

February 15, 2024

**HALIFAX**

Item 13.1.2

# Centennial Pool Replacement Planning

Community Planning and Economic Development  
Standing Committee

# Origin

June 28, 2022 Regional Council motion to:

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Smith**

THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer begin planning for replacement of Centennial Pool pending the outcome of a staff report which outlines:

1

# Origin Continued

- a) Process to undertake the development of a new 50-metre pool that meets Canada Games requirements for competitive swimming and diving and is consistent with the Long-Term Aquatic Study direction;
- b) Potential disposal of 1970 Gottingen Street pursuant to Administrative Order 50, Respecting the Disposal of Surplus Property, for Economic Development including recommendations to include an affordable housing component;

# Origin Continued

- c) Review of the prioritization of the Needham Community Centre to ensure continuity of municipal pool access on the peninsula; and
- d) Analysis of revenue sources including the pending application for the Needham Community Centre within the Green Inclusive Community Building Program, and other appropriate Federal and Provincial funding sources.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**



# Background

## Long Term Aquatic Strategy:

- Approved May 2019
- Aquatic Service Provision
- Strategic Goal

### Strategic Goal

To facilitate lifelong participation for everyone to enable healthy and active lifestyles through a full range of aquatic facilities.



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### **Water Safety**

Facilitating safety in and around the water includes learn to swim programs, water safety skills, and providing lifeguard leadership training and supervision in aquatic facilities.

### **Active Living**

Facilitating participation in healthy active lifestyles includes facilities and programs for all ages and abilities, such as open swims, aquatic fitness programs, and water play. In addition, the municipality contributes to the Canadian Sport for Life - Long Term Athlete Development Framework.

### **Aquatic Access**

Facilitating suitable access to a full range of aquatic facilities and programs. The *Aquatic Access Plan* (see Appendix C) provides a framework to guide access and inclusion policies, practices, programs, and allocation guidelines to facilitate full participation in aquatic opportunities.

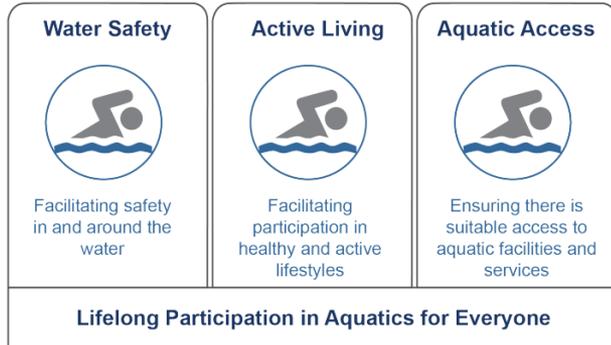


Figure 16. Lifelong participation in aquatics for everyone.

# Background

- Primary Mandate:
  - Water Safety
  - Active Living
  - Aquatic Access
- Secondary Mandate:
  - Support Sport Development



