



**CORPORATE REPORT**  
The Corporation of the Town of Wasaga Beach  
Meeting Date: 7/17/2025

**DATE:** 6/26/2025

**SUBJECT:** Recreation & Facilities 2025 Q2 Department Update

**CONTACT:** Chris Roos, Director – Recreation & Facilities

**REPORT NUMBER:** 2025/07/17-16

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **THAT** the report titled: Recreation & Facilities 2025 Q2 Department Update to the Council meeting of July 17, 2025, be received for information.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

- **Facility division highlights of operations and capital projects**
- **Customer Service division highlights related to bookings and department administration**
- **Recreation division highlights related to Youth, Child & Adult programs as well as Older Adult and Volunteer programming.**

**Facilities Update:**

Highlights of projects undertaken by Facilities staff during the second quarter of 2025:

- Ongoing maintenance at the new twin-pad library (TPL) facility included but was not limited to:
  - Relocated condensate drain from Library roof top unit into a rainwater leader
  - Replaced sump pumps and developed filter process for Olympia Room sanitary pit
  - Site inspection to quote maintenance area fenced enclosures at Twin-pad Library
  - Site visit to address fire alarm smoke detector, horn/strobe wall packs and roof exit pull station
  - Replaced key box locks, and some key cylinders with various door repairs;
  - Regular preventative maintenance on elevator;
  - Annual sprinkler inspection completed including deficiency list of items resolved;
  - Contractor performed quarterly maintenance inspection and repaired belt on cooling tower;
  - Heater repaired in the sprinkler room;
  - Remax Room dividing wall serviced;
  - Electric Ice resurfacers taken to replace malfunctioning motor components but loaner machine was left for Town use;
  - Power washed bird debris and chicken wire installed on all roof top unit intake areas;

- Water treatment contractor in to test glycol and hydronic water and change all filters in boiler loop and refrigeration plant;
  - Precision skating show set on TPL property for a week with ESA inspector on site for production trailers;
  - Propane ice resurfacers hydraulic leaks repaired including replacement of two sled cylinders, conditioner valve, holding valve, studded tires along with oil and filter change;
  - Repaired dishwasher display in Remax Room along with Rotary Room dishwasher drain;
  - Health Unit inspection on Remax and Rotary kitchens;
  - “No food, water only” signs installed on the walking track;
  - Additional door closer, accessible motion sensor and push bar door repairs;
  - Service contractor calibrated seventeen carbon monoxide detectors;
  - Refrigeration technicians calibrated ammonia detectors;
  - Two change room door strike swipes and one motion sensor switch
  - Replaced hose bib on exterior wall of library;
  - Contractor installed safety railings at roof ladders of arena and Rec Plex;
  - Replaced broken light sensor switch in change;
  - Service contractor did annual maintenance on emergency backup generator;
  - Service contract technician adjusted Building Automation System controls as part of monthly preventative maintenance plan;
  - Heat Exchanger had hardness acid wash removal and full gaskets replaced to address scale buildup in refrigeration compressors’ cooling water system;
  - Locksmith onsite to install lock cylinder cores and thumb latches from deficiency list;
  - Contractor removed arena glass and installed flooring for Stars On Ice Show along with lighting and production crew;
- Series of ongoing facility division work at the RecPlex and other town facilities included but was not limited to:
    - Facility staff supported Easter Eggstravaganza event held at RecPlex with parking lot full from beginning of the event;
    - Delivery and install of new vandal proof fuel shed at the RecPlex with recycling shelter assembled by staff alongside;
    - Four month facility operator contract started April 22;
    - Opened camp washroom building at old arena for public use during the warmer season;
    - Old arena served as Election headquarters for Simcoe-Grey riding along with the TPL and RecPlex used as polling stations. Elections Canada complimentary of facility support:
    - Panic button issues repaired at Town Hall;
    - Outlets installed in Treasury/Bylaw Department, new kitchenette at Town Hall and dimmer switches in Council Chambers repaired;
    - New security cameras installed around perimeter of RecPlex;
    - Display case moved from Archives building to Town Hall;
    - New battery leaf blower and string trimmer purchased for RecPlex;
    - New amplifier installed at RecPlex for hall 1A and 1B;
    - Barks Security fixed exterior doors/locks at Town Hall;

