

# Accessibility Advisory Committee's 2022 Town Hall Parks and Recreation Programming Overview

## Staffing

- Added a 3<sup>rd</sup> inclusion and Accessibility specialist and provided Rick Hanson foundation training as their main focus will be working on Nova Scotia Access by Design 2030
- Created an Outdoor Aquatic Inclusion position to help with inclusion programs at beaches, indoor and outdoor pool during the summer
- Introduced specialized inclusion workers to support summer camps and provided extended assistance to campers in need.

## Training

- Adopted Angelfish training program for Aquatic programs
- Created trauma sensitive workshops and imbed information about trauma into our inclusion training
- Created universal program design workshop, offered to all program staff
- Ran staff through training developed by ISANS for Newcomers in Rec

## Barriers to access

- Accessible mats at Beaches, beach chairs addition of Campbells point.
- Specialized lifejackets at indoor pools
- Equipment lending (hippocamps/oval equipment/Lifejackets)
- An all-inclusive Jump Start Playground (Jumpstart) was installed at the George Dixon Centre
- 8 addition playground recapitalizations will have accessible play elements.
- New park plan for Peace and Friendship Park for recognition and commemoration of indigenous history.
- Including accessible bleachers for sport field and ball diamond recapitalization and rehabilitation projects.
- Fort Needham Memorial Park accessible gender-neutral washrooms.
- Sheet Harbour Community Centre washrooms upgraded to gender neutral.
- New commons pool

## Barriers to access programs

- Affordable Access Program
- Free access to aquatic leadership programs (lifeguard and Instructor)

- Free access to swim lessons at HRM operated Beaches

#### HRM Run programs

- Summer camps
- Swimming lessons
- Ready for Rec

#### Partnership programs

- Easter seals partnership at LeBrun BMO (learn to sledge) and St. Andrews (learn to wheel)
- Lakeshore curling club partnership at Sackville Sports Stadium (wheelchair/stick curling)
- Playing and Learning Together at Sackville Sports Stadium and Captain William Spry (summer program and afterschool program for children/youth with disabilities)
- ISANS multi-sport partnership program at St. Andrews Centre.

#### Deaf and Hard of Hearing Report

- Recommendations for Programs and services