

# ON DECK

## EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL FOR AN INDOOR AQUATIC CENTRE IN GOLDEN

The Golden Aquatic Centre will be home grown. It will proudly reflect the unique character of its place and bring all regional residents together through inclusive recreational activities. It will be a year round, vibrant, community hub that provides health and wellness opportunities for all.



# Overview

Golden's original outdoor pool was opened in 1959. In 1978, the Town of Golden replaced the original pool with the outdoor seasonal pool that plays an essential role in the community today.

To plan for a future that is aligned with the communities' needs, the CSRD, with support of the Town of Golden, retained a consultant, HCMA Architecture + Design and set out to assess the feasibility of an indoor aquatic centre in Golden. Supported by a project Advisory Committee made up of community members from Golden and Electoral Area A, the study identified technical design and cost implications of an indoor aquatic centre based on broad community engagement regarding the future of aquatics in Golden and Electoral Area A.

Broad community engagement kicked off in the spring of 2020 with an online survey that received record high participation numbers, as well as Ideas Fairs held in Donald, Blaeberry, Golden, Parson, and Field where community members came together to provide input into the process of determining the feasibility of an indoor aquatic facility to serve the region. The ideas and input received was refined and a variety of aquatic features were costed.

In the fall of 2020, updated information was provided to the community through an interactive online survey that allowed participants to mix and match aquatic and non-aquatic building features to their desired cost and design.



Again, record high survey participation indicated a preferred option of non-aquatic and aquatic features to be included in a final costing analysis. The capital and operating costs were further refined and have been outlined in a final study report, which is available online at [www.goldenondeck.ca](http://www.goldenondeck.ca).

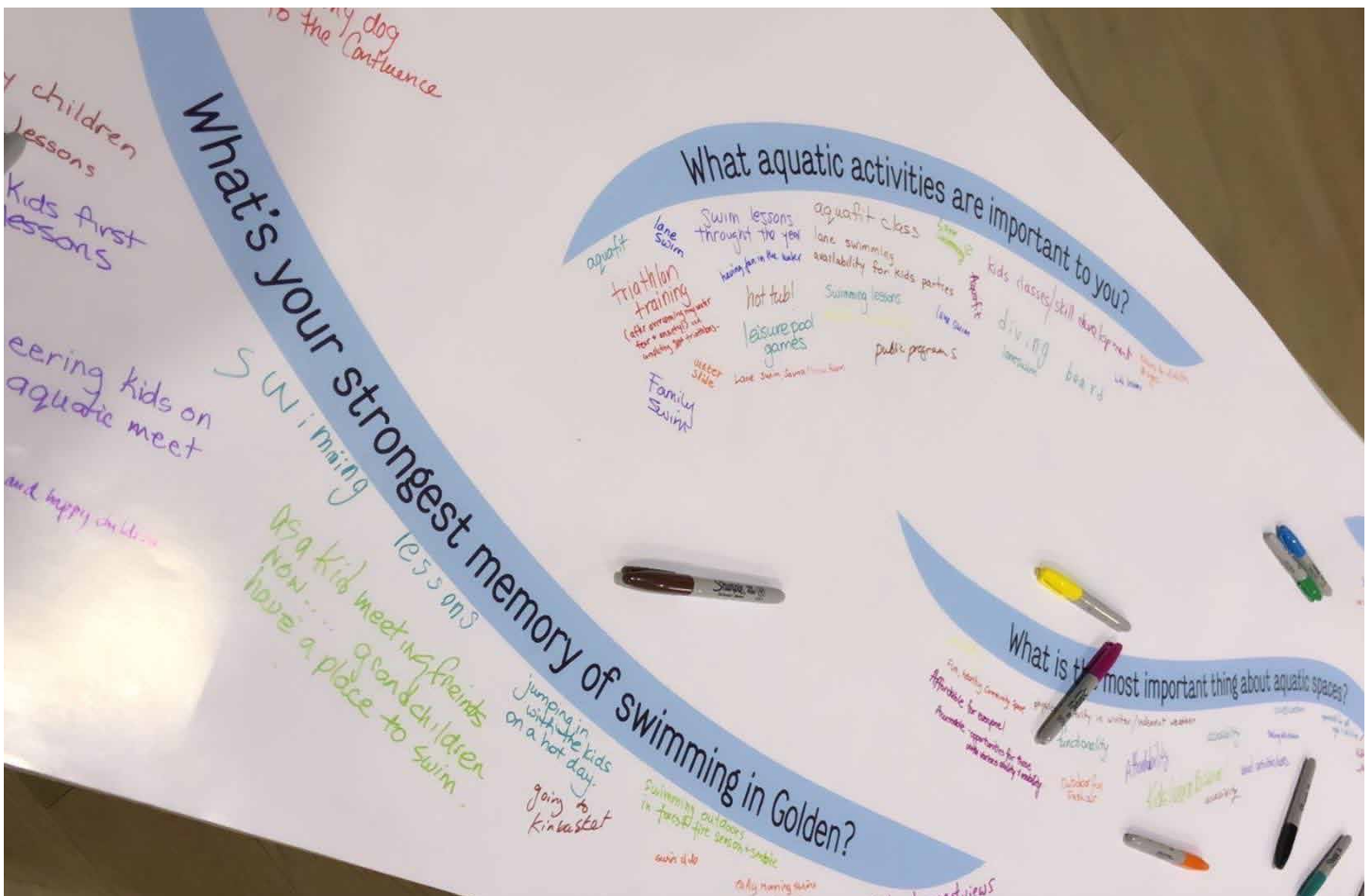
The analysis and community engagement concluded that there is widespread community support to replace the current outdoor pool with an indoor aquatic facility, and should include a six lane lap pool, a separated leisure tank, a hot tub, steam and sauna, and a multipurpose room.

