



## CITY OF WILLIAMS LAKE COUNCIL REPORT

**DATE OF REPORT:** March 24, 2025  
**DATE & TYPE OF MEETING:** April 23, 2025 Joint Committee Meeting  
**AUTHOR:** Stacey Miranda, Director of Community Services  
**SUBJECT:** FINAL 2024 OPERATING BUDGET FOR CARIBOO MEMORIAL RECREATION COMPLEX  
**FILE:** 7900-10

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### Recommendation

That the Central Cariboo Joint Committee receive this report for information, and direct staff how to accommodate the unanticipated 2024 budget discrepancy.

### Purpose

To share and describe the overage in the operational budget for 2024 for the Cariboo Memorial Recreation Complex to the Central Cariboo Joint Committee, based on unaudited financial reports.

### Discussion

#### ***Background***

Based on all research and previous budget years, the 2024 budget forecast was created. This forecast was for the future expenses vs. revenue, and assuming a steady trend for the year was applied to the accounts.

#### ***Analysis***

In general, public recreation in BC and Canada is not a cost recovery operation. Certain aspects of the operation create positive revenues (registered programs, fitness, rentals) while others (pool and ice use fees) are heavily subsidized. This subsidization is generally accepted as the cost of the benefits that come with providing affordable recreation services for the community.

Based on initial analysis, it is clear that increases in expenses will continue to outweigh any gains in revenue or cost savings for the foreseeable future. This was considered when negotiating the current management contract for the Cariboo Memorial Recreation Complex. After investigating the shortfalls and overages the following was discovered:

- Revenues were not as high as anticipated in the pool and registered program areas.
- Hydro invoices were higher than expected, even when considering the addition of the solar panels.
- Pool chemicals have increased significantly over the last four years.
- The management agreement admin charges and staff wages were higher than budgeted.
- Compressor maintenance - outside contractor sources - was higher than budgeted due to servicing requirements.

Please see Attachment A for reference.

**Financial Considerations (Cost and Resource Allocation)**

☒ Yes – There is a management agreement with the Cariboo Regional District and the City of Williams Lake. “Central Cariboo Recreation and Leisure Services Facility Management Agreement” which indicates the amount of the 2024 Operations subsidy to be \$2,353,248.00.

☐ N/A

**Legislative Considerations (Applicable Policies and/or Bylaws)**

☒ Yes – \$127,303 over budget for 2024

☐ N/A

**This project aligns with the following Focus Areas of Council’s Strategic Plan:**

☒ Collaboration and Partnerships

☐ Indigenous Relations

☒ Livability / Positive Atmosphere

☐ Housing

☒ Infrastructure

☒ Organizational Effectiveness

OR

☐ \*Core Service (not identified in Focus Areas, but necessary local government function)

**This report has been prepared in consultation with:**

- Brandy Links, Community Services Facilities Manager

**Approved for Agenda by:**

Chief Administrative Officer

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Miranda

Director of Community Services

**ATTACHMENTS:**

**Attachment A – 2024 Budget and Actual Operating Comparison**