

COLLINGWOOD RECREATION FACILITY DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

MONTH	ACTIVITY
MAY 2011	Council formulates a Steering Committee to develop a design concept and business plan for a community recreation centre in Central Park. Council's mandate is to look at Central Park site only as they believe that that is the premier site.
MAY 2011 TO MARCH 2012	The Steering Committee develops and executes an open and transparent process that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Keep residents informed through a blog site and present regular reports to Council ➤ Council is pleased with the results and often sites the work of the committee as stellar and meaningful to the community ➤ Hosts 2 public meetings which are very well attended (100 residents at each) ➤ Interviews all of the stakeholder groups twice ➤ Offers 2 different online surveys to test the pulse of the community
MARCH 2012	Staff and the Steering Committee present the findings of the work of the Steering Committee and a price tag of 34.6 M which included; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A 6 million dollar contingency to ensure that there were no cost overruns - An allowance to repair the Curling Rink of 400,000. - A 25 metre swimming pool with a therapeutic pool and teaching pool - A twin pad arena with seating for 500 - An indoor running track - Meeting rooms and community program spaces - Site servicing costs - Full landscaping costs - Parking space development costs - A 1 million dollar cost to relocate the baseball diamonds <p>The operating costs are \$330,000 per annum cost.</p>
JUNE 2012	Council hosts a planning session that reviews the Central Park concept and the work before them to investigate funding options.
JULY 2012	Council directs staff to compare the Central Park option to an option to cover over ageing facilities. The process goes behind closed doors at this point with no public access to the information or opportunities for input. A complete and opposite approach is taken as compared to the open and transparent process taken to develop the Central Park concept.
July 2012	A citizens group is formed entitled "Friends of the Collingwood Central Park Project" due to the lack of forthcoming information about the covering of old facilities to the public. The group has access to over 6,000 active citizens and is increasing in its support for one recreation community centre.
AUGUST 2012	Council issues a staff report that calls for the spending of 15.2 million to cover 2 old facilities and DOES NOT compare the options in the report. Further, the report does not provide any operating costs which are between \$975,000 to over 1 Million dollars annually. This is over a 200% increase to the taxpayer with no mention in the report. The residents are up in arms and start a letter writing campaign the like of which has never happened in Collingwood. Citizens are outraged and a local poll put out by the Enterprise Bulletin a local paper summarizes that 2 out of 3 citizens support the original Central Park Plan and not

	<p>the covering of old facilities. To add insult to injury the report recommends that Council sole sources a company with no competitive bid process. Sole sourcing is only used for emergencies like flood damage or tornadoes – none of which apply in this case. Friends of the Collingwood Central Park Project will demand that Council act more responsibly by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Showing greater due diligence in the comparison of the options; much more information is needed- Consulting the public- Developing a communications plan- Stop creating a false sense of urgency- Under no circumstance is sole sourcing acceptable in this case
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