

**TOWN OF INGERSOLL
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY REPORT – APRIL 2010**

*Report No. R-064-10
Approval Date: April 12, 2010*

Mayor Holbrough & Members of Council:

1. Parks & Recreation Department Upcoming Meetings & Special Events:

CIB Meeting

Wednesday, April 14, 2010 – 7:00 pm

Recreational Trails Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 20, 2010 – 7:00 pm

J C Herbert Room – Town Offices

Oxford County Trails Council

Monday, April 3, 2010 – 1 pm – County Building

Thames River Clean Up

Saturday, April 17, 2010 – 9 am – 1 pm

Rain Date – Saturday, April 24, 2010

Volunteer Appreciation Night

Thursday, April 22, 2010 – 7 pm – 9 pm

Greetings from the Town of Ingersoll – 7:30 pm

2. RinC Project Implementation Status:

All RinC Agreements have been signed and sent to the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation for approvals.

VPCC Pool/Deck Tile Replacement

- Tender Awarded – Acapulco Pools
- Construction Date: April 6, 2010 to June 18, 2010

Note: **Construction began Monday, April 5th, 2010**

Trail Upgrades & Extensions

- Trails Paved – Completed (Yvonne Holmes Mott Memorial &

Smith's Pond Park)

- North Meadows Naturalized Trail – Completed
- Lighting Smith's Pond Trail – Spring 2010

VPCC Dryton Unit Replacement

- Drawings, Specifications Completed
- Equipment Quotation Received – February 26, 2010
- Quotation from Engineered Air – Reheat Module,

Dehumidification Module, Remote Air Cooled Condenser Module

- \$98,635 plus taxes

- Installation Tender Deadline – April 22, 2010
- Budget for Project - \$177,000
- Construction Date – May – June 2010

Fusion – Heating & Cooling Systems Upgraded & Replaced

- Drawings, Specification & Tender Documents Completed
- Tender Deadline - March 9th, 2010 – 10 am
- Tender Awarded – Glenile Electric - \$84,291.
- Budget for Project: \$99,000.
- Construction Date – April – June 2010

3. 2010 Staff Work Projects:

- Summer Day Camps – Hiring Staff & Training
- Volunteer Appreciation Night – Thursday, April 22, 2010
- CIB – Thames River Clean Up – Saturday, April 17, 2010
- Parks & Fusion – BIA Ribfest – Margarittaville – Thurs. June 17, 2010
- Trails Day – Great Trails Quest – Saturday, June 17, 2010
- CIB Dinner/Dance Under the Stars – Saturday, June 17, 2010
- Here In Ingersoll Magazine – Summer Edition
- Community Strategic Plan Implementation – Recreation, Leisure & Sports
- Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) Program – Project Implementation
- Fusion – Washroom Renovations
- Fusion – Radio Booth Equipment & Operation
- Fusion Business/Strategic Plan
- Fusion – YEPP Business Plans
- Health & Safety Policies, Procedures & Training

4. Arena operations have now finished for the season. Letters will be sent out to all current user groups requesting their 2010-2011 ice requests.

Ads were placed in the Ingersoll Times on April 7 & 14, 2010 requesting all new emerging groups to submit their ice time requests before Friday, April 23rd, 2010.

Staff is requesting a member of Council to serve on the Ice Allocation Committee. The Committee will review ice requests at a meeting scheduled for Monday, May 10, 2010 at 5 pm at the Arena.

The draft 2010-2011 Master Ice Schedule will be presented to Council for approval at the May 17, 2010 Special Council Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Ward, Director
Parks & Recreation Department

Fusion Youth Activity & Technology Centre
April Council Report
Wednesday April 7, 2010

1. Facility Update

Skate Park – is open for all ages and is averaging approximately 70 riders a night. Opened the first week in March

Fusion Bathrooms Renovation: through a grant that we recently received we are now planning to have our bathroom completely renovated in April or May 2010. Drawings have just been done for the bathrooms and we will be getting the tender documents together in the next couple of weeks. This will see the replacement of all toilets, sinks, flooring, plumbing, and washroom stalls.

No other facility updates or improvements are in the works.

2. Funding Update

Nuclear Waste Management Organization- Grant in the amount of \$14,700 was accepted. The Ingersoll Youth Advisory committee and the BIA along with Bonnie Ward, Gord Lesser and Jason Smith will be implementing this grant that will see another 15 recycling bins in our downtown and parks. Thanks to John Philips' help the bins are ordered and are awaiting their arrival shortly.

Accessibility Grant Funding- was approved in the amount of \$25,000 for Fusion, which will see the both washrooms fully renovated and brought up to accessibility standards. This announcement is also in conjunction with Elaine Clark's grant. This is 100% funding and no dollars are needed from the Town to see this project completed!