# Background

## Centennial Pool:

- 1967
- HRM facility

## Dalplex:

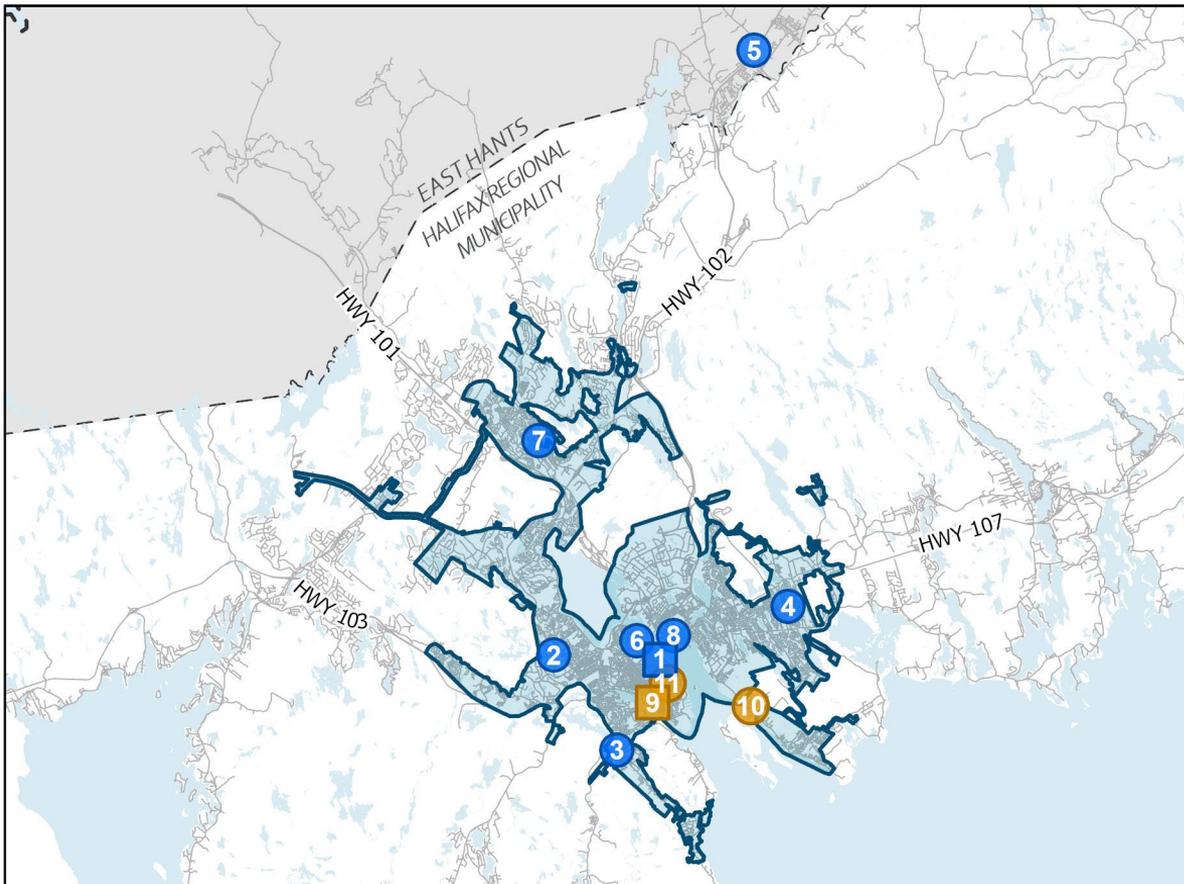
- 1979
- Dalhousie University

# Background

## Current Facility Requirements:

- 50m pool
- 25m warm-up pool
- Spectator seating for 700
- Specialized technical equipment:
  - timing equipment
  - scoreboard
  - lighting

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## LOCATION OF AQUATIC CENTRES

### Municipal Indoor 50m Pools

**1** Centennial Pool

**2** Canada Games Centre

**3** Captain William Spry Community Centre

**4** Cole Harbour Place

**5** East Hants Aquatic Centre\*

**6** Needham Community Recreation Centre

**7** Sackville Sports Stadium

**8** Zatzman Sportsplex

### Non Municipal Indoor 50m Pools

**9** Dalplex

### Non Municipal Indoor 25m Pools

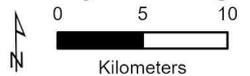
**10** CFB Shearwater Fitness & Sports Centre

**11** John W. Lindsay YMCA

 Water Service Area

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**Parks & Recreation  
Policy & Planning**



# Recommendation:

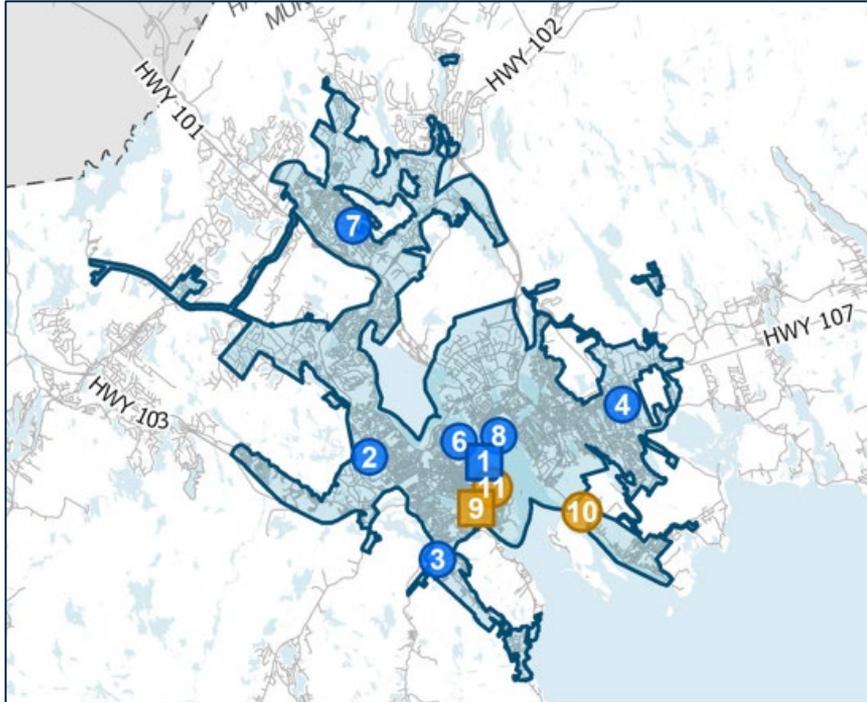
- Advance a Training and Competition Aquatic Facility Study

