



Parks, Recreation and Culture MASTER PLAN

We're making one of Trent Lake's strategic priorities come to life! With input from our community and lots of background digging, we're creating Trent Lakes first *Parks, Recreation and Culture (PRCAC) Master Plan*. Our volunteer Advisory Committee is reaching out to share our progress and ask for your impressions about key aspects of the draft plan. See the recommendations on page 2. To answer the short survey, click on the link in the email. We look forward to hearing from you.

What is the PRCAC Master Plan?



- A new 10-year plan designed to create an inclusive community with a high-quality, connected and accessible system of recreational, cultural and parkland experiences for all.
- Included are recommendations (informed by the PRCAC Spring Survey Results) for: Trails, Sports Pads, Parkland and Beaches, Boat Launches, as well as Community Halls/Centre and preserving our Heritage. See page 2.

Why is it important?



- Having access to a variety of recreational, social and cultural indoor and outdoor spaces, and programs is good for everyone's health.
- Making the best use of existing facilities and spaces; and carefully planning new opportunities makes the best use of our tax dollars over the long-term.
- Recreation, sports, cultural and leisure activities are big draws for residents and visitors, which in turn is good for the economic well-being of our community.

PRCAC Survey Spring 2020 (536 Responses): What did we learn?

The PRCAC spent considerable time reviewing the detailed survey results. It discussed important questions including: How can we use the results to inform specific recommendations and consider differences between townships, needs of various age groups, and financial realities? See page 2 for the recommendations developed based on considering the inter-relationships between results.

Most important spaces: Trails, Beaches, Community Halls, Boat Launches

Most likely to use recreational programs in the future: Trails, indoor swimming pool, group fitness, arena

KEY MESSAGES FROM OVERALL SURVEY RESULTS

- Trails received high rankings for importance and financial support, as well as potential use of additional trails throughout the township.
- Understanding and preserving our heritage is essential.
- Partnerships and a strong volunteer base will continue to be cornerstones to the success of PRC initiatives.
- The three facilities with the highest use by residents were the Buckhorn Community Centre (BCC), the Buckhorn Sports Pad and the Cavendish Community Centre, in that order.
- Social and cultural programming is concentrated in the 3 municipal halls and the BCC, and is managed in all four by volunteer Boards.

Who is leading the process?



- A committed group of volunteers with guidance from MTL staff continues to work hard to seek input, do background research, do financial projections and write reports.

Advisory Committee

- Bob Taylor-Vaisey
- Bruce Averill
- Sheila Cook
- Peter Franzen
- Bill Kent
- Marlys Kerkman
- Terry Lambshead
- Ron Windover

How can you contribute?



- We'd like you to know that we seriously consider all feedback. We may not be able to act on every suggestion made but we will pay close attention to your feedback. Many of the recommendations in the Master Plan are based on community input from the Spring 202 Survey.
- Before the Report goes to Council, we invite you to answer a **short survey**. Click on the link in the email to get started. Thanks!



SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Please note that these are numbered to make it easier for you to link to the short descriptions in the survey. The numbers do not identify priorities.

OPEN SPACE

Boat Launches



1. Focus boat launch projects on land improvements; and enhance or repurpose boat launch areas as municipal open spaces on an as-needed basis.

Trails



2. Develop, manage, and promote a network of trails in the municipality for outdoor activities including walking, hiking, cycling, snowshoeing and x-country skiing.

Parkland & Beaches



3. Focus parkland and beaches initiatives on land improvements - unless capital cost improvements are justifiable; and further develop Dettman Park.



4. Enhance or repurpose waterfront parks (including beaches) as municipal open spaces for community events, family get togethers, exercise facilities, canoe/kayak stands.



5. Assess the potential of existing municipal vacant land as potential parkland and other open space use.

FACILITIES

Sports Pads – Cavendish Ice Rink



6. Continue the municipality's operation of the Cavendish Ice Rink; and reduce, as much as possible, barriers to its use.

Sports Pads - Buckhorn New Sports Pad with Refrigerated 'Artificial' Ice



7. Build a basic facility, on donated or low-cost land, to include: a covered, outdoor ice surface measuring 70'-85' x 200; warm room; washrooms; 4 dressing rooms; concession; emergency gathering space; and additional room for future development.

Community Halls



8. The three existing municipal halls will continue with current programming, assess shared opportunities, and partnerships; and will follow the direction of any revisions to the existing governance model.



9. Support the Buckhorn Community Center as the municipality's primary social, cultural, and recreational facility and community hub; and exploration of partnership opportunities between the municipality and the Buckhorn Community Centre to achieve this aim.

PROGRAMMING & SERVICES

Community Halls



10. Continue to assess current and potential community social, recreational and cultural programming needs, and offer appropriate programs at municipal community halls, open spaces and the Buckhorn Community Centre.

Heritage



11. Develop a municipality-wide heritage plan for the municipality that includes cultural and natural resources components, an inventory of historically designated properties, enhanced policies and an educational toolkit to promote heritage preservation.

Governance



12. Develop a municipal policy to define accountabilities of staff, committees and volunteers for municipal social, recreational and cultural programming, including trails.

COMMON TO ALL

Financing



13. Combine land use improvements, where possible, into a single project providing the opportunity to capitalize those project costs.

Volunteers



14. Explore volunteer management strategies including recruiting, capacity building and sustainability to support programming, events and other support.

Partnerships



15. Investigate potential partnerships, financial and nonfinancial, in support of all relevant initiatives (e.g. individual landowners, businesses, community, cottager, ratepayer, road and other private associations, boards of education, community centres, and other municipal, provincial and federal jurisdictions.)