

Original signed by: Byron Johnson, CAO

City Staff Report

Report Date: November 19, 2019**Meeting Date:** November 26, 2019**To:** City Manager**From:** Director of Community Services**Subject:** Gymnastics Facility Capital Reserve

Purpose

To obtain approval from Council to allocate funds to develop a design concept for the co-location of the proposed gymnastics facility at the Arts and Recreation Centre.

Summary

- In 2008 the City of Quesnel established a reserve in response to commitments that had been made by the Joint Planning Committee and Council at that time to assist the Gymnastics Club to obtain a new facility.
- In 2015 the Gymnastics Club commissioned a business plan that estimated the cost to construct a new gymnastics centre was approximately \$1.24 million.
- In 2016 the Joint Planning Committee committed in principle that if a new gymnastics facility were constructed that it would become part of the North Cariboo Recreation and Parks Service.
- Between 2016 – 2018 the City allocated funds from the Gymnastics Capital Reserve to complete design work and a cost estimate for an project that integrated the new gymnastics facility into the soccer complex and combined it with a climbing wall, indoor playground, multipurpose space, and additional storage/improved change rooms for the soccer facility.
- In the spring of 2017, the City of Quesnel submitted an application on behalf of the City and CRD, for a \$6 million grant from the Strategic Priorities Fund for the project, however the grant was unsuccessful.
- Presently the Gymnastics Club utilizes Baker School for its programs however the facility is inadequate for their needs and there is a risk that that they could be displaced if their annual license of occupation with the School District is not renewed for any reason.
- In light of the failed grant application for the increased scope project, there has been some discussion about the possibility of co-locating the facility at the Arts and Recreation Centre.
- An initial review of this option by staff suggests that there appears to be adequate space at the back of the building to construct a pre-engineered building with a project scope that aligns with the 2015 business plan.
- There are also potential benefits to combining the gymnastics facility with the other recreation services at the Arts and Recreation Centre and potential savings to be realized if existing change-rooms and washroom facilities can be used to reduce building requirements for the facility addition.
- In order to determine whether or not this concept is viable and would result in cost savings, it is necessary to engage the services of a design professional(s) to develop a schematic design, conduct a code review, and prepare a cost estimate.
- Staff estimate that the cost for this work would likely be in the range \$10,000 - \$25,000.



- The Gymnastics Capital Reserve currently has \$84,892.42 remaining.

Recommendation

THAT Council approve the allocation of funds from the Gymnastics Capital Reserve up to \$25,000 for the development of a schematic design, preliminary code review, and cost estimate to co-locate the proposed Gymnastics Facility at the Arts and Recreation Centre.

Council Policy and JPC Policy

- At the April 20, 2016 Strategic Planning Meeting the Joint Planning Committee passed the following resolution:

THAT the North Cariboo Joint Planning Committee approve in principle, the addition of the gymnastics function under Sub-Regional Recreation;

AND THAT the North Cariboo Joint Planning Committee direct Staff to forward this resolution to Quesnel City Council for their consideration regarding the use of City gymnastics reserve funds to advance the design of a gymnastics facility.

Financial Implications

- It is recommended that the cost of developing a schematic design, undertaking a preliminary code review, and providing a cost estimate to co-locate the gymnastics facility at the Arts and Recreation be funded from the City's Gymnastics Reserve.
- The cost of the work is estimated to be \$10,000 - \$25,000.

Concurrence

- Director of Finance and Corporate Services