The indoor aquatic centre will be connected to the existing arena building. The current outdoor pool will be operational during construction of the indoor aquatic centre.

### Preferred final option

The feasibility study concluded that the following aquatic and non-aquatic features form the preferred final options for an indoor aquatic centre in Golden:

- Six lane 25m pool
- Leisure pool (including lazy river, tots area, spray features and beach entry)
- Sauna/steam room
- Hot pool
- Universal and gendered change rooms
- Administration
- Large multi-purpose room



# Site Plan

## Building Site

The proposed site contains the arena, curling rink (both to remain) and the current outdoor pool (to be removed). The location aligns well with the overall goal of creating a centralized community hub, and a centre of activity that includes a range of both indoor and outdoor programming uses.



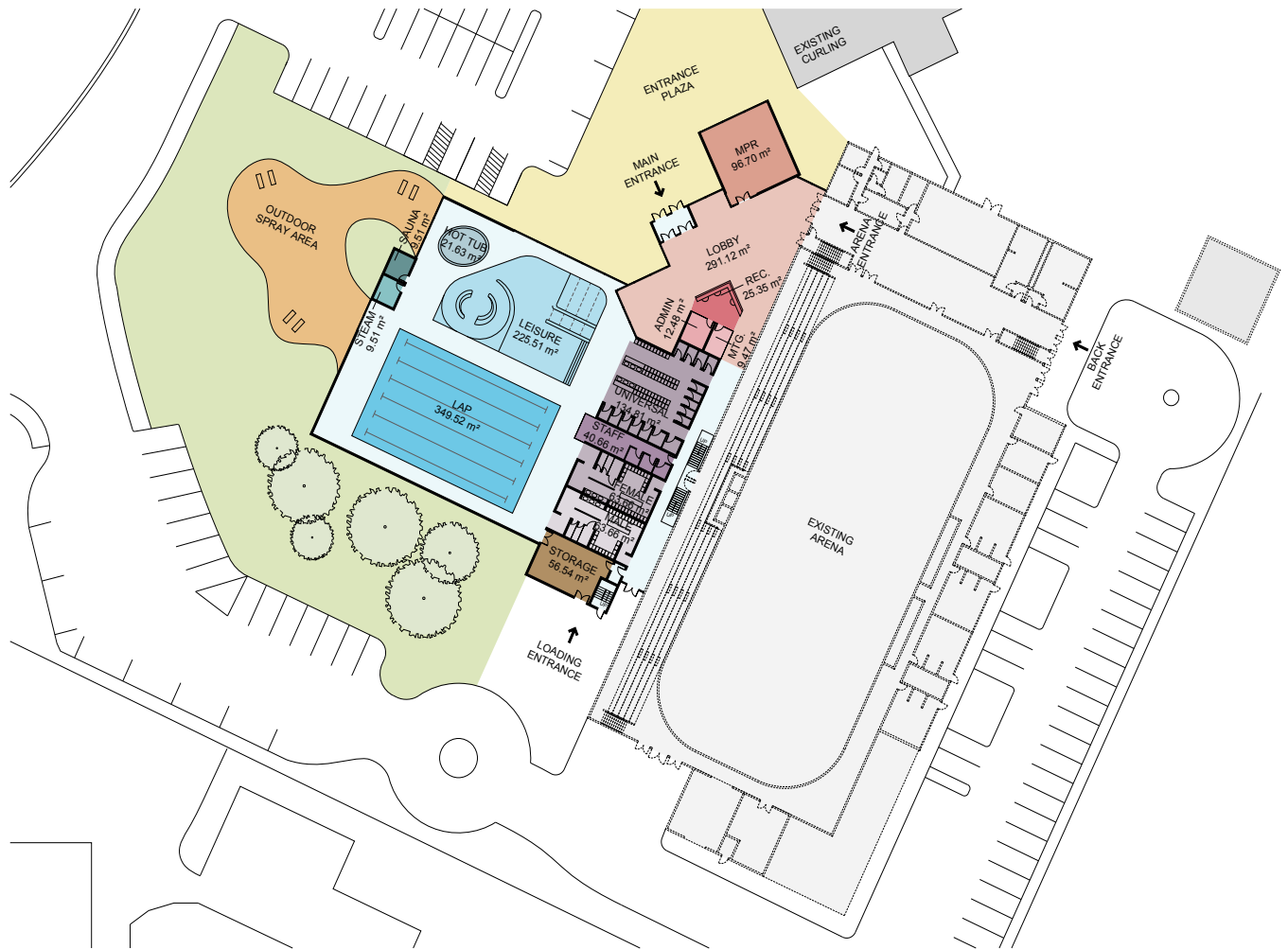
# Main Level Floor Plan

## Building Planning

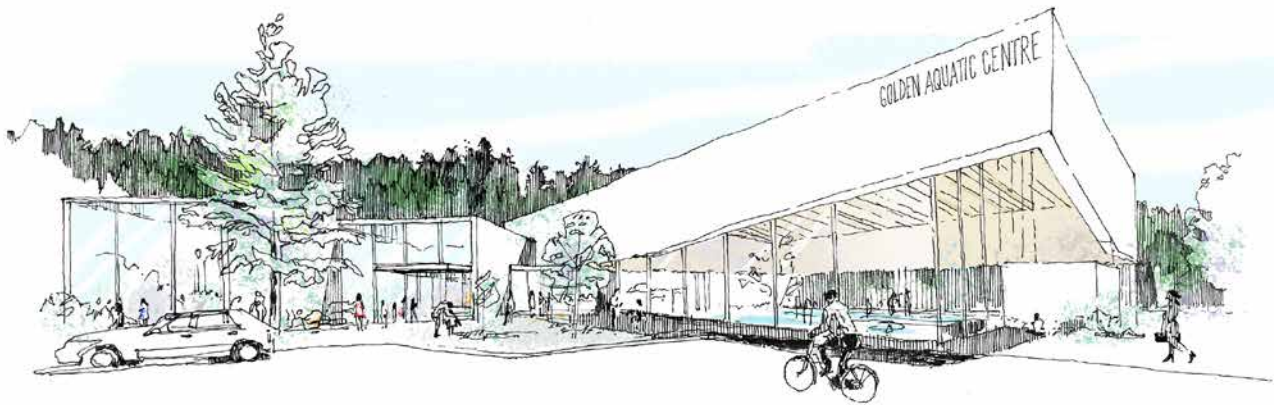
The concept proposes that all primary, publicly accessible uses will be located on the ground floor, with the second floor reserved for mechanical space. The following design features have been included:

- Large, welcoming lobby space that will allow for formal and informal gathering to happen and will benefit both the aquatic centre and the existing arena

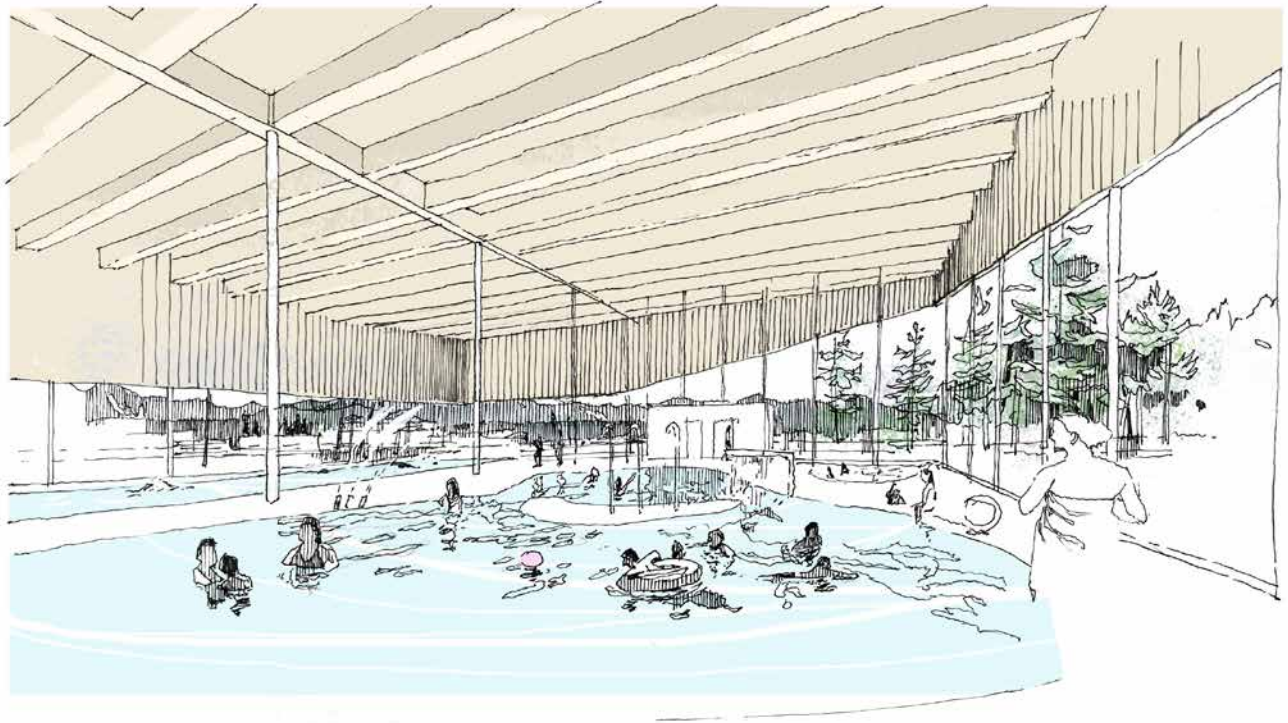
- Centralized reception area for both the arena and the aquatic centre that will streamline operational costs
- Clear accessible sightlines allowing for ease of wayfinding
- Universal and gendered change room spaces
- Multi-purpose room that fronts onto a plaza area, allowing it to support outside activities