- New road sign for RecPlex awarded with plan to have new sign with digital readerboard functional by September 2025;
- Three Rooftop guardrails installed at RecPlex;
- Annual fire safety inspections at completed at Town Hall and RecPlex;
- Kinettes hosted yard sale at Rec Hall at old arena;
- Facility staff assisted with transportation and storage of beachfront items;
- Cabins at old arena being used as temporary storage;
- HVAC filters changed at Town Hall, 120 Glenwood, Archives, 404 Mosley, RecPlex and Youth Centre;
- Farmer's Market began in June in the RecPlex parking lot every Tuesday afternoon;
- Successful Senior Symposium Expo at the RecPlex including 116 vendors in the full gym, Lions Den and outdoor bandshell bbq;
- Annual sprinkler system inspection at RecPlex found three leaks and repaired quickly with minimal disturbance to facility function;
- RecPlex hosted Birchview Dunes and Worsley schools grade eight graduations;
- Fernbrook building set-up for summer day camps at the sports park in collaboration with the Legion;
- Condenser fan motor and blade replaced on Dectron HVAC unit for the YMCA pool;
- Pest control contractors at RecPlex/YMCA, Youth Centre, Town Hall, 120 Glenwood, Archives building and 404 Mosley;
- A/C units serviced at Archives building, YMCA and 120 Glenwood;
- Three facility staff completed Certified Pool Operator designation courses;
- Oakview washrooms had 150 feet of drainage cleared;
- Accessibility lift at RecPlex used for dance recital and graduations;
- Staff assisted IT multiple times with resetting the beach front sunset camera;
- Seventeen expired smoke detectors replaced at Town Hall;
- Old arena elevator serviced;
- Allenwood washroom door locks re-keyed for contract cleaner handoff;
- 404 Mosley water heater, flame sensor and wand repaired;

### **Customer Service Update:**

- As of June 26<sup>th</sup>, the Recreation and Facilities department is approximately \$60,000.00 in gross revenue ahead of 2024 to date. This includes room and ice rentals and recreation program drop-in and registration fees.
- Facility hall rentals as of June 26<sup>th</sup> have increased in the second quarter of 2025 compared to 2024 second quarter of total hours used. Between both the RecPlex and Wasaga Stars Arena:
  - 2024 second quarter total hours used 2391.25 hours
  - 2025 second quarter total hours used 2962.25 hours
  - 21% increase in hours used
- Ice rentals after the 2nd quarter :
  - 2024 total hours were 2494
  - 2025 total hours are 3283
  - Increase of 31% year over year
  - With Revenue at an increase of 44%
- Long Lead booking requests in the second quarter:
  - Seven ice requests of which six were approved.

- Seven room requests of which all seven were approved.
- The number of Long Lead Requests has diminished with the revised Allocation policy extending the months that can be booked.
- Wasaga Stars Arena Traffic report
  - YTD is 199,400 people through the doors. Compared to 147,315 in 2024
  - Averaging currently 1133 guests a day up from 2024 average of 980 per day
- Staff are in the early stages of the Fall / Winter Rec guide.
- River Dragons have booked their 2025-26 hockey campaign. They will be on the ice now through to mid-July and then preseason camp will begin the first week of September.
- A strong 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter is in part a reflection of a very busy May for ice use. OMHA rule changes allowing minor hockey to extend their operations until the end of June including spring tryouts in May. All neighbouring associations who do not have ice availability in their communities in the spring flocked to Wasaga Stars arena to run spring tryouts from mid April to mid May.
- The second quarter also included special rentals like seven days of shooting for the upcoming PRECISION television series which will air in 2026, Champions on Ice with Liz Manley, Elvis Stojko & Kurt Browning, 3 different hockey tournaments and just recently the Collingwood Collegiate Institute Graduation that brought 1700 people and the Canada Day Celebration event with Elton Rohn.
- Non-Prime ice use has increased in 2025 to a total of 737 hours used in the same first 5 months from which the facility opened. In 2024, those same 5 months generated 511.5 hours of use. These are large gains in midday ice use. With an average of 44% increase year to date. (of note – January 2024 is omitted as the TPL was not fully open)

### NON PRIME ICE USED

	HOURS USED		2025 vs 2024	
	2024	2025		%
Note : Jan 2024 TPL not open				
FEBRUARY	89.5	133	↑	49%
MARCH	122.5	124	↑	1%
APRIL	117	157	↑	34%
MAY	89.5	143	↑	60%
JUNE	93	180	↑	94%
TOTALS	511.5	737	↑	44%

### Recreation Update:

#### Recreation 2nd Quarter Statistics 2025 (April, May, June)

	Recreation Drop-In	Recreation Registered	Youth Centre	Senior Active Living Centre	TOTAL
Participant Visits	2436	4760	1463	1437	10096
Classes	160	492	87	101	840

Programs	21	74	16	16	<b>127</b>
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<b>Specific to Youth Centre</b>	
New Members	28
Meals Provided	1302

## **Senior Active Living Centre:**

### **Music Programming**

SALC expanded its 55+ music offerings with a four-week series of beginner guitar and ukulele lessons, followed by drop-in jam sessions for novice and advanced participants. As part of the "Learn To" series, the program supports progressive skill development. Participants from both groups performed at the Annual Seniors Expo, showcasing their progress with a 30-minute live performance.

### **Monday Drop-In Social**

A new Monday afternoon drop-in program (1:00–3:00 p.m.) offers seniors games, conversation, coffee, and treats. Participation has steadily grown, with new brain-health-focused games and regular use of the new outdoor deck space for socializing.

