

You asked... Renovations

Will the new pools have improved water quality?

Yes. The project scope for the new pools includes installation of updated water treatment technology. The new equipment will help reduce the amount of chlorine required to meet regulatory standards and provide a better environment for swimmers.

What was the scope of the last pool renovation?

The facility renovation completed in 2006 had numerous components. Key upgrades included in the pool area were: the addition of new change rooms, pool lobby and offices, fitness centre and steam room as well as repairs to drain pipes and structural columns. A primary objective of the proposed upgrade project is to maintain as much value from that renovation as possible.

Why wasn't the pool leak repaired in the last renovation?

During the extensive renovations in 2006, some repairs to the main tank were completed. However, since that time new issues have arisen or worsened, as can be expected with an aging facility. This is an important reason that the proposed project is not a pool tank repair, but in fact a major rebuild of the underlying structure.

Will the pool be closed for a long time?

The amount of time the pool would be closed depends mostly on the result of the referendum. The proposed project which would occur after a "Yes" vote can be built in two phases so that there is water open for public use most of the time during construction. In the recommended concept, the new leisure pool would be built first and the main tank would remain open during construction. When the leisure pool is complete, it would open and the main tank would be closed for replacement. This phased process would take between 16-20 months to complete. There would be short periods of time when both pools are unavailable.

In the event of a "No" vote for the referendum, replacement of the main tank will still occur and the entire pool area (including hot tub, wading pool, steam room and sauna) would be closed for approximately 12 months.

Can the current main pool tank just be repaired rather than replaced?

The main pool tank has structural damage in several key areas, including the expansion joints and underground piping. There is a high risk that it will fail completely. The main pool tank was closed for seven weeks in 2011 due to an underground pipe bursting and expansion joint leakage, resulting in huge water loss beneath the main tank. During the repairs, structural damage was confirmed by engineers. A temporary repair was put in place until the tank could be

replaced and it is not expected this repair will last much longer, nor can a similar temporary repair be done again. The tank is still leaking a significant amount of water each day, a situation that cannot continue indefinitely.

Are the City and CRD promoting this project?

In the time leading up to the referendum, the role of the City and the Regional District is to provide factual information on the recommended option for the renovation and upgrade project that was developed through the feasibility study and endorsed by the Central Cariboo/City of Williams Lake Joint Committee. This information is neutral by design and is intended to enable residents to understand the project scope and cost and then make the decision that is right for them on Nov. 15.

How will cost overruns on the project be avoided?

Undertaking a major renovation and upgrade project such as the recommended option for the pool requires several strategies to keep the work within the planned budget. There are appropriate contingencies for unforeseen circumstances and inflationary factors built into the \$11.3 million construction estimate provided by the architects, which created the concept design. The architects involved have extensive experience in developing budgets for projects of this nature; and detailed designs would be completed prior to construction to confirm the estimated costs. The exact final construction cost will not be known until tender bids from construction companies are received. Of course, it is hoped that the bids will come in lower than the estimated budget. The expected cost for local taxpayers of \$40 per \$100,000 of assessed value may also be significantly offset by grants from the provincial and federal governments and support from corporate sponsors.

If the main tank only is replaced; are there plans for upgrades to the other areas, such as the tot pool and hot tub?

There are currently no plans to upgrade other areas of the pool if the referendum does not pass and the main tank only is replaced. An important reason the preferred project option is an expansion of these existing areas is that any replacement of the tot pool and hot tub at their current size and structure is not good value for the limited ongoing service they provide. These areas would continue to be maintained and repaired as necessary.

What is the expected increase in use of the pool after the project is complete?

Currently the pool has about 132,000 swims per year and it is expected with the improvements this will increase to about 175,000.

Quick Facts - Renovations

RENOVATIONS

The renovations include a “new lap pool” inside the existing building with a significant leisure pool addition

- Water slide that's fun and fast for the thrill seeker.
- A large family hot pool which includes an accessible ramp and stair access.
- The leisure pool will include fun water features and three 25m lanes for lessons and laps.
- Mechanical space addition is included in the upgrades.
- As much as possible, existing services will remain and be reworked for the new pools.

KEY ADVANTAGES

- Features a much larger leisure pool (increase from to 540ft² to 3,665ft²).
- Extends the useable life of the existing lap pool by as much as 50 years.
- Phased construction provides significant aquatic capacity in the new leisure tank while the lap pool is being rebuilt.
- Reuses almost all of what exists that has value.
- Ramps with zero depth entrance into the pools will provide opportunities for people living with accessibility challenges and for rehabilitation.

- Minimal impact on existing parking.
- Features warm up and warm down lanes in the leisure pool.
- New fitness/multi-purpose space.
- Good viewing onto pool deck from the staff room.
- Excellent public viewing onto the pool enclosure.