## Preferred Design Option



Exterior sketch



Interior sketch

# Cost Implications

The indoor aquatic centre would be funded through the existing Electoral Area A and Golden Recreation Service Bylaw for the arena facility. This service area includes all properties within Golden and Electoral Area A, where properties in Golden pay approximately 52.5% of the total costs and properties in Electoral Area A pay 47.5% of the total costs.

Disclaimers:

1. Based on the 2020 Condition Assessment of the current outdoor pool, over \$1.3 million in repairs and replacements will be required by 2026.
2. Asset renewals (repairs and replacements) of new indoor aquatic facility will be annually funded at 50%.
3. The capital loan would be paid off over the course of 30 years.
4. Capital cost includes all project costs including contingencies and project escalation costs to an anticipated construction start date of 2024.

## Indoor Aquatic Centre

Final Capital Cost  
\$31,237,900

Net Annual Operating Cost  
\$519,332

## Current Outdoor Pool

Full Replacement Cost  
\$12,000,000

Net Annual Operating Cost  
\$302,559

# Next Steps

Assent of the electors will be required to authorize a loan for the capital costs. The loan amount could be reduced by the receipt of grants, business donations and other fundraising activities.

## Opportunities for fundraising

The capital loan amount required will be based on the capital cost, less anticipated capital grants, donations and sponsorships. This information will be determined and provided publicly in advance of the referendum.



### PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Non-government organizations and businesses are increasingly engaging with municipalities in recognition that shareholder and societal values are linked. These partnerships can create and enable more connection.



### GRASSROOTS FUNDRAISING

For more information on organizing a grassroots fundraising campaign please email [ondeck@csrd.bc.ca](mailto:ondeck@csrd.bc.ca)



### GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- Federal and Provincial Infrastructure grants
- Columbia Basin Trust
- Whitetooth Legacy Fund (approx. \$1.6M)
- Other opportunities

# What We Heard

Since March of 2020, the CSRD has been actively engaging with community residents to ensure that the ideas for a new facility reflect the requirements, needs, and identity of Golden and Electoral Area A communities. Several principles emerged from conversations with the Advisory Committee and with participants of the Ideas Fairs as well as the project's online surveys.

These principles provided guidance on the look and feel of a potential aquatic facility throughout the engagement process:

- Family-friendly
- Environmentally sustainable
- Designed to be accessible
- Affordable for the community
- A balance of leisure and fitness
- Operated as efficiently as possible

Through extensive community consultation – including three surveys, five Ideas Fairs, social media engagement, print media and radio advertisements, and conversations with members of the Advisory Committee – the community expressed strong interest in a series of design features of an aquatic centre.

**1,000+** people participated in each online survey

**81%** of participants support a six lane lap and separated leisure pool aquatic tank

**70%** of participants support a hot tub

**59%** of participants support a multipurpose room

## Engagement timeline

Needs & values of the community

Are we on the right track?

How do these values translate into a design?

Assent of electors

IDEAS FAIR

SUMMER SURVEY

INTERACTIVE SURVEY

Determination of costs for capital loan

Conduct assent of electors for borrowing

Survey

Advisory Cmte

Social Media

Website Updates

Initial design + cost survey

Preferred option determined

Spring 2020

Summer 2020

Fall 2020

Fall 2022