

Dear Ward 3 Residents,

I would like to provide you with an update on the redevelopment of the Burnhamthorpe Community Centre. In January of 2019, Recreation staff brought to Council the 2019 Recreation Master Plan that included the much needed redevelopment of the Burnhamthorpe Community Centre and the proposed indoor aquatic centre that will benefit the residents of ward 3.



As a big supporter of community recreation and sport, and the Burnhamthorpe Community Centre, where I host my annual community bbq and skate event, and attend many family, youth, senior and organization events, it's always wonderful to see so many community members come together.

During discussion with the design team, I requested that the outdoor rink be included in the preferred design of the new community centre. After careful review by the design team, it was determined that the outdoor rink has come to the end of its lifecycle and will require major renovations to bring it up to standard. An additional consideration for the design team was that Glen Forest School pool, the primary pool for Ward 3 residents, is approximately 50 years old, does not meet current accessibility standards and will also require millions of dollars of upgrades to improve.

After careful consideration, staff brought forward a plan to include a much needed and improved aquatics facility including a therapy pool and the addition of a highly-requested fitness centre. The design included improvements to the existing Chic Murray arena (indoor rink) as well as upgrades to existing spaces including the gym and program rooms but unfortunately required the removal of the current outdoor rink.

The outdoor rink operates for approximately 4 months of the year and is only being utilized by residents at a capacity of 30% for drop-in programs. Where the outdoor rink sees roughly 500 residents weekly over the 4 months, the indoor pool and fitness centre will see over 6,000 visits per week.

The Ward 3 community is in need of a well-designed, viable community centre which services all residents and can be used for future generations to come. I have requested from staff that when the Burnhamthorpe Community Centre reopens, that free public skates and low cost rental of the indoor rink be provided and that I, along with staff and the community explore further options to offer skating to the community.

Gulleden Park, adjacent to Burnhamthorpe Community Centre is planned for redevelopment and is to be completed in coordination with the reopening of the renovated community centre. I have also requested that a new refrigerated rink and multi-use court be incorporated into this design at this park subject to community consultation.

The outdoor rink will remain open this winter season and construction on the redevelopment of the Burnhamthorpe Community Centre is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2021. Plans are available on my websites at www.chrisfonseca.ca or on the City's website at www.mississauga.ca/burnhamthorpe-community-centre-renovation.

Wishing you and your family a healthy, safe and happy 2021.

Respectfully,

Chris Fonseca
Councillor, Ward 3
City of Mississauga