Indoor/outdoor feel planned for pool-library expansion

BY SANDRA BOLAN sbolan@yrmg.com

Whitchurch-Stouffville's new library will have two floors, while the second pool area will contain two more pools and may have a retractable roof and wall.

"This is very much still a work in progress," town CAO Andrew . McNeely said of the expansion to the library/leisure centre in Stouffville Memorial Park last week.

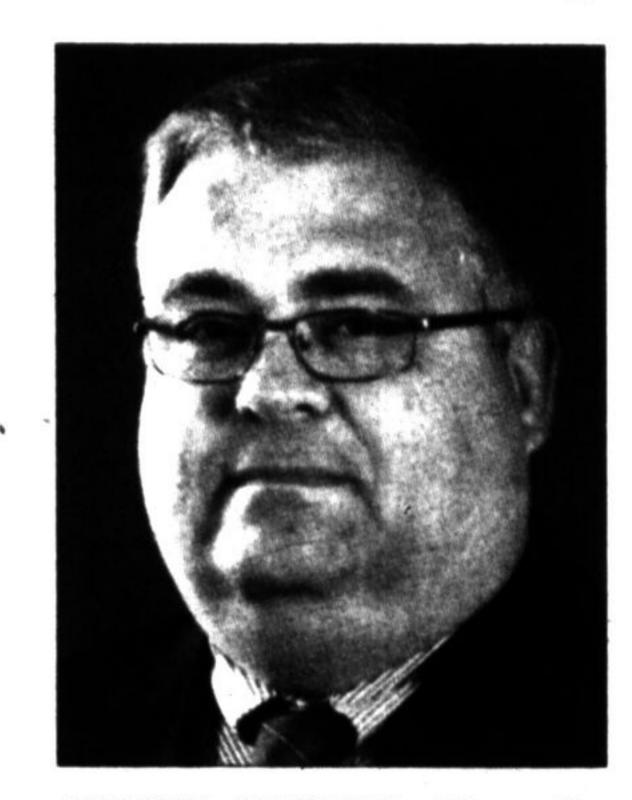
The \$28-million project is "the single largest capital project in the history of Whitchurch-Stouffville," Mr. McNeely told a group of about 50 residents at the Lebovic Centre for Arts & Entertainment – Nineteen on the Park.

It was the second of two public meetings on the expansion.

Because the project is so massive, for the first time, a functional design process, which includes public consultations, is being conducted.

"We're trying to get it right through this phasing strategy," Mr. McNeely said.

The typical process for new



ANDREW MCNEELY: Library/fitness centre still work in progress, town's CAO tells residents.

facilities has been to go from paper to construction, he said.

As part of the design process, the current "bastardized parking" lot will be cleaned up, Mr. McNeely said, which was received with a round of applause.

"I'm going to show my bias here. That parking lot was designed by an engineer, not a planner," said Mr. McNeely, who recently had the interim tag removed from his title.

The expansion calls for the ability to park 400 vehicles on the site, according to Jarle Lovlin, principal from the architect firm Diamond Schmitt Architects.

'BASTARDIZED PARKING'

Other modifications made since the February public consultation meeting includes stroller storage in the vicinity of the family change room; a pool viewing gallery at deck level and an outside terrace accessed from the 55+ Club area.

There will also be an outdoor terrace available via the library's adult lounge.

The main floor of the library will be dedicated to children, while the second floor will be primarily for adults.

Two more pools are proposed.

The teaching pool will have 20 metre lanes, while the play pool, with a slopping beach entry, will also contain a number of water features.

The current 25-metre lane pool

will go untouched.

It cannot be modified to include more lanes, according to Mr. Lovlin, because that would require extensive and expansive mechanical re-engineering.

The \$28-million project is 'the single largest capital project in the history of Whitchurch-Stouffville.'

The facility's expansion is expected to be completed in 2017. However, the gym is not scheduled to be done until 2019.

"Honestly, I don't have a good explanation for it," Mr. McNeely said.

