility and the amenities that are offered through rentals, programming, and community partnerships.

All Wellesley Township residents are encouraged to participate in the community event annually. We see many returning participants who enjoy the opportunity to hear live music and gather in a family friendly environment at no cost. The 2024 community event does not differ from previous years. All residents of Wellesley Township are invited to join together to celebrate our community and take the opportunity to tour the Recreation Complex which would include the recreation centre, arena, community centre, multi-use sports court, soccer fields and the Erb Haven trail network.

Township Strategic Plan:

This report aligns with the initiative of Responsive and Engaging Government Services with the strategic goal of Public Engagement.

Financial Implications:

N/A

Other Department / Agency Comments:

Recreation department staff have been included in the staff planning committee.

Legal Considerations:

N/A

Attachment(s):

Township of Wellesley Recreation Complex Grand Opening Community Event Itinerary (draft)

Approved By:

Rik Louwagie, Chief Administrative Officer

Township of Wellesley Recreation Complex Grand Opening

Saturday, June 22nd, 2024

2:00p.m. to 11:00p.m.

Event	Scheduled Time
Self-Guided Facility Tours	2:00p.m. to 7:00p.m.
Touch-a-Truck	2:00p.m. to 4:00p.m.
Community Information Forum	TBD
Kids Activities	2:00p.m. to 6:00p.m.
BBQ	2:00p.m. to 6:00p.m.
Opening Ceremony	3:00p.m.
Ribbon Cutting & Tree Planting	Approx. 3:30p.m.
Cash Bar	2:00p.m. to 11:00p.m.
Live Entertainment	4:00p.m. to 11:00p.m.
Lulu's Roadhouse Band	7:00p.m. to 10:00p.m.
Fireworks	10:00p.m.