Received \$50,000 from Oxford Small Business Support Centre to install and purchase all the equipments for our new radio broadcast program. The installation of the equipment and sound system is complete. Radio program will be launched in April 2010.

Received \$5,000 from Oxford Small Business Support to develop marketing materials. We will be planning a marketing launch event that will launch the Fusion brand, website and all our marketing materials. The launch event will be held in May sometime.

Received \$10,000 from Oxford Small Business Support to develop a 3-5 year business plan for the Fusion Youth Centre. The consultant has completed her work and we should have a final report shortly.

Our **United Way of Oxford member agency application was successful** and United Way has approved a donation of **\$32,500 to the Fusion Youth Centre.**

Submitted an RBC After School grant this past month for \$40,000 that would go toward ongoing operating of the Youth Centre and our programs.

The **Ontario Ministry of Economic Development and Trade has approved our grant for \$56,000** to run the Youth Entrepreneurial Program for a second year. The ministry was so impressed with our first year that they approved funding for a second year!

The **Ingersoll Community Foundation has approved a donation of \$5,000** to the Fusion Youth Centre for our art programs. We appreciate their support of this program.

Other grants are ongoing for the continual development of Fusion and its programs on an ongoing basis. Our focus is on writing grants that require no funding from the Town of Ingersoll.

3. Fusion Programs

Check out the New “Here in Ingersoll” Magazine. We have lots of winter/spring programming happening. Launching in mid February 2010 we will now be offering Rebuilt IT 4 days per week, Fitness classes and programming 3 days per week, recording studio lessons (learning to record music), recording session where youth can record their own music and take it home, video editing classes, digital design classes, song writing, art studio classes and much more.

Technology Centre

Radio Booths – The Stereo Man has completed the installation of the distributed audio system that will be connected to the Radio Booths. All the equipment and software have been purchased and delivered. We have also obtained a SoCan license. We hope to begin broadcasting within the Centre by May 1.

iMac Lab – Staff are continuing to run several multi-media type programs out of the media studio including photography, graphic design, video production and more. Staff and youth have completed the promotional video for Ontario Refrigeration Services in Ingersoll.

Recycling program- We are continuing with OES pickups for the Recycling program and are also investigating a partnership with Greentec in Cambridge. We have continued to receive e-waste from Cami, 14 laser printers, and have now begun to collect from PC Options in Woodstock. We did a pick up of monitors, CPUs and peripherals from Community Living in Tillsonburg. We have also received a donation of a storage container from MCClays. This will allow for on site storage of skids and easier pick up coordination. The ReCycleIT is continuing to receive e-waste material from the community.

Gaming Zone – The new games that were purchased for the Gaming Zone: Company of Heroes; Tales of Valour, Portal, Half Life Two, Team Fortress and Battlefield 1942 have now been installed thanks to the Ingersoll IT department.

Fusion Recording Studio - The Studio continues to be one of the most popular areas at Fusion. Youth are creating and record original music guided by the Staff and volunteers in The Studio. The Studio averages 200 youth visits a month. We have a very talented group of youth at Fusion.

MultiMedia – The Fusion Centre Staff is continuing to work on a **Skate Board safety video**. This video is part of the **Active 2000 Grant**. The Fusion Staff and youth are beginning work on the new Fusion Centre promotional Video. The youth and staff that were involved in the creation of the **Anti-racism** called “**Erase-ism**” and were one of nine award winners in the Anti-racism video contest. They staff and youth spent 3 days in Ottawa and participated in workshops, toured the Nations Capital and attended the United Nations International Day against Racism awards ceremony to receive their awards and prizes.

ReBuildIT- is still going strong. The ReBuildIT room is open Monday to Thursday with youth at the centre building computers and recycling. There are several youth a night involved in the program.

Activity Centre

Girls group – is going strong with 12 girls attending the group each week. On April 23, the girls are getting ready to get their hair cuts done for free at the Fanshawe College Hair Salon. On March 27, 2010 the Oxford County health nurse spoke to the girls about a number of different topics.

Fitness Program – every Tuesday and Thursday 10-15 youth participate in Kickboxing, circuit training and boot camp classes. Fusion staff member Brian Tschirnow who has completed his fitness instructor certification is the program facilitator. Pauline White who is a professional fitness trainer teaches each class and works the youth very hard. This program is seeing great numbers and youth are very excited about this program.

Art Program- there has been some improvements to the art programs. Art programs are offered 4 days a week. Aaron Smith who is a professional art teacher facilitates two new art programs – Art breaks which includes

drawing/painting. Aaron has teamed up with staff member Aveleen Schinkel to run Art Factory, which averages approximately 15 youth in each class.

Music – We are continuing to have excellent youth participation in the Music program.