## Three Scenarios to Explore:

1. Renovate an Existing Aquatic Centre
2. Build a New Aquatic Centre
3. Pursue an Institutional Partnership

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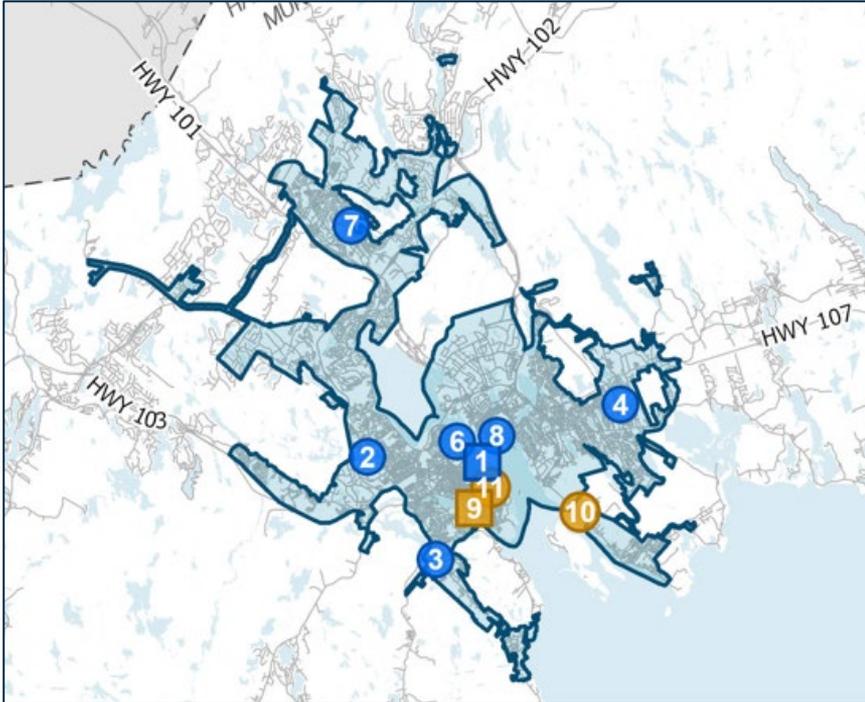
# Scenario 1 - Renovation



## Existing Facilities:

- Centennial
- Canada Games Centre
- Captain William Spry Centre
- Cole Harbour Place
- Sackville Sports Stadium
- Zatzman Sportsplex

# Scenario 2 – New Aquatic Centre



## Considerations:

- Population distribution and growth
- Recreational service gaps



# Scenario 3 – Institutional Partnership

- Advantages:
  - Cost Sharing
    - Capital
    - Operating
- Disadvantages:
  - Programing control
  - Would not help alleviate growth pressures

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Facility	Completion Date	Cost (\$)
<u>temeseixw</u> Aquatic and Community Centre (BC)	2023; Opens February 2024	114,000,000
<u>Complexe aquatique</u> de Laval (QC)	Opened 2016	108,444,700
Regina Aquatic Centre (SK)	Approved by Council 2023	108,000,000
Minoru Centre (BC)*	Construction begins 2024	71,500,000
City of Yellowknife (YK)	Currently Under Construction	71,000,000
Pierrefonds-Roxboro aquatic complex (QC) *	Currently Under Construction	62,400,000
Grandview Heights Aquatic Centre (Surrey, BC)	Opened 2017	45,000,000
Fort Chipewyan aquatic centre (AB)	Opened 2016	40,000,000
UBC Aquatic Centre (BC)	Opened 2020	39,000,000
Average Cost:		73,260,522

# Costs

The recommended study will:

- Provide high-level cost estimates for all 3 scenarios
- Explore funding opportunities with other orders of government

# Community Engagement

## Stakeholders:

- Existing Aquatic Facilities
- Dalhousie University
- Provincial Sport Organizations (e.g. Swim NS) and clubs

## Methods:

- Information sharing on [Halifax.ca](http://Halifax.ca)
- Stakeholder sessions

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# Needham Community Centre



Redevelopment is included in the proposed capital budget:

- 2026/27 - Design Work
- 2029/30 - Completion
- Estimated \$46.8M

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# Recommendation

It is recommended that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to advance a Training and Competition Aquatic Facility Study as outlined in this Report and report back to Regional Council with its findings and recommendations for the development of such a facility.

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