



Making a difference...together

**REPORT TO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2019**

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**SUBJECT     SALT SPRING ISLAND CHILD CARE SPACE CREATION PROJECT**  
**ISSUE**

Lack of licensed child care and indoor recreation spaces on Salt Spring Island.

**BACKGROUND**

An opportunity exists to fund an expansion of the Rainbow Road Aquatic Centre to include a 1500 square foot dividable multipurpose room, a universal washroom and storage room for the purpose of licensed child care and recreation programs.

The 2019 Community Child Care Space Creation Program is helping to fund a maximum of one million dollars towards the creation of new licensed child care spaces within their own facilities for children aged 0 - 5 years.

The CRD recently received funding for a modular classroom for a recreation based preschool program scheduled to open in the fall of 2020. The recreation based preschool program will be based on a half day care model, provided by CRD staff with a maximum of 16 spaces.

The completion of a Community Child Care Planning Inventory identified 170 children between the ages of 0-3 years and 220 children between the ages of 3-5 years. With only 12 infant spaces for those aged 0-3 years, and 71 group child care spaces available for those aged 3-5 years; there is evidence of a need for supplementary childcare spaces, in addition to the new recreation preschool.

PARC has also received requests from local community and art groups for an indoor public recreation space to house over 400 individuals enrolled in gymnastics, circus, theatre and dance. Graffiti Theatre was successful in a grant application to complete a survey to identify the different user groups indoor space needs. While we may not be able to meet everyone's needs the information collected will help inform the more detailed design of the multipurpose space.

**Community Child Care Space Creation Program**

The Community Child Care Space Creation Program will award up to one million dollars to local Governments creating new licensed child care spaces within their own facilities for children aged 0 - 5 years, with a focus on spaces for infants and toddlers. It is estimated that 1,370 spaces will be created under the program.

As part of the approval agreement, all approved applicants (and their child care operator(s)) are required to adhere to the following requirements:

1. Commit to continuing licensed child care operations for the following periods:
  - A minimum of five years for projects under \$50,000
  - A minimum of 10 years for projects between \$50,000 and \$500,000
  - A minimum period of 15 years for all projects over \$500,000.

2. Under the Community Child Care Space Creation program, projects must be located within a facility owned by a local government and must result in the creation of new child care spaces.
3. Eligible activities must be cost-effective and may include:
  - Construction of a new child care facility and related infrastructure costs (e.g. water, sewer, road and sidewalk)
  - Purchase of building and/or assembling a modular building
  - Site development costs
  - Renovations to an existing building or space
  - Capital purchases that are essential to project implementation

### **ALTERNATIVES**

#### **Alternative 1**

That the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission recommend that the Capital Regional District Board direct staff to submit an application for grant funding for the Salt Spring Island Child Care Space Creation project through the Child Care Space Creation Program; and that the Board supports the project and commits to its share \$175,000 of the project and the minimum 15 years of operations.

#### **Alternative 2**

That the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission recommend that the report be referred back to staff.

### **IMPLICATIONS**

#### **SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- Having available child care spaces in the community is essential in supporting lower-income families, young parents and single-parent families.
- Participating in child care programs provides children to learn through play, explore nature, physical literacy, early literacy, STEAM skills, peer socialization through cooperative play and independence through daily life skills.

#### **ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

##### **Capital Reserves**

PARC has \$75,000 allocated towards a pool expansion in 2021. If successful in a grant application to the Community Child Care Space Creation Program, \$75,000 would be required to cover ineligible costs such as a project contingency. This funding would only be required if construction costs went over budget.

## Operating Budget

If PARC receives funding through the Community Child Care Space Creation Program we will be required to administer the project. Administration wages to cover approximately \$100,000 of staff time are built into the 2021 operating budget for the Parks and Recreation Manager, Park Planner and other administration staff.

Cost Explanation	Amount (\$)	Revision (1)	Funding Source
Site preparation	\$10,000		Grant
Permitting	\$2,000		Grant
Storm Water Management	\$11,500		Grant
Detailed designs (Structural, Mechanical, Architectural, Electrical)	\$75,000		Grant
Cost Estimates (Class A)	\$4,500		Grant
Building Construction (\$350/sq ft)	\$525,000		Grant
Outdoor play Equipment	\$15,000		Grant
Fencing and gates	\$5,000		Grant
Dramatic Play Furniture	\$5,000		Grant
Coordinating Professional	\$47,000		Grant
Project Manager	\$50,000		Grant
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$750,000</b>		
Contingency (10% of construction)	\$75,000		2022 CRF
CRD Administration and Project Management	\$100,000		2021 Operating
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$925,000</b>		

*\* Class D estimate + or – 50%, a preliminary estimate which due to little or no site information indicates the approximate magnitude of costs of the proposed project based on the clients broad requirements*

Care Program Type	Duration of Session	# of Children/Session	Child Care Spaces Created
Group Child Care (under 18-36months)	Full Day	8	8
Group Child Care (3-5 yrs)	Full Day	16	16
		<b>TOTAL</b>	24

## CONCLUSION

An opportunity exists to apply for funding towards the creation of a 1500 sq/foot multipurpose room at the Rainbow Road Aquatic Centre. This multipurpose room will facilitate the creation of 24 full time licensed childcare spaces, from the ages of 18 months to 5 years. With only 71 group child care spaces and 16 preschool spaces available for children ages 3-5 there is evidence of need for additional childcare spaces including a licensed preschool. The multipurpose room will also provide additional recreational space for a variety of group users, both during evenings and weekends.

Integrating the community's needs for childcare and additional multi-purpose space provides an economical benefit to the community and is a prudent use of the limited indoor recreation zoned property.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission recommend that the Capital Regional District Board direct staff to submit an application for grant funding for the Salt Spring Island Child Care Space Creation project through the Child Care Space Creation Program; and that the Board supports the project and commits to its share \$175,000 of the project and the minimum 15 years of operations.

Submitted by:	Dan Ovington, Manager, Parks and Recreation
Concurrence:	Karla Campbell, Senior Manager, Salt Spring Electoral Area

DO:lb

Attachments:

APPENDIX A – Community Child Care Planning Inventory

APPENDIX B – Project Charter – Child Care Space Creation Program

APPENDIX C – Draft Site Plan Conceptual Drawing