The 55+ Club area will also serve as a location to house residents in case of an emergency, such as last year's ice storm, according to Mr. McNeely.

A cost analysis regarding adding the gym to the main construction plan will be included in the June 24 report to council.

Also in the report will be an estimate on the new building's operating costs.

Most of the construction will be paid for with development charges, according to Mr. McNeely.

55+ CLUB

People who want certain programs or amenities, such as a sauna or acknowledgement of the Wendat people who lived in the neighbourhood, need to tell staff now.

"We've got to see if we can fit into the building," Mr. McNeely said of people's wish lists.

Part of the design also includes the ability to see the surrounding green space of the park from virtually anywhere within the building.

A special education workshop on the library/leisure centre expansion takes place Tuesday from 3 to 5 p.m. in council chambers.

The meeting is open to the public, however, the gallery is not permitted to provide input.

"It's council's opportunity to ask their questions through the education process," said Karen Ewart, the town's deputy clerk.

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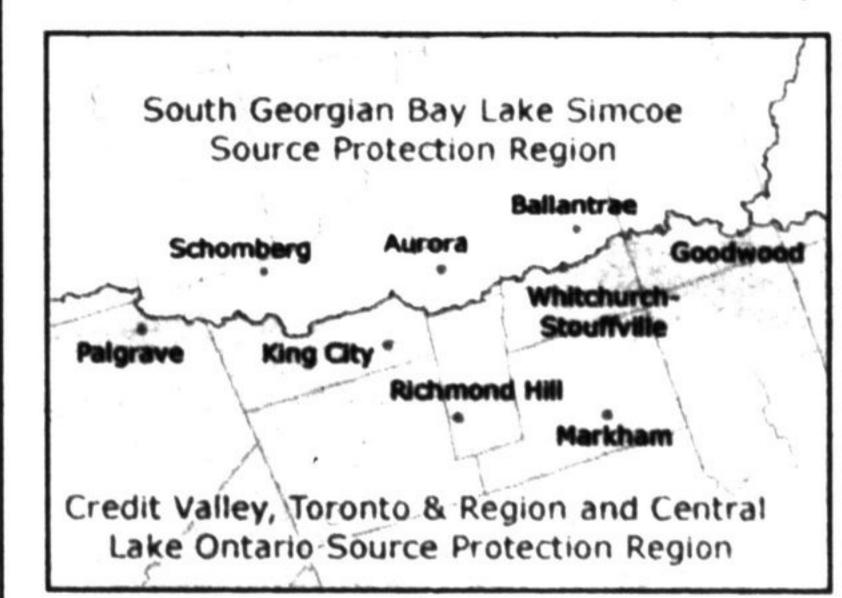




SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PUBLIC CONSULTATION

We are **asking for public input** on Source Protection Plan policies for water quantity and Updated Assessment Reports for two source protection regions:

1. Credit Valley-Toronto and Region-Central Lake Ontario (CTC)
2. South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe (SGBLS)



Source Protection Plans contain policies that protect municipal sources of drinking water. Assessment Reports are the technical documents that support the policies in the plans.

The formal consultation period for both Source Protection Regions is April 24 to May 23, 2014

One Public Open House is being held: Wednesday, May 7, 2014, 5pm to 8pm

Whitchurch Stouffville Museum, 14732 Woodbine Avenue, Gormley

| | CTC Source Protection Region | SGBLS Source Protection Region |
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| View the documents online: | ctcswp.ca | ourwatershed.ca |
| View hard copies during regular business hours: | Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (5 Shoreham Dr., Downsview) | Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket) |
| Comments must be received by Friday, May 23 at 4pm to: | e-mail: sourcewater@trca.on.ca mail: Chair, CTC Source Protection Committee, 5 Shoreham Dr., Downsview, ON, M3K 2C5 | e-mail: swp@ourwatershed.ca mail: Chair, SGBLS Source Protection Committee, 120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket, ON, L3Y 4X1 |
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