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Village of Haines Junction

Recreation Update

Note from the CAO

Council approved the Haines Junction Recreation Needs Assessment report in October 2023. Developing new recreational opportunities and infrastructure is a priority for the Village of Haines Junction. Community member advocacy has been consistent and clear for many years, indicating, among other needs, a strong desire for the construction of a new multiuse recreation facility.

Summer 2024

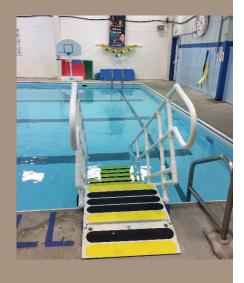
Planning for new infrastructure is a large effort, and the Village continues to have budget limitations that require us to look for partnerships and funding to make this vision a reality. With this in mind, we are pleased to provide this update on how we have been working to advance recreational opportunities in recent months.

Sincerely, Dave Fairbank



Recreation Facility Planning

The Village of Haines Junction and Champagne and Aishihik First Nations are in the early stages of exploring a partnership approach to planning and operating this facility. The two governments are collaborating on an application for funding to support the development of options for a partnership structure, and to carry out public engagements to finalize feasibility and design work.





Trail Signage Project Committee

Council has appointed a seven-member Committee to advise on a trail map and signage plan for the Community. The Village is currently working with CAFN to actively recruit CAFN Citizen Members to join the Committee.

Over the coming months, the Committee plans to host a public workshop to update the trails map, and present a plan to Council and CAFN on trail names, sign content, and locations with hopes that this project will be completed this summer.

A budget has been established for Committee honoraria, sign design and printing, and GIS/mapping work. Signs will be installed by Public Works staff.



International Trail Day Celebration

Trans Canada Trail – for making the event possible Pedal Junction – for organizing such a fun activity Volunteers – the event wouldn't have happened without you Participants – for coming out and showing your community spirit Photography – Marty Samis





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MORE INFORMATION ON RECREATION AND TRAILS PLANNING IN YOUR COMMUNITY IS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Recreation Planning: Read the 2023 Haines Junction Recreational Needs Assessment https://hainesjunction.ca/p/recreationplanning

Trail Planning:

Read the 2018 What We Heard Report from the Haines Junction Trail Planning Process https://hainesjunction.ca/p/trail-planning



Recreation & Events Administrator

Council has approved the staffing of a new recreation position. The Non-Union Staff Bylaw has been amended to reflect the addition of this position. Next steps are to establish the job description which is required before the recruitment process can begin. It is anticipated this competition will open in July.

Boys and Girls Club Summer Programming

The Village of Haines Junction is again supporting the Boys and Girls Club (BCG Yukon) to provide programming this summer. BCG Yukon will be working in partnership with the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations Youth Programs to host a summer camp from June 10th to August 16th, 2024.

In response to priorities expressed by the Dakwäkäda - Haines Junction community, water safety is a prority. Added to the regular summer programming we have identified the need to build the capacity of our community with Lifeguarding skills, waterfront & pool. By building these capacities now, we are also working on long-term goals to have locally employed lifeguards to guard a new pool in the upcoming years. BGC Yukon continues to communicate with the City of Whitehorse Recreation Aquatics Center to develop a training program for lifeguards to support Pine Lake waterfront activities. Having a lifeguard on site would also mean the capacity to provide swimming lessons. Due to many factors, this will be an ongoing project.

This summer BCG Yukon , in collaboration with the CAFN Youth team, will be supporting "bus to swim" to provide opportunities for our young people and staff to develop their skills in a pool setting like the Canada Games Center in Whitehorse. We are committed to continue to work and support the skill development and certification trainings needed to build local lifeguard capacity in future sessions.