Sports – the spring season has arrived and the sports scene is still going strong. Basketball, soccer and dodgeball season is in full swing and the gym has approximately 25 youth participating in different sports on a nightly basis.

YEPP (Youth Entrepreneurial Partnership Program)

YEPP has hired a new program coordinator, Lindsay Vyse. Nick's contract has expired and he has moved onto a permanent position elsewhere. Lindsay's contract began March 26, 2010.

YEPP has continued to host a monthly **Business Advisory Committee** meeting, in which we discuss the project's deliverables to date, as well as activities to be completed in the future. The next meeting is scheduled for April 7th.

A partnership has been formed with the **Woodstock and Area Small Business Enterprise Centre**. They have helped introduce our youth to a government funded program titled **The Summer Company Program**. Nick has been working closely with Alex who hopes to start a virus removal service within Fusion. They have been working on getting his business plan finished to submit to the program for approval. The boys working on submitting an application for the skate/bike shop have some research to gather before than can begin their business plan.

A consultant has been hired to create business plans and as well as a marketing strategy for each of our four social enterprises to assist with additional revenue sources for Fusion. A management meeting was held with Nicole to discuss the business plans

The **workshops from round 1 are complete** as of March 31. The workshops that took place in March were the following: Time Management, Communication Skills, Financial Planning and Business Leadership. They ran successfully and got great feedback from the youth that attended.

Fusion Food Services catered the United Way meeting. The guests from United Way responded well and were impressed with what the catering services offered.

YEPP has made contact with seven local business owners interested in having a Business Profile featured on the YEPP website. These profiles will serve as success stories for the youth in the community, especially those starting their own business within the next year or so.

4. Community Development and Events

Fusion Fear Factor Volume 3 – On March 19, 40 youth competed in a number challenges that dealt with eating some unappealing dishes, an endurance challenge and a speed challenge. Youth team Kyle Pinder & Jamie Somerville one the overall competition.

Leon's Friday Night Movie Night – On April March 11, 2010 30 youth ate free pizza and watched a feature film on the big screen in the gym. Every month Leon's donates \$50.00 to order pizza for the monthly movie night.

BOYS 2 Men mentor program – Male Fusion staff accompanied with grade students from VMS are going to school Fanshawe College for a male mentoring program. The mentor trip is occurring on April 8, 2010

5. Fusion Youth Centre Development

Fusion Website – The Fusion **website development** is ongoing. We have begun the testing process but it is quite lengthy. The website will be hosted on the County of Oxford server. The **expected** launch date is end of **April** depending on how long the testing process takes, so keep your fingers crossed it will happen this time. Response Generators in London has donated over \$30,000 in-kind to develop Fusion website, marketing and branding.

Recording Studio – We are still accepting **bookings** for outside groups to use **The Studio for recording** session to help generate revenue for the centre. On Monday nights we offer professional recording nights for youth to record their music and learn from a professional. We are also offering ProTool mixing program for youth on Tuesday nights. We have also been asked by Heart FM to record their Big Break 4 CD again this year.

Now that school will be back in, we plan to host **Principal meetings at Fusion once a month** that will invite all area principals to Fusion to discuss youth programming and issues and how we can work on addressing together. We also planning to be in the schools to advertise our programs and centre.

Fast Forward has received funding again and will be starting 2nd session of the program beginning the first week of February. This program started in September and is run by several community partners to offer young people an avenue to get interested in their education again.

Fusion has been very busy with several tours a week. Currently we are in talks with 6 other communities that are seriously looking at adapting the Fusion idea. 2 out of the 4 communities we are talking with are in the process of purchasing old schools. Several other speaking engagements are setup for the next couple of months talking to other communities about Fusion.

We will be working with IDCI and offering several Co-op placements at Fusion. We look forward to this very exciting partnership with the local High School.

6. Up coming meetings and dates to remember

Neighbourhood meetings are hosted every month on the last Wednesday of the month. Next meeting is April 28, 2010 at 5pm at Fusion

So You Think You Can Cook Competition – April 15, 2010 – 5 youth will be cooking off against one another in attempt to become Fusion's next youth chef. There will be 3 celebrity judges tasting the food and judging each dish to determine who wins the competition. The youth who is chosen will be hired as our next Youth Chef at the Centre.

Operation Sharing - Coffee Break Meeting the last Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am in the Art Room

Youth Action Committee meetings are hosted the third Tuesday of the month at Town hall. The next meeting is April 13 2010 at 3pm

BAC Meeting meetings are the first Wednesday of the month hosted at Fusion at 8am. Our next meeting will be held on May 5 2010 at 8:00 am held at Fusion.

Fast Forward Program – Started up again is in full swing and has a full class of eight dedicated students.

For the month of March we seen a total of 1919 youth visits to the centre.

20 NEW youth registered and have become Fusion members.