### **Trips & Outings**

In May and June, the SALC organized two successful outings. In June, participants enjoyed a one-hour Nottawasaga River cruise, featuring local history and wildlife education. Later in June, 38 participants visited St. Jacobs Market with a stop at Picard's Peanuts on route. Participants had three hours to explore and shop at the market.

## **The Wasaga Beach Youth Centre:**

### **Grill Team Fundraisers**

The Wasaga Beach Youth Centre hosted two successful Grill Team fundraising events at the Easter Eggstravaganza and the Annual Seniors Expo. Youth volunteers played a key role in concession operations, gaining valuable experience in teamwork, customer service, and community engagement. The Seniors Expo Grill Team served an affordable lunch for the fourth consecutive year, raising \$1,100. The volunteer program continues to expand, with a dedicated group of youth now regularly supporting events.

### **National Youth Week**

From May 5–11, National Youth Week saw 40 youth participate in six days of activities, including a private theatre rental at Collingwood Cineplex, a dinner with Mayor Smith and Deputy Mayor Snell, and a trip to Canada's Wonderland. Youth also attended the National Youth Week Flag Raising at Town Hall, where they met with Council. This annual celebration remains one of the Youth Centre's most popular initiatives.

### **Smile Cookie Campaign**

From April 28 to May 4, Tim Hortons selected the Wasaga Beach Youth Centre as the beneficiary of its Smile Cookie Campaign. Youth and volunteers assisted with cookie decorating, sales, and

customer engagement across local locations. The campaign raised over \$18,000.00 thanks to strong community support and volunteer involvement.

## **Recreation Programs:**

### **Hockey Tournaments**

The Town hosted two successful hockey tournaments at the Wasaga Stars Arena, drawing 20 teams and over 250 players. The inaugural Seniors Tournament welcomed nine teams in the 60+ and 70+ divisions, while the annual Puck Masters Tournament featured eleven teams across multiple adult divisions. These events showcased the twin-pad arena and promoted community engagement through sport. Planning is already underway for next year's tournaments.

### **Youth Theatre Program**

Youth participants collaboratively developed and performed an original cabaret-style production under the guidance of the Youth Theatre Director. Four performances attracted nearly 300 attendees and provided participants with experience in acting, staging and teamwork, while fostering confidence and creativity.

### **Line Dancing Expansion**

In response to growing interest, a Friday Drop-In Line Dancing session was launched alongside a fully registered beginner class. The beginner class quickly reached capacity with 25 participants and a waitlist, indicating strong demand. This program supports skill development and encourages continued participation in recreational dance.

### **SCRA Day Camp Training**

Nine summer camp staff attended the Simcoe County Recreation Association's Day Camp Training. The full-day session provided professional development, hands-on learning, and networking with peers across the region. Staff returned with valuable insights and practical tools to enhance local camp programming.

### **Pickleball Partnership**

A new partnership with the Wasaga Beach Pickleball Club offers free weekly drop-in lessons for youth and families at the old arena courts at 425 River Road West. A certified instructor supports skill development in a welcoming environment. This initiative promotes accessible recreation and intergenerational engagement.

## **Volunteerism:**

### **Volunteer Engagement**

The Recreation Department currently has 46 active volunteers, a number which continues to grow as we revitalize the volunteer program. The recreation team continues to navigate the volunteer management software and work toward making it user-friendly for the community. A Volunteer Request Form has been created and shared with all Town staff to help identify areas where volunteers can provide support, while also offering new opportunities for volunteers to stay engaged and involved across departments.

### **Town of Wasaga Beach Youth Leadership Program**

The Recreation Department offers a summer leadership program focused on building skills, confidence, and community connections for youth ages 14-16. Participants will earn certifications,

take part in activities like caving, canoeing, and swimming, and have the chance to earn 40+ volunteer hours as Town of Wasaga Beach volunteers.

### **Recreation Capital Projects:**

The Wasaga Beach Elementary School will have a new wireless scoreboard with shot clocks installed plus additional gymnasium equipment is currently under review to support community use at the school.

Enhanced exterior with landscape features at the Youth and Senior Active Living Centre include sports court with lighting, power access, and fencing completed. Top-coat, sports court lines and refreshed parking lines are in progress. Staff are exploring the design and pricing of a welcoming front veranda with seating to replace the outdated front entrance to further enhance the Centre's accessibility and appeal. Recent interior upgrades that have been completed include new couches and the installation of new accessible back windows.

### **Next Quarter Highlights:**

- Summer Day Camp – Outdoor Adventure, Basketball and Theatre Camps
- Beach Buckets Basketball Tournament – 2<sup>nd</sup> annual event
- Beachfront Programs – Summer fitness and sports programs begin at the beachfront
- Youth Centre Active Outings – made possible through Jumpstart Grant
- SALC Outing to King's Wharf Theatre

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